

firm for the navy at St. Louis. As the navy has had no hardtack contract in St. Louis the paymaster general paid no further attention to the matter.

GLADSTONE'S FAITH IN THE COMMON PEOPLE.

Unlike Peter the Great or Napoleon, Mr. Gladstone complied, throughout the whole of his life, with the moral law. Even in those episodes of his career wherein he has been most bitterly denounced, no one competent of forming a just judgment of his motives can deny that he possessed nobility of aim. I will give an example.

As events have turned out, the English surrender of the Transvaal was probably unwise. Certainly it produced in England the bitterest feeling of humiliation and national wounded pride—a feeling in which I have always shared.

After my first visit to South Africa, when the opportunity was afforded me of seeing much of those who had suffered for their loyalty to England, this feeling of shame and indignation was redoubled. Firmly believing that Mr. Gladstone had acted wrongly in the retrocession of the Transvaal, I returned to England with the conviction that his South African policy was governed by motives of political expediency. It was in that frame of mind that I met Mr. Gladstone, in a country house, on Easter Monday, 1886. I shall never forget the first serious conversation I had with him. He introduced the subject by referring to my recent visit to Africa. Believing that an opportunity had arisen not to be missed, I said to him, speaking in the interests of my countrymen and country women who had lost their all by reposing faith in England's promise that the British flag should never be hauled down so long as the sun was in the heavens, "Sir, I think, if you had been, as I have been, in the homes of those Englishmen and loyal Dutch Boers who have been ruined for no greater fault than a foolish confidence in Great Britain—I think your cabinet would not have surrendered the Transvaal."

Taking me by the arm, and with his marvelous onyx eyes blazing with indignation, he gazed out of the window at the sky and the budding trees, and spoke for nearly 20 minutes, in a low, rich voice. He raised his arm with the gesture with which a lion raises his paw, and I realized, for the first time, the greatness of the man.

What he said, in effect, was this: "We have given back the Transvaal to its owners because it was acquired from

them by fraud. A small country, a mean country, a country less sure of itself, could not have done this thing. Perhaps England alone, with her 800 years of history behind her, could have dared to do this act. To have done it shows the greatness, not the smallness, of England. The common people wished it. They hate injustice; they refuse to profit by fraud. The common people are always right. They were right in Macedonia; they were right in Judea;" and then he added, with a sweep of his arm so vehement that I thought he was about to crush me, "they are right now."—Arnold White, in *Harper's Weekly*.

AMERICAN ARMY TRANSPORT.

Though the United States have only engaged in one "foreign" war, that against Mexico, its army inherits the best traditions of transport service of any civilized nation. For nearly a century North American migration has been conducted not by sea, but by land; and the settlement and occupation of a vast continent has been effected by a civilized population, who never hesitated to move for thousands of miles, carrying their household goods and families in the "prairie schooners," the mule wagons or ox wagons of the states. At the same time, the pioneers of trade never shrank from penetrating with trains of hardy pack-mules into unknown deserts and among the hostile Indians of the plains. Traders and settlers alike spent their lives as transport officers; it was their normal occupation in time of peace; and though the railway has now superseded the pack-mule and the wagon, the old traditions and aptitude are still maintained by the regular army in the frontier posts of the west.

Though the train has generally superseded the "prairie schooner" and the pack-mule, the art of managing the latter has been purposely maintained by the United States war department. The services of one of the most noted "packers" were, by the suggestion of Gen. Sheridan retained to teach the art to the officers and men at several posts. He received a large salary, and, later, was sent to the large cavalry station at Fort Riley, in Kansas. To this gentleman the English war office were most glad to apply for instruction during the Zulu war. He came to Natal, and there instructed our troops in the methods of packing mules for army transport. It is believed that there are at the present time in the United States, mainly in Kansas, Missouri and Kentucky, enough mules to provide transport for 70,000

men. Horses are so cheap that it does not pay to feed them on the ranches; and should bullock trains be in favor the Texas steers will be available in tens of thousands. Cuba is in parts much intersected by light railways from the sugar plantations. But, failing railways, the United States possesses not only the finest material for army transport, but the most competent drivers and packers in the world.—*The London Spectator*.

THE NATIONAL INTEGRITY OF CANADA.

An extract from an article published in the *May Forum*, on "Canada's Relations with the United States, and Her Influence in Imperial Councils," by Dr. John G. Bourinot, C. M. G., clerk of the house of commons of Canada.

Despite all the powerful influences that have fought against Canada she has held her own in America. At present a population of 5,000,000 (against 1,000,000 in 1840), with a total trade of \$250,000,000 (against \$25,000,000 in 1840), and with a national revenue of nearly \$40,000,000 (against \$700,000 in 1840), inhabits a dominion of seven regularly organized provinces, and of an immense territory, now in course of development, stretching from Manitoba and Ontario to British Columbia, whose mountains are washed by the Pacific ocean. This dominion embraces an area of 3,519,000 square miles, including its water surface, or very little less than the area of the United States with Alaska, or a region measuring 3,500 miles from east to west, and 1,400 miles from north to south. The magnificent valley through which the St. Lawrence river flows from the lakes to the ocean is now the home of prosperous, energetic and intelligent communities, one of which was founded nearly three centuries ago. A remarkable system of waterways, consisting mainly of the Red, Assiniboine and Saskatchewan rivers, extends through the plains of the territories as far as the base of the Rocky mountains, and fertilizes a region whose capability for the production of foods is probably not surpassed on this continent. The mountainous country to the north of Lake Superior is rich in gold, copper, nickel and other valuable minerals, which are already attracting the attention of enterprise in Europe and America. The gold mines of British Columbia are most productive; and the great bulk of the precious metal still lies buried in the rocks of that immense province. The coal mines of Vancouver have no rivals on the Pacific coast; while those of Nova Scotia and the territories are capable of infinite development. The treasure of

gold now attracting capital and people to the dreary country through which the Yukon and its tributaries flow seems to be inexhaustible, and must add largely to the population and wealth of the dominion, which, year by year, sees its resources increasing in extent and value. The fisheries have long been the envy of the United States; and the agricultural production is as great as that of the most favored sections of that country. Its climate and resources—the best springs of a nation's energy and wealth—are those of the northern, middle and western states.

No dangerous question like slavery exists to complicate the political and social conditions of the union, and, although there is a large and increasing French-Canadian element in the dominion—the heritage of the old French regime in America—its history so far should not create fear as to the future, except perhaps in the minds of sectarian pessimists, who too often raise gloomy phantoms of their own imaginings. Whilst this element naturally clings to its national language and special institutions, yet, under the influence of a complete system of local self-government, it has taken as active and earnest a part as the English element in establishing and strengthening the confederation.

The expansion of the African race in the southern states is a question of the future for the federal republic, which its statesmen will find much more difficult than any that Canadian statesmen have to solve on account of the existence of a French nationality, who possess the lively intelligence of their race, exercise all the privileges of self-government, and, above all things, well comprehend that their true interests lie in a prosperous Canadian federation, and not in union with a country where they would eventually lose their national identity.

The whole history of Canada proves that there has been always among the people, not merely an attachment to England and her institutions, but a latent influence, which in times of peace, as in times of peril, has led them onward in a path of national development which with every decade has diverged more and more from the United States. The statesmen and people generally of that country have been always remarkably ignorant, not only of the history, but of the political institutions and of the political sentiments of the Canadians; and they have never appreciated the tendency of this political development, which is in the direction of a new nationality not inferior to the

United States in many of the elements of a people's greatness.

In Canada, as in other parts of the world where representative institutions exist, democracy, as a form of government, has made its influence felt in the enlargement of political rights and in the extension of the franchise; and unhappily sometimes in the dominion, as in the neighboring country, it partly obscures and misleads public opinion in moments of bitter political controversy. Fortunately the principles upon which Canadian government is based are sound; and political morality is, on the whole, higher than in the United States. The federal union gives expansion to the national energies of the whole dominion; at the same time it affords every security to the local interests of each member of the federal compact. In all matters of dominion concern, Canada is a free agent. While the queen is still the head of the executive authority, and can alone initiate treaties with foreign nations (that being an act of complete sovereignty), and while appeals are still open to her privy council from Canadian courts within certain limitations, it is an admitted principle that, so far as Canada has been granted legislative rights and privileges by the imperial parliament—rights and privileges set forth explicitly in the British North America act of 1867—the dominion is practically sovereign in the exercise of all these powers, so long as they do not conflict with the treaty obligations of the parent state or with imperial legislation directly applicable to Canada with her own consent.

It is true the queen in council can veto acts of the Canadian parliament; but that supreme power is exercised only under the conditions just stated; and can no more be constitutionally used in the case of ordinary Canadian statutes affecting the dominion solely than can the power of the sovereign to veto the acts of the imperial parliament—a crown prerogative still existent, but not exercised in England since the days of Queen Anne, and now considered inconsistent with modern rules of parliamentary government. England exercises a certain supervision over the affairs of the dominion through a governor-general, who communicates directly with an imperial secretary of state; but in every matter directly affecting Canada—as, for instance, in the negotiations respecting the fisheries and Behring sea—the British government acts in unison with the Canadian ministry, whose statements are carefully considered, since they represent the sentiments and interests of the Canadian people, who,

as subjects of the empire, are entitled to as much weight as if they lived in the British Isles.

In a limited sense there is already a loose system of federation between England and her dependencies. The central government of England, as the guardian of the welfare of the whole empire, cooperates with the several governments of her colonial dependencies, and, by common consultation and arrangement, endeavors to come to such a determination as will be to the advantage of all the interests at stake. In other words, the conditions of the relations between England and Canada are such as to insure unity of policy as long as each government considers the interests of England and the dependency as identical, and keeps in view the obligations, welfare and unity of the empire at large. Full consultation in all negotiations affecting Canada, representation in every arbitration and commission that may be the result of such negotiations, are the principles which of late years have been admitted by England in acknowledgment of the development of Canada and of her present position in the empire; and any departure from so sound a doctrine would be a serious injury to the imperial connection, and an insult to the ability of Canadians to take a part in the great councils of the world.

The latest assurance that Canadians have had of the desire of English statesmen to pay every possible respect to the wishes and feelings of Canada, where her interests are immediately affected, was given by the recent decision of the British government to "denounce" all commercial treaties which hamper the free action of the Canadian parliament with respect to trade, and to allow no such treaties to be made hereafter except with the consent of the dominion itself.

Under these conditions of self-government, which allow such full expansion to colonial action in all matters affecting the welfare of the country—conditions which give Canada a large measure of the sovereignty belonging to an independent nation—the connection between Great Britain and her dependency is necessarily strengthening as the years pass by, and may yet lead to a federation of the empire on a basis which will preserve all local rights and at the same time insure a strong and workable central organization. One thing is quite certain; a party favoring annexation to the United States has no *raison d'être*; and the man would be bold indeed who should step on a public platform in Canada and urge a scheme so repugnant to people now enjoying so

many advantages as an influential dominion of the British empire.

DON'T GRUMBLE PREMATURELY.

Our readers may have noticed that the Star has made no criticisms whatever on the conduct of the war. It has claimed that, so far as the army and navy officers and men are concerned, all has been well done, so far as known, and we have expressed our faith that such will continue. We have been reticent in ascribing unnecessary delays or bad plans to the Washington management, for the reason that both experience in the last war and common sense show that it is very possible for outsiders to be mistaken, in view of the necessary secrecy that responsible conductors must maintain and the fact that they are thereby, and by their positions, debarred from making explanations and replies. We know that the daily press assumes to be much wiser than this and to have access to "inside" information, from which others are excluded. But their contradictions, inaccuracies and baseless rumors negative this assumption. The administration is attacked by the daily press for its tardiness and failure to be prepared for emergencies. We advise our readers not to be too hasty in so believing. The situation is one of great difficulty, and while Washington may restrain commanders too much, it is obvious that in a war covering so much territory, there must be some central point to which information comes, and, only when based on all such information received, can an intelligent plan of campaign be devised, so that the commanders in one locality can advantageously work in connection with those in another.—San Francisco Star.

HUMOR FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Did any of you ever hear anyone pronounce a more beautiful eulogy on himself than that just pronounced by Josiah Patterson?

In listening to it I could not help but be reminded of what my friend, Jake Cummings, once said about me. It was in the great campaign of 1884. The Cleveland, Hendricks and Allen club at Tupelo had a meeting, and Mr. Taylor and Mr. Anderson spoke to the club that night. As I chanced to be at home from my campaign, I attended the club meeting. After the regular speakers I was called for and submitted some remarks about myself and my campaign.

After I had spoken, the crowd called for Jake Cummings, a long, black, sleek, old negro carpenter, who lives in Tupelo, and Jake's speech ran about this

way: "Well, gentlemen, it's gittin' kinder late, and I don't know as its necessary for me to say anything. You's heerd Mr. Taylor and Mr. Anderson on the gen'l politics of the day. They's tol' you what sort of a man Blaine is and what sort a man Cleveland is. It don't look to me like no honest man ought to have any trouble in picking out de fittest man of them two; and then you's heerd Mr. Allen on hisself, and he has ricommended hisself so much higher than any the rest of us kin ricommend him, it ain't worth while for me to say nothing about him."—Hon. John M. Allen, in the House, April 22.

SOME BOSTON BABIES.

A few years ago, accompanied by Rev. Mr. Swaffield, then of the Baptist Bethel mission, I spent considerable time in the slums of the North end. I thoroughly explored this region, and the memory of what I saw and heard will never leave me. It was a frightful nightmare. I there beheld children three and five years old sewing all day long on clothes for the sweaters. Some of them were living in attics, some in cellars. They were old to look upon, although spring had scarcely kissed their brows. One of these little ones heard my friend say he was 40 years old that day, and she exclaimed: "Oh, dear, I should think you would get so tired of living so many years!"—B. O. Flower, in The Arena.

During a discussion at a meeting of the Trinity College Historical society upon the slight consideration attached to life by uncivilized nations, a speaker mentioned the extraordinary circumstance that in China if a man were condemned to death he could easily hire a substitute to die for him; "and," the debater went on, "I believe many poor fellows get their living by acting as substitutes in that way!"—The London Spectator.

"Now, Thomas," said a certain bishop, after taking his servant to task one morning, "who is it that sees all we do, and hears all we say, and knows all we think, and who regards even me in my bishop's robes as but a vile worm of the dust?" And Thomas replied: "The missus, sir."

"You've never seen a teetotaler drunk, Tom," said the priest. "Ah, your riverence," replied Tom, "I've seen many a man drunk, but I couldn't tell for the life o' me, whether they wor teetotalers or not!"—London Spectator.

"Why is it," they asked, "that you no longer read the Yellow Journal?" "The fact is," he replied, "that I am

more interested in knowing what the news is than I am in how it is secured."—Chicago Post.

"It is better," said President Tucker, "to really believe a half truth than only to half believe a real truth."—The Outlook.

DISCRETION THE BETTER PART.

Let others fight the hordes from Spain;
To dye with blood the raging main
Is little to my mind;
Upon the broad and heaving sea
One looks in vain for rock or tree
A man might hide behind.

When sounds the angry, booming gun
The scared man has no chance to run
Or crawl into a hole;
He's got to stand while pigs of lead
And kegs of nails whiz past his head
And paralyze his soul.

Although the heat would kill a cow
He has no chance to fan his brow
Or drink some lemonade;
He has to feed a patent gun
That calls for powder by the ton—
He feeds it with a spade.

And now and then there comes a thud
And he is painted thick with blood,
If not wiped off the map;
No parson near to close his eyes,
No inquest on him when he dies—
Who'd envy such a chap?

I would not mind exchanging whacks
In olden style, with battle ax,
If single foe were mine,
But when machines distribute death
And don't ring off to give one breath
I have to draw the line.
—Kansas City Star.

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