

THE REVIEW.

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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., JULY 9, 1891.

THE CANADIAN PEERESS.

But a short time ago the idea of raising the widow of a Canadian public man to the British peerage would have been almost everywhere treated with scorn. In Canada, it would have been thought a thing about impossible to happen. In Britain, it would have been deemed a mere folly to think of such a measure. Now, however, on both sides of the Atlantic the creation is looked upon as quite a fitting one, all in the proper order of things. This change of sentiment indicates how great is the change in the recognized importance of Canada lately effected. Not many years ago, the influential Manchester School used to indulge in a most offensive devil-may-care style in reference to Canada and its future. It was regarded as of slight value to the empire. Some wise-aces held that Canada was a source of weakness thereto. Wonderful is the change brought about. Canada is now seen by all classes of British public men to occupy a position of supreme importance to the welfare of the empire. Not to speak of its size and varied resources, it lies on a direct route, with a great open ocean at each end, between the mother country and some three hundred millions of its subject in the distant east. Over its vast length of three thousand miles or so lies an iron road, traversable night and day, winter and summer at a high rate of speed. Great trains laden with passengers or goods, as occasion may require, can sweep over it in endless succession. Priceless to the empire is the advantage of such a route. The feeblest, the shallowest British thinkers understand this now. On this and other grounds Canada has risen wonderfully of late in general estimation. It was a wise and thoughtful act on the part of the Salisbury government to honor the memory of the most distinguished public man by singling out his widow for special distinction of the rare kind in question. It teaches to the British people what may be called a valuable lesson in imperial connexionism, and it touches the heart of the Canadian people at a tender point. It signals, too, a growing breadth of thought in high political circles in Britain pleasing to note.

THE CHECK TO THE TREKKERS.

The threatened Boer migration from the Transvaal into Mashonal in South Africa has begun. It has for the moment been seriously checked. Its advanced guard of a hundred men has been driven back by the police force at the command of the British South African Company. The trek will, no doubt, be renewed with larger forces. It will behoove the British government to see that the movement be decisively withstood. Happily a man of courage and decision is premier of the empire. We may well believe that the shameful humiliation submitted to at Boer hands, under the Gladstone Cabinet, will not be repeated under the Salisbury regime. Still it will be necessary to act with promptitude to prevent the repetition. The Boer is a splendid bush fighter. He comes of a sturdy kindred race, trained from boyhood to the use of long range rifles in lion hunting. It will be necessary to confront him with good shooters led by men who have their wits about them. It may be best to teach the Boers on this occasion a lesson not to be forgotten.

THE MANIPUR DISASTER.

The disaster at Manipur on the borders of Bengal, in which a number of British officials were treacherously murdered, has excited very varied feelings in Great Britain. The disaster was a most deplorable one, but it was made possible only by the grossest mismanagement upon the part of the officials responsible. The condemnation has been swift and stern. Sorrow and anger have been commingled in the case. But the tragedy was relieved by brilliant achievements on the part of some of the subordinate officers concerned. The occasion made a revelation of the presence of a hero and a born leader. Lieutenant Grant, one of the officers in question, displayed in trying and perilous circumstances capacity and conduct of the highest kind, and the little band of Ghoorkas, led by him, could not have been surpassed in soldierly qualities. A lady also, widow of one of the murdered officials, displayed in a perilous retreat very noble qualities. The insurrection following the murder has been put down in a masterly manner, and the murderers, all captured, have been called to account. It is good that the disaster has been retrieved measurably. It would be better if good management had prevented its occurrence.

THE MCGREEVY SCANDAL.

Parliament is still occupied at Ottawa with the McGreevy scandal, in course of exploration by the Committee of Privileges. It does not yet appear what the final outcome is to be. The swearing in support of the main charges against McGreevy has been strong enough and stiff enough in all conscience. But the chief swearer, Murphy, has not appeared to advantage under cross-examination. His credibility as a witness has been seriously impugned. He is an acknowledged public defaulter. His testimony has been severely shaken at several important points. His testimony at no point can be relied upon unless strongly corroborated. The charges against Mr. Perley have broken down entirely. Nothing serious has yet been fastened on Sir Hector, and many of the charges against McGreevy are evidently doomed to failure. Farther than this at the moment one cannot go.

An Army of Convicts.

The frightful cruelty and barbarity which have characterized the progress of the present strife in Chili have astounded all Christendom. Helpless prisoners are butchered, troops suddenly turn and murder their officers, and the rules of warfare and the ordinary obligations of honor and humanity are as completely disregarded by these descendants of the Slavs as they would be by rival tribes of Patagonian savages. An American veteran officer, who has just returned from Chili, mentions some facts which perhaps afford an explanation. He describes the "army" of President Balmaceda as a mob of 30,000 cut-throats. "All the murderers, horse thieves, burglars and criminal classes of all kinds," he says, "are soldiers. Frequently in the last few years murderers who had been sentenced to death were pardoned, on condition that they would serve the remainder of their lives in the army. When the revolution started the prison doors were thrown open and occupants forced into service." With this kind of material, it is not surprising that the Chilean struggle has been carried on with a brutal bloodthirstiness that would disgrace the Bahi-Bazouks.

The Prohibition Question.

Mr. Foster's amendment on the Prohibition question, which was adopted, reads as follows:

That in the opinion of this house it is desirable without delay to obtain for the information and consideration of parliament, by means of a royal commission, the fullest and most reliable data possible respecting—

- 1. The effects of the liquor traffic upon all interests effected by it in Canada.
2. The measures which have been adopted in this and other countries with a view to lessen, regulate, or prohibit the traffic.
3. The results of these measures in such cases.
4. The effect that the enactment of a prohibitory liquor law in Canada would have in respect of social conditions, agricultural, business, industrial, and commercial interests of the revenue requirement of municipalities, provinces, and the dominion, and also as to its capability of efficient enforcement.
All other information bearing on the question of prohibition.
The original motion of Mr. Jamieson, conservative, was for immediate prohibition, and three conservatives, Mr. Jamieson, Mr. Dickey, and Mr. Lepine, voted against Mr. Foster's amendment, desiring to vote for immediate prohibition. Mr. Laurier is known to be opposed to the principle of prohibition.

Chatham Celebration.

The first was right royally observed at Chatham. The procession passed off in good style, there being a great number present. Crowds lined the streets on both sides of the way, and each special feature was cheered to the echo. The cowboys, negro minstrels and agricultural displays were well gotten up and afforded scenes of interest and amusement. The school children turned out in force and sang "My Own Canadian Home" in full ardor. The Newcastle Field Battery of Artillery, which were in the procession, fired a royal salute after the singing of the National Canadian hymn.

There were eight yachts in the race and as the breeze was favorable they made great speed. It was one of the prettiest events of the day.

A good race took place between the yachts Killbride, Kittich, Fedora, Calipso and Lottie. They came in in the order named after an exciting run of fourteen miles, in one hour, fifty-six minutes and fifty seconds. There was very little difference in their speed, but Mr. Miller, the owner of Killbride, seemed to be too well up in the art for his compeers. Burchill's men won the raftsmen's race, Hutchinson's coming in second.

The horse races passed off very successfully, although there is a dispute respecting the free for all. The 2.45 class was won by Fred with Nellie a close second, time 2.45. A Fredericton horse with the invincible Dave holding the ribbons won the three minute class. It ended as follows: Dean Swift first, Nellie second, and Topsy third, time 2.57. The track having a clay bottom, was very heavy from the recent rain, and the time is no

mark of the speed of the horses. The base ball match between Chatham and Douglstown men, was won by the former after a sharp contest. The bonnet hop at the rink in the evening was largely attended and was a gala affair. The best feature of the celebration was the display of illuminated steamboats under Commodore J. C. Miller. The whole town was brilliantly illuminated and many of the private residences were resplendent with light.

An Awful Host.

It is not always judicious, says a Scottish paper, to use Scotch idioms. A Scottish gentleman was down in England visiting some old friends, and while with them was invited to a dinner party. The worthy Scot made himself as agreeable as he could, and after dinner, over the wine and walnuts, grew quite confident with his neighbor. This gentleman was suffering from a severe cold, and Mr. McIntyre (the Scotchman), to show his sympathy, said: "Man, it's an awfu' host (cough) you've got." The host overheard the remark and naturally took it to himself, and there was a decided coolness between the parties till the Scotchman's friend explained the meaning of host.—Chicago Herald.

Manitoba has a quarter-million acres more under crop this year than last.

A case was lately tried at Douglas Wy., before a jury composed wholly of women. All parties concerned in the trial were women also, Mrs. Ingersoll who keeps the hotel at Douglas, being sued by two other servant girls for their wages. The jury gave judgment for the girls. The trial attracted much attention, as a jury composed exclusively of women was an unusual sight. The case has been appealed.

The cultivation of tobacco has been prohibited throughout the whole of Egypt. The owners of lands which are found to be under tobacco cultivation will be subjected to a fine of \$1,000 per acre.

It is reported that sixty-four out of seventy-five counties in the Texas grain belt show a total increased acreage over last year for wheat, corn and oats of between 75 and 100 per cent.

England is said to have a small war on her hands in South America. The matter in dispute is the correct boundary of British Guiana. Anti-British writers in the United States are trying to stir up feeling against England in this matter and trying to induce Mr. Blaine to interfere.

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