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RICHIBUCTO, N. B. MARCH 1, 1900

THE QUEEN'S OPINION.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—Her Majesty the Queen appreciates the enthusiastic loyalty of Canada and wishes the troops Godspeed and a safe return.

(Signed) CHAMBERLAIN.

This despatch was received by Lord Minto at Ottawa a week ago on the occasion of the departure of the Milwaukee from Halifax with another body of Canadians on board.

FACTS AND FICTION.

After zealously slandering the Premier and the Hon. Mr. Tarte with the imputation of disloyalty, oft repeated and cast in numberless forms, and after incidentally insulting the entire Canadian people of French extraction, the holders of the monopoly of Canadian patriotism are now seeking to add insult to injury by laying at the doors of the injured the further charge that they have been the persons to raise the "race cry." A lie has been said to possess ninety-nine lives as against the nine possessed by the members of the feline species, and in the effort to blacken the good name of broader-minded statesmen than themselves, the whole venom of Conservatism has been used and the very last life of the original falsehood spent in the desperate effort. Every side wind of rancour and intolerance, every atom of narrow minded bigotry and bitter hate has been taken advantage of to defeat the Administration led by the brilliant French-Canadian Premier by a careful play on the prejudice of the majority of the electorate. It would in the light of the past history of the parties be exceeding amusing, if it were not so dastardly. From 1892 to 1896 the great Conservative party pandered to the bigotry and intolerance of the ruling forces among our French-Canadian fellow-citizens, while they used every effort to cozen and beguile the English-speaking electorate by the sunny ways and appeals to patriotism. Every disclosure of wrong doing and political immorality, every corrupt deal involving national dishonour was promptly followed by a desperate appeal to the loyalty of the electorate, accompanied by a better denunciation of the Liberal party as a party of traitors, disloyalists and annexationists. And those appeals were universally successful so far as the English-speaking majority of the electorate was concerned. But in 1896 the Conservative party seems to have been found out by both sections of the Canadian people. The strongest appeals to race and religion involved in the Manitoba School Question were unable to save Sir Charles Tupper and his "nest of traitors" from the sweeping condemnation of the French-speaking electorate, while their

antithesis applied to the English Provinces was equally futile.

Having lost on an appeal to the prejudice of the minority, thanks largely to the clear sight and manly independence of that minority itself, Sir Charles Tupper has been trying to regain power by an appeal to the prejudice of the majority. If the Liberal party had been led by an English instead of a French-Canadian, the disloyalty cry would never have been heard. With a four years record which puts to shame the empty bragging and liployalty of the Conservative leaders, the man who charged disloyalty against the Administration at Ottawa would have been laughed at or pitied as hopelessly insane. But Sir Charles Tupper is basing his appeal on the belief that words are weightier than facts, that prejudice and passion are more potent factors in the decisions of the electorate than are reason and common sense. And we confess his belief has been justified by his own experience in matters political. There is a widespread fiction in the more select circles of that party that Toryism has been the bulwark of British connection in this important colony. Yet the history of the past is potent with the proofs that the leaders of the Tory party have never been loyal to anything excepting their own selfish aggrandizement, while in later days we have the proof of their own utterances that their present leaders are not even loyal to one another. From the earlier days when the tory leaders signed the annexation manifesto, burned the Parliament buildings and stoned the Governor General, down through the whole course of our political history to the more recent time when in 1878 the greatest of their leaders introduced the anti-British National Policy, of which their chief organ the Toronto Mail and Empire said, "if it were hostile to British connection, then so much the worse for British connection," the British flag has been put to no better use by tory patriots than to cover up the dirty spots in their party record. From 1878 to 1896 not one single action can be recalled on their part, not one iota of legislation pointed to, which had for its object the strengthening of those ties that bind us to the dear old mother land. Imperialism in Canada during that time, so far as the successive Conservative administrations were concerned, meant no more than a selfish policy of grab all without an effort to relieve the ever growing burdens of the British people. No wonder Canada wasn't popular at Downing Street. Where was the vaunting patriotism of Sir Charles Tupper and his colleagues from 1878 to 1896 when they had the power to put speech into action for the Empire's good? Where were Canada's contributions of men and money in the Sudan campaigns when the smaller colonies of Australia and South Africa sent their contingents to fight the battles of the Greater Britain? When Sir John McDonald was approached by Lord Landsdowne in 1885 with the suggestion of a Canadian Contingent, he replied for himself and his colleagues in a carefully considered note to the effect that it was out of the question for Britain to expect contributions of men or money from Canada. He is reported to have said that "Canada couldn't bother with Britain's brawls." Time and again has Sir Charles Tupper told the British people that in building the I. C. Ry. and C. P. Ry., Canada had contributed its full quota to British Imperialism, and no later than last year speaking in London he gave free vent to his expression of that opinion. The men who are guiding the destinies of Canada have a far different record. The Premier has admittedly been the most potent

force in Canadian politics in uniting the Canadian people into one nation, by breaking down much of the ancient antipathy and distrust between the different races. The administration has in the past four years forged many golden links in the chain of love that binds this colony with the old land, but none has been more effective perhaps than the noble words and inspiring presence of Canada's greatest son—Wiltred Laurier—at the time of the Imperial reunion of the Queen's Jubilee. Britons at home have understood their colonial brothers better since the French-Canadian statesman carried to London the token of affection from a united Canada to their gracious sovereign lady and her resident subjects. The practical token of Canada's loyalty involved in the 25 per cent. tariff preference on British imports was received by the British people in a manner to shew that they appreciated to the full the first free gift ever offered by this loyal colony. And ever since, the tory press has unsuccessfully tried to convince them it was only a gold brick after all, but the facts were too strong for the Britisher to heed the "reptile" press. Then followed Canada's successful inauguration of the Imperial Penny Postage system, opening up a freer intercourse between the different portions of the federation known as the British Empire, Canada accepted a heavier share of the Australian cable to prove hers was no quibbling loyalty. And when the need came for Canada's sons to join the Imperial band in South Africa, the Laurier Administration on behalf of Canada showed the world that even Canadian blood was at the service of Britain's Queen. To-day, with some of our best and bravest hearts stilled forever, we of the Canadian land raise our tear dimmed eyes in pride to meet the face of the great mother bending over us in our grief and murmur "death is swallowed up in victory." To the politicians who for their selfish purposes would stir up the tenderest and noblest feelings of the community, we give the warning "the ground whereon thou treadest is holy ground."

CANADA MOURNS.

The news of the death of 18 Canadians in battle and the more or less serious wounding of some 60 others at the Modder River engagement has brought home to the hearts of the Canadian people the reality of their contributions to the Imperial defence. No longer will Canada's loyalty to the Empire be spoken of by foreign critics as a graceful compliment of speech, for she has bathed it in the blood of her sons. Behind the sadness natural at such a time there is present the feeling that our boys died as heroes die, with their face to the foe bravely doing their duty. As the Latin poet of old expressed it, "It is a sweet and blessed thing to die for one's country." Even to their nearest relatives the thought will come to soothe the wildness of their grief that theirs is an honoured dead and that over them mourns a people grateful for the heroism which has reflected honor upon their native land. As Sir Wiltred Laurier said in pronouncing that brief but impassioned funeral oration in the House of Commons on Thursday last, "The news we have received is of a character at once to cheer and to sadden our hearts. It is cheerful in this respect, that it brings the announcement that our Canadian troops on the field have received their baptism of fire and have supported the ordeal in a manner creditable to themselves and to their country. The telegraphic message gives no details whatever, still we know by the

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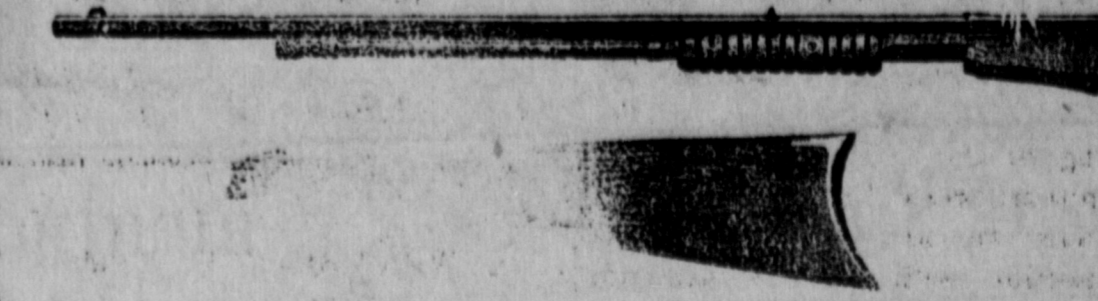
"number of casualties which have taken place that our men died at their posts and that their courage has been equal to what was expected of them. But this is the saddening part of it. Such is the awful character of war, that its triumphs are always mixed with tears, and however much we can rejoice at the victories achieved by the British arms—victories in which our fellow countrymen are taking a part—still the announcement is saddened by the fact that twenty of our countrymen have lost their lives and sixty-nine are now lying between life and death. The announcement is such as to, if it were possible, still more confirm us in our resolve of doing our full duty in the present emergency. We can do nothing at present to solace these families who are bereaved, but we can assure them, and this I am sure we do with all our hearts, that their loss is not their own alone; it is also ours and our country's."

COMMENTS AND CLIPPINGS.

The Montreal Star urges the Conservative party not to bind itself by any promises of portfolios. Seeing that the present leader of Conservatism will in all human probability have passed to his last reward, full of years, before there is any likelihood of a change of Government, the advice seems a trifle premature. But the Star being behind the scenes probably knows that a death struggle is being waged by the Tory leaders for supremacy, even before there are any spoils to divide. Down here in New Brunswick we use a homely maxim to which we respectfully call the "Star's" attention. "Never count your chickens until they are hatched."

The "Star" also urges the people of Canada to be patriotic and turn the Liberal Government out of power. The Star's patriotism begins and ends with its opposition to Liberalism, because the return of the Conservatives to power would mean a Senatorship for Mr. Hugh Graham, the Yankee proprietor of the Star. In 1896, when the Star made its humiliating turn

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over, Mr Graham found that there was many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip, and we greatly fear his Senatorial ambitions are doomed to disappointment.

The growth of the Canadian butter trade is only one example of good business management on the part of our Liberal Administration. In 1897 the export of butter to Great Britain averaged 392,000 pounds per month; in 1898 the average was 616,000 pounds, while during the first eight months of 1899-00 the average export to the British market exceeded 1,624,000 pounds a month. Meanwhile the quality has improved to a similar extent so that instead of ranking fifth in the English market, it last year ranked second, the Danish butter alone taking precedence. Of all the lots shipped, none we are happy to say ranked better than those from New Brunswick, and it is not too much to expect that next year Canadian butter will bring the highest prices in England.

The Toronto Globe calls attention to the fitness to-day of Milton's great description of England: "Methinks I see in my mind a noble and puissant nation arising herself like a strong man after sleep, and shaking her invincible locks; methinks I see her as an eagle mewing her mighty youth, and kindling her undazzled eyes at the full mid-day beam; purging and unscall-

ing her long abused sight at the fountain itself of heavenly radiance; while the whole noise of timorous and flocking birds, with those also that love the twilight, flutter about amazed at what she means, and in their envious gabble would prognosticate disintegration and decay."

The Poet Laureate, Mr. Alfred Austin, adds his testimony to Canada's patriotic assistance in the time of the Empire's need: "No words I could employ would adequately express the loving respect aroused in me for my brother patriots in the Canadian Dominion, who have testified in the most splendid manner their manly fidelity to the mother land. I beg you all never to doubt her capacity and her determination to uphold the mighty empire that is yours as much as ours."

The London "Globe" says: "The spirit in which a brave, strong nation should meet trial is admirably illustrated by the temper by Canada. The war, if it has done nothing else, has killed political bitterness and mere party strife in all the colonies. The contrast between Ottawa and Westminster is painful and humiliating." The Conservative party might try to make this flattering comment true by dropping their anti-French campaign cries.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.