



## OTTAWA LETTER.

OTTAWA, 15th March.—Mr. Henri Bourassa comes of Papineau stock. They have a kind of local axiom in the Province of Quebec which runs something like this: "He's clever; but he is a Papineau." Being translated, this means that the man is a crank. There is no desire to apply epithets to Mr. Bourassa; but it is well to bear in mind the little Quebec axiom when judging this lineal descendant of the historic Papineau. He is a man of unobtrusive ability, has engaging manners, and speaks with splendid fluency in English; but he has an itch for notoriety, and it would seem that he would rather secure that end by flying in the face of public sentiment in some startling way than by working up to a distinguished political career. He has already mortgaged all the bright prospects with which he entered Parliament in 1896.

On Tuesday last Mr. Bourassa's motion with respect to the war came up for consideration. In substance, it asked Parliament to express the hope that His Majesty's Government would endeavour to secure an honourable peace in South Africa by withdrawing the British troops and according independence to the Boers. There was a further clause against the enlistment of more men in Canada, either for military or constabulary duties. Mr. Bourassa spoke at some length, and from his standpoint made out a fair case. He did not say anything that indicated hostility to Great Britain, and the thought underlying his argument was that the immediate discontinuance of the war would be the very best thing for England.

Incidentally, there were many references in the speech to French Canadian sentiment. He said it was probably true that 90 per cent of his compatriots were opposed to the war and the spirit of Imperialism which had brought about the conflict; yet it was also true that there was no racial animosity in the Province of Quebec. French Canadians had voted for Sir Wilfrid Laurier; but in so doing they had not been actuated by racial prejudice. The people of Quebec were content in their present circumstances, and it was the recollection of how this happy state of affairs had been brought about that prompted him to move for the similar treatment of the South African Republics.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied to Mr. Bourassa in an impressive and eloquent speech. He showed how illogical and inconsistent it was on the part of the member for Laval to first array himself in opposition to the war and then turn up as England's adviser in the matter. There was no question whatever as to our right to offer advice to the Imperial authorities; but it was a matter for consideration how far it would be expedient or proper to offer such advice as Mr. Bourassa had suggested. It was futile at this stage to discuss the question of whether or not Canada should send troops to South Africa. The thing has been done and the great body of the Canadian people approved of it. If Canadians desired to still further aid the Empire by taking service in the South African Constabulary it would be an unreasonable interference with their liberty to prevent them from doing so.

The Premier pointed out that Mr. Bourassa desired Parliament to stultify itself by indirectly declaring that what had already been done was improper and wrong. He could not concur in that view. Britain has waged a just war in South Africa, and the outcome would be a confederation of the various Provinces under the British flag and under the Sovereignty of England. This would ensure liberty, equality and justice for English and Dutch alike. He therefore asked the House to reject Mr. Bourassa's motion. The judgment of the House was profoundly with Sir Wilfrid, for when the division came to be taken Mr. Bourassa found but two supporters, Mr. Monet and Mr. Angers, for his motion.

While the Commons was quietly and effectively putting the kibosh on the ambitious Mr. Bourassa, the Senate was considering a matter of a totally different character. In pursuance of his campaign pledge Sir Mackenzie Bowell moved that

a committee inquire into the charge made in October last by Mr. H. H. Cook. This gentleman was at one time a Liberal, and when he was defeated in 1896 he aspired to the Senate. His aspirations were not requited and he is now a mugwump. For some time before the election his principal business in life seemed to be in the direction of injuring the Liberal party, and out of this feeling grew the story that he had not been called to the Senate because he refused to put up the \$10,000 that was demanded of him. He declared that an officer in the Government service had approached him with this proposition and had handed him a letter on the subject.

This story did good service during the campaign for the Tories; but its ultimate effect was practically neutralized when Mr. Cook was forced to confess that he had lost the letter and that the man who made the proposition to him was dead. Then he made the announcement that before polling day he would make a full statement of the case, giving names and facts in support thereof. Sir Wilfrid Laurier immediately came out with an emphatic denial of the charge and challenged Mr. Cook to make public his proofs. Mr. Cook did not respond, and although he has repeatedly been invited to make his final statement he has remained silent ever since. Sir Mackenzie's motion was designed to force Mr. Cook to a declaration on oath, and there being no opposition to this plan a committee has been appointed by the Senate and will begin work forthwith.

The Government has decided to reduce the royalty on gold in the Yukon from ten per cent to five. This action has been taken as the result of persistent petitions from the miners, who have always regarded the royalty as being excessive. Probably the strongest reason which operated in the minds of the Ministers was the fact that the revenue from the Yukon has been greater than the outlay, and in view of the surplus which has been realized from year to year it has been thought well to make a reduction in the royalty.

The budget was delivered by Mr. Fielding on Thursday afternoon, and was chiefly remarkable for the fact that it was the shortest on record. Mr. Fielding finished his statement in an hour and a half, and Mr. Osler had replied before half past five. During many years of the Tory regime the budget was a thing which took up hours of time, and it is not remembered that on a single occasion did Mr. Foster finish before six o'clock. But those were days when the budget was looked forward to as the great event of the session, chiefly because of the uncertainty surrounding it. No one knew what was going to be done with the tariff. There were always many changes, sometimes on the side of reduction and at other times on the side of increase. From those days of tariff tinkering, with all the injury to trade arising from uncertainty, we have passed into the more desirable era of tariff stability.

Mr. Fielding was able to announce the continued prosperity of the country under Liberal rule. For the past fiscal year there was a surplus as between revenue and ordinary expenditure of \$8,000,000, and for the year which will close on 30th June next he anticipated a further surplus of \$6,350,000. Large expenditures had been made on capital account, however, and while there had been a considerable reduction of the debt last year he expected there would be an increase of \$1,800,000 for the current year. The average increase to the public debt during the four full years of Liberal rule had been \$1,749,093 as against an average of \$6,563,000 in the 18 years preceding. This is a record of which Liberals need not be ashamed.

The foreign trade of the country had increased last year by \$59,856,000, as compared with the total increase of \$66,000,000 during the entire 18 years of the National Policy. Exports had advanced in every line, while the imports in Great Britain had grown more than 50 per cent. under the preferential tariff. It was quite true that during the same period our imports from the United States had shown a still larger development; but this had reference wholly to articles not affected by the preferential tariff. It related chiefly to raw materials which were upon the free list; so that it was quite misleading to set one account over against the other and

draw therefrom the conclusion that the preferential tariff had not been successful. Mr. Fielding expressed the opinion that we had probably reached the crest of the wave of prosperity. The progress which had been made during the past four or five years had been of a sound character, and he did not look for any considerable falling away in the volume of trade. He rather anticipated a period of rest, during which Canada, like a giant, would gather fresh strength for further effort. The bank returns all went to confirm the view that genuine expansion had taken place throughout the Dominion, and that the business of the country rested on a safe and hopeful basis.

Mr. Osler replied to the budget statement. He thought it was a very good statement, and he was glad to see that the Government was taking steps to reduce the royalty on gold. He was also glad to see that the Government was taking steps to reduce the expenditure on capital account. He was also glad to see that the Government was taking steps to reduce the public debt. He was also glad to see that the Government was taking steps to reduce the average increase to the public debt during the four full years of Liberal rule.

## THE LADIES' FAVORITE

Laxa-Liver Pill are the ladies' favorite medicine. They cure Constipation, Sick Headache, Biliousness and Dyspepsia without griping, purging or sickening.

## BADEN-POWELL'S MEN IN BAR-RACKS AT HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, March 16.—There are 200 or more recruits for the South African constabulary in the barracks here. They are composed in parts as follows:

Nova Scotia—70 men, full quota.  
New Brunswick—(Enlisted at St. John by Lieut. McLean and forming "L" squadron) 100 men.

From Fredericton—11 men. This squadron is not complete; it should contain 21 men.

From P. E. Island—10 men, full quota.  
From Quebec—Nine men, full quota.  
From Montreal—44 men.

The men are not all raw recruits, about ten per cent. of them having experience in South Africa before, and a number of them having served in the N. W. M. police.

Twice a day the men fall in and are marched to the armories for drill. They are assuming better appearance already and will, no doubt, soon be in good shape.

The ship which will carry them is being prepared for their accommodation. The Montfort, which is a new vessel, is a sister ship to the Monterey, used in transporting previous bands of South African fighters. She is 445 feet long, registered tonnage, 4,580. The work of fitting the steamer is being superintended by Capt. Weatherbee and Capt. Critchey, of the South African constabulary, arrived two days ago to take charge of embarking of stores.

We can safely recommend Hawker's Tolu and Wild Cherry Balsam to cure any cold. Price 25c. per bottle.

## MERRY JEST OF BRIGHT COLONEL.

An amusing story, illustrating British officialism, comes from South Africa, and will bear repeating. The colonel of a pioneer regiment, repairing the railroad after one of General De Wet's many breakages, discovered a fine empty house, which he proceeded to occupy as headquarters.

When the news of the colonel's comfortable quarters reached Bloemfontein he received a telegram which read:

"G. T. M. wants house."

The colonel was unable to make out what "G. T. M." meant, and inquired of officers, who translated it "General Traffic Manager."

"All right," said the colonel, "if he can use hieroglyphics, so can I."

So he wired back:

"G. T. M. can G. T. H."

Two days later he received a despatch from Bloemfontein ordering him to attend a Board of Inquiry. On appearing in due course he was asked what he meant by sending such an insulting message to a superior officer.

"Insulting," repeated the colonel, innocently: "it was nothing of the kind."

"But what do you mean," demanded his superior, "by telling me I can 'G. T. H.'?"

"It was simply an abbreviation," replied the colonel. "G. T. M. (general traffic manager) can G. T. H. (get the house)."

## COOK'S NEW BLOOD PILLS

## A FATHER'S STORY.

## HE TELLS HOW HIS SON REGAINED HEALTH AND STRENGTH

Had His Spine Injured, and for Two Years Was Unable to Do Any Work, and for Most of the Time Was Confined to the House.

Mr. M. D'Entremont, a well known farmer living at West Pubnico, N. S., writes:—"I believe it is only right that I should let you know the benefit your medicine—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills—have been to my son, Constant, 16 years of age. For several years he was almost a constant invalid, the result of an injury to his spine while working with his brothers on the farm. He grew weak and listless, had no appetite, and for two years was unable to work and was for the most of the time confined to the house, and for part of the time to his bed. He suffered considerably from pains in the back; his legs were weak; and he had frequent headaches. At different times he was attended by two doctors, but got no benefit from the treatment. Then I procured an electric belt for him, but it was simply money wasted as it did not do him a particle of good. One day while my son was reading a newspaper he came across an article telling of a cure in a somewhat similar case through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and he then decided to give them a trial. After the second box was taken there was a marked improvement in his condition. He continued the use of the pills until he had taken eight boxes, and they have restored him to health. His appetite has returned; the pain has left his back; he has gained flesh; is able to ride a bicycle, enjoy's life and is able to do a day's work as well as anyone of his age. This letter is given gladly so that others may learn the merits of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and find a cure if ailing."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure such cases as the one noted above because they create new, rich, red blood, thus strengthening weak and shattered nerves. They do not purge and weaken like other medicines, but strengthen from the first dose to the last. Sold by all dealers in medicine or sent post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

## IS DEWET INSANE?

BLOEMFONTEIN, March 15.—The prisoners lately released by DeWet say they think he is a madman. They aver that the loss of territory and fatigues he has undergone, his anxieties and the intensity of his feelings have unhinged his mind. Apart from this view of DeWet's mental state some of his peculiarities are that he rarely sleeps within bounds of the camp. He seeks rest outside with a few trusted followers. He absolutely imparts his plans to none. DeWet repudiates the peace negotiations and has declared openly that no terms except independence will satisfy him. A recent utterance attributed to DeWet is that after the British he hated the Transvaalers. DeWet's whereabouts for the last two or three days are unknown, nor is it known whether Steyn is with him.

CAPETOWN, March 15.—The Boers having cut the wires telegraphic communication between the Eastern provinces and Natal is interrupted.

## People Who Have Used It

Say that Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine affords wonderfully prompt relief for coughs and colds. Everybody has confidence in Dr. Chase, in his great recipe book and famous family remedies. They have learned by experience that it pays to insist on having Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine instead of accepting the various unscientific "mix-ups" which some druggists offer as "just as good." Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine contains many of the most valuable and most effective remedial agents for throat and lung troubles that science has discovered. It acts so directly and promptly as to be of incalculable worth in all cases of croup, bronchitis and whooping cough. It is so far-reaching in its effects as to loosen the tightest chest cough and cure the cold of long standing. 25c a bottle, family size, three times as much. 60c. at all dealers', or Edmanston, Bates & Co., Toronto.

## Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine.

## THEY DO NOT GRIPE.

For Biliousness, Constipation, Dyspepsia, or Sick Headache, take Laxa-Liver Pills. They do not gripe, weaken or sicken.

## BARGAINS! BARGAINS!

The subscriber has purchased the stock of and removed his business to the store lately occupied by Malcolm McKinnon—Roxbury building. Every available spot in the said store is now filled with goods as follows:

Ready-Made Clothing for Boys and Men.  
Ladies' Dress Goods, all kinds,  
General Dry Goods,  
Cottons by the pound, good values,  
Cloths and Groceries,  
Smallwares, Haberdashery, etc.

I have Cloth from 18 cts. up; Dress Goods from 15 cts. up, and Double-Breasted Suits from \$3.50 up.

My clothing is made in the best establishments in the Dominion. It is an easy matter to claim. I sell at half price. What I do say is I pay cash. I buy bargains and I sell bargains, and if you call on me you WILL purchase. Some say good firms do not sell bargains; I say the only genuine bargains you get is from good reliable houses, and they only sell them very occasionally and you must be alive and ready with your cash to obtain them. No trouble to show goods.

Call at the BARGAIN STORE of

ABDELLAH SAYRE,  
RICHIBUCTO, N. B.

## At Cost to Clear.

We are selling the balance of our OVERCOATINGS, REEFERS and ULSTERS at cost to make room for spring stock. A bargain from now till spring.

L. C. RILEY, Kingston.

## MALT - - BREAKFAST FOOD - -

IMPERIAL BRAND MAPLE SYRUP  
: : For Sale by : :  
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## GEO. ROBERTSON &amp; CO.

Wholesale Grocer and  
West India Merchant.

7 Prince William Street,  
ST. JOHN, N. B.

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and see if your best bargains of the year were not made with me. STOCK ALWAYS NEW.

## GROCERIES--

A complete line of City light Groceries. Bright Port Rico Molasses. Sugar, Flour, Pork, Fish, Butter Eggs, etc.

## DRY GOODS--

Cotton, Prints, Flannelettes, Flannel, Duster, Serges, Cloth figured and plain.

## LADIES' APPAREL--

Skirts, Blouses, Capes, Coats, Underwear, to please the taste and fill the wants.

## CLOTHING--

Men's and Boys' Suits in all styles to please.

## HATS &amp; CAPS--

Men's and Women's, young and old.

## CROCKERYWARE--

Graniteware, Tinware—the largest and best selected stock to be found anywhere.

STOVES--Parlor, Heating and Cook Stoves and Ranges. We have the largest and most improved stock in Canada to choose from.

Prices Right. Don't you know they are better than any advertised.

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