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DAILY HERALD.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1902.

GOLDWIN SMITH'S OPINION.

Goldwin Smith, a former eminent Oxford professor, who has made his home at Toronto for many years, and has taken a deep interest in Canadian politics without meddling in party fights, is not enamored with imperialism and militarism, as it has been developed in this country in the past two years.

In a recent letter to the London Daily News, Prof. Smith commends Sir Wilfrid Laurier for declining to discuss the political and military relations of Canada with the Empire at the coming colonial conference in London, and declares that Canadian sentiment is behind the premier in the position he has taken. Prof. Smith thinks the people of the old country make a mistake in taking the present war fever in Canada for the settled sentiment of the country, and the aspirations of a particular set of people for the general public desire.

Prof. Smith tries to dissuade the people of the home land from thinking of Canada only as a British colony. The majority of the people here he admits are British, but he claims that two fifths of the population are French, American, or other non British races, and that the former, while content to live under British rule provisionally, have aspirations for a French Canadian nation. To prove this position Professor Smith points out the reluctance of the French Canadian troops to serve against Riel in the North West rebellion of 1885, and the attitude of that nationality regarding the despatch of Canadian troops to South Africa.

Prof. Smith seems to think that the future of Canada will be influenced by the present and prospective rush of Americans into the Northwest and to the mining camps of British Columbia and the Yukon, and he concludes that in a very few years the American element will prevail in those localities. He asks his readers to bear in mind that politically included in the name of Canada, are four blocks of territory separated from each other by wide spaces or barriers of nature among which there is, for the most part, little interchange of population and no great amount of trade.

It is far from being the desire even of British Canadians in general "Prof. Smith declares," to be compelled to contribute to Imperial armaments. They provided the British Government with Canadian corps for the South African war, and they furnished the transportation. They keep up a militia of their own, sufficient to sustain the military character and spirit of the people. I think it will be found that they are not willing to do more. The wild race of European powers in military and naval expenditure is not attractive to industrial and frugal people. Canada, as Canadians know, is herself in no danger whatever."

"On what is the contribution to armaments to be based? Can Great Britain undertake to defend the Canadian frontier, stretching from ocean to ocean, and for the most part, perfectly open to invasion? Will Canada, on the other hand, ever be permitted to engage in any British war by which she would bring war into this continent? The Monroe Doctrine is a doctrine only. The solid fact is the power of the United States."

"Even of the British, though the feelings of all alike are most kindly and warm towards the Mother Country, very few, I take it, are Imperial Federationists. No intelligible plan of Imperial Federation has ever been laid before them, but they must know that any plan would involve the resignation of self-

government to a central power, which is far from being their desire. More welcome would be a restriction of the judicial powers of the Privy Council, on the Australian plan. (Canada has a thoroughly trusted judiciary of her own.)"

In conclusion Prof. Smith observes that "if the assent of Canada to Imperial Federation, Imperial armaments, or Imperial tariff is indispensable, it seems unlikely that any one of these aspirations will be fulfilled."

These are the views of a man, who, while thoroughly British, is not carried away by the present apparent desire of some sections of the Canadian people to sacrifice anything and everything to the Imperial idea, to sacrifice in a measure even the self-governing principles which our forefathers fought so hard to obtain.

St. George's Society of St. John, is celebrating its centennial in a variety of ways. Sunday the members attended Trinity church in a body and listened to a patriotic sermon, last night a public meeting was held at which addresses were delivered by Hon. Geo. E. Foster and J. D. Hazen, M.P.P., and tomorrow evening a grand ball will close the celebration. Mr. Foster had not been seen in St. John since his defeat by the Minister of Railways, and he received quite a cordial welcome.

OUR FISHERY CLAIM.

The local government is exhibiting commendable diligence in pushing New Brunswick's claim to the fishery award, which is put at some two million dollars. An Ottawa despatch says that Premier Tweedie and Attorney General Pugsley are at the Capital meeting the minister of marine, with a view of arranging a case to be submitted to the supreme court interpreting the recent judgment of the judicial committee of the privy council in regard to the fisheries.

The minister of marine and fisheries told Premier Tweedie and Attorney General Pugsley that he would call a conference of the representatives of the various provinces interested in regard to the fisheries question, and if no amicable arrangement was then arrived at, he would have the case submitted to the supreme court to have the matter finally decided.

The Eastern Extension claim was submitted to arbitration, and New Brunswick won her case. Let us hope that we shall have equal success with our fishery claim.

Dr. Seward Webb denies that he is connected with new railway projects in the lower provinces, but people take the denial with a grain of salt. There is no doubt an important movement forming among the capitalists, with which he is associated, to secure an outlet to the Atlantic seaboard, and possibly his alleged want of knowledge is for a purpose which will become apparent when the conditions are suitable.

In Parliament Monday, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the government has been communicating with the Imperial government in respect to the duties levied on wheat and flour.

St. John sent seventy-five men to Halifax for the fourth contingent, a pretty large contribution, in proportion to the population of the city.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Co., have received orders for Canadian flour from Australia and South Africa to the extent of 43,536 barrels.

She Had Improved.
The Princess Charlotte, daughter of George IV., was a young woman of great spirit and originality. One day one of her teachers chanced to enter the room when the princess was reviling one of her attendant ladies in great wrath, and, after giving her a lecture on hasty speech, he presented her with a book on the subject.

A few days later he found her still more furious and using language even more violent. "I am sorry to find your royal highness in such a passion," said he. "Your royal highness has not read the book I gave you."
"I did, my lord," cried she tempestuously. "I both read it and profited by it. Otherwise I should have scratched her eyes out!"

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A Master for Fifty Years.
Mr. George Pollock, the senior King's Bench Master and King's Remembrancer, who has sent in his resignation, is over 80 years of age, and has been a Master for upwards of 50 years. Lord Dunboynne is the next senior Master.

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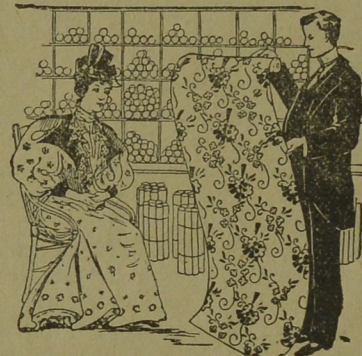
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