

## MARRIED WOMAN PASSED AS A LAD

As the result of an accident at Derwenthaugh, two miles west of Newcastle-on-Tyne, it was discovered that a supposed lad of eighteen, who had been working in a wherry since May under the name of James Palmer, is really a married woman of thirty-one.

Some steel plates for shipbuilding were being loaded into the wherry when one slipped and fell on the "lad," causing severe injuries on the body. A doctor was called. "Palmer" asked for the men to leave the shed where she was lying, and then told the doctor that she was a woman of thirty-one, married to a German sailor, whom she had left on account of ill treatment. She declined to give any other information about herself, except that to get food for herself and the children she had sought employment as a man and since May had worked in the wherry.

The woman was moved to Newcastle Infirmary, where she was found to be suffering from severe internal injuries. She gave the name of Margaret Neilson, and died next day. It turned out that her husband was seeking a divorce from her.

For centuries Chinese women have been baking cakes for the man in the moon, who was supposed to leave his high seat on his annual festival and wander over the earth nibbling at the moon-faced pastries made in his honor.

Bert Stone, of Freeport, Ill., claims the world's championship for paving bricklayer. He laid 29,000 bricks in 9 hours. His employers, a local contracting firm, presented him with a gold badge.

One swallow doesn't make a summer, but it breaks a New Year's resolution.

## NOTED FINANCIER HAS PASSED AWAY

New York, Jan. 3.—James R. Keene, the financier and horseman, died at 2.15 o'clock this morning in a sanitarium here, from the effects of an operation. He was 73 years old and had been ill for a long time.

Mr. Keene was known as the greatest master of stock manipulation of recent years, at least in Wall Street, and many good judges would say, that "ever played the game there. About a year ago, he was estimated to be worth \$30,000,000 but many a time he has reached bottom only to bob up again financially. It was a keen trader indeed who would catch him napping.

He was the son of a London merchant, and was born in that city in 1838. He got his education under a tutor in French and Latin, then in Lincolnshire and at Trinity College, Dublin. His father lost all his property through unfortunate investments and came to America in 1852, locating in Northern California.

The conception of liberty that some people have consists in going about running over the rights of others.

An Illinois man is growing fruit and vegetables by the aid of electricity. He has an especially fine crop of currants.

It may be true, as some people say, that Canadians speak the purest English in the world. But, at the same time, there are some frightfully vile examples of it heard on the streets.

Women in Denmark ask the privilege of serving in the army. Over here they are generally in charge of the infantry.

If a man boasts of his past after reforming it's a sign he didn't get the right brand.

## WHAT HAS THE BORDEN GOVERNMENT ACCOMPLISHED?

### Opportunity for Gaining a Market for the Farmers Has Been Lost---Political Morality Has Been Lost---Tariff Stability Has Been Lost---National Self-Respect Has Been Lost

The present Government has been in office nearly a year and a half. Its second session of Parliament is well advanced. What has it accomplished? What does it give promise of accomplishing? In what respect had Canada gained by changing its rulers? The answer to these questions is best indicated by yet another. Who can point to anything of importance that the Borden Government has accomplished, much less accomplished, or anything of value that the Dominion has gained through its advent to power?

But, it is the other side of the inquiry that is the startling one. What have we lost or suffered? To begin with, and as a condition precedent, we lost the chance of reciprocal trade in natural products with the United States, for which Canadians of both political parties had been striving, and to which all eyes had been eagerly turned, for nearly half a century. We lost the opportunity of gaining a market for the farmers, fishermen, lumbermen, and miners of the Maritime Provinces, without which there is little opportunity for extensive or continuous development in their respective industries, and small hope of materially increasing our population. We lost, at the same time, the chance of securing a considerable reduction in the cost of many of the necessities of life to our city and town dwellers. That was surely price enough, in all conscience to pay for the substitutes of a set of untried and inexperienced politicians for a capable and effective Administration which had amply demonstrated, during fifteen years of power, its ability to govern wisely and well—and against which there had not been a single sustained or well-founded charge of wrong-doing.

We lost, with the Laurier Government, that sense of right and fair dealing in public matters which was beginning to give the country faith once more in political morality. During the Laurier regime, Civil Servants were safer in office than they would have been in private employment. Scarcely a man was dismissed from the Civil Service for any other cause than proved, personal wrong-doing in office. After fifteen years of Liberal administration, far more than half of the Civil Service was still Conservative, in spite of the fact that many of its members had gone out openly, at election after election, and not only voted but worked openly against the Government, which kept them in office and paid them generously. No sooner had the present Government got settled in power than whole districts, in which not a single Conservative official had ever been dismissed, were swept practically clean of Liberal office-holders. No office was too small to be snatched from its Liberal holder, for purely partisan reasons, by a Government which had gained power upon a direct pledge of Civil Service decency. No Liberal office-holder was too poor or too necessitous to be spared.

The country has lost by this not only good, experienced officials who could ill be spared and had them replaced by hungry political hangers-on—that is the smallest part of it—but it has lost the feeling of public decency in such matters which the Liberals so faithfully and consistently cultivated. Things are back now where they were fifty years ago. The spoils system has been revived in all its deformity, and firmly re-established. It would be unreasonable to expect or to hope after what has been going on during the last year that the Liberals will not make reprisals when they return to power. It would be worse, than weakness, it would be rank injustice, were they not to do so. During all their long term of office, although sorely provoked and tempted by what had been done before, they withheld their hands, in many cases at great sacrifices to themselves as a party. They set a consistent and worthy example. Their conduct has been wholly without influence on their successors. Why should they repeat it?

Another great and threatening loss has been that of the tariff stability under which Canada prospered so greatly for fifteen years. We are rapidly heading towards the same disastrous uncertainty which ended by paralyzing industry and commerce under the last Conservative Government. Already there have been amazing changes and the air is full of threats of others to come. Even the British Preference is menaced from several different quarters. That it is, in effect, doomed, seems all too cer-

tain. It will not be directly repealed, of course. That would not be "loyal." It will be got rid of much more diplomatically than that. The tariff will simply be raised so high on some or most of the imports favored by it that it will not matter what the nominal "preference" may be, since none of the imports affected by it will be able to come in under it. Thus we can have British exclusion with the name of British Preference. But it will be most "loyally" brought about.

Finally, among our great losses—not to mention at all the many smaller ones—we shall have lost not only our autonomy but our national self-respect, if the Borden Navy propositions are permitted to become law. We have already lost two years of opportunity for efforts towards the establishment of a permanent Canadian branch of the Imperial Navy. All that the Laurier Government acting under the advice and with the co-operation of the British Government, had done or undertaken has been undone or nullified. In place of the manly Canadian policy of Laurier, which in 1909 had the open support of Mr. Borden and his lieutenants, we have had introduced a tribute-paying scheme which will cost enormously to begin with, and of the continuing cost and humiliation of which no one can see the end.

In view of the whole present political situation in the Dominion, well may every patriotic Canadian, when he thinks of the Unholy Alliance victory of September, 1911, exclaim in the words of Marc Antony, slightly adapted:

O, what a fall was there, my countrymen! Then I, and you, and all of us fell down Whilst mean deception flourished over us.

The rich Chinese merchant in Los Angeles who has legally adopted an American boy two years old is showing no race prejudice.

## CHANGE IN COMMAND OF AMERICAN FLEET

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—Rear-Admiral Hugo Osterhaus was today relieved of the command of the Atlantic fleet by Rear-Admiral Charles J. Badger, for some time past aid for inspections at the Navy Department. Rear-Admiral Osterhaus has been assigned to duty with the general board of the navy, with station in this city. The new commander of the Atlantic fleet will take the fleet at once to southern waters for a series of manoeuvres. During the winter the fleet will visit Colon by divisions, in order to give the officers and enlisted men an opportunity to see the wonders of the Panama Canal.

Of course you could tell right off what New Year's resolutions you would advise all you friends to make. Experiments in Germany are said to prove that dried potato vias have the same value for feeding stock as good meadow hay.

The municipal authorities of Berlin have forbidden men to smoke while driving automobiles.

Britain lends Canada the money and Canada lends Britain the ships.

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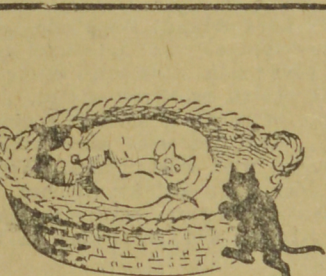
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