

The Charlottetown Guardian

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1917.

ANCIENT AND MODERN

Among the inimitable sketches by Lieut. Bairnsfather in his "Fragments from France," there is a double cartoon showing war as it was and as it is. One sketch shows an immaculately caparisoned officer with sword aloft, heading a company of soldiers marching in perfect order as if on parade, and exhorting them with the Shakespearian order, "On, On, Ye Noblest English!"

This is one of the differences between the war of today and the war of even a hundred years ago when regiments in faultless formation marched up against each other, under orders not to "fire a shot until you see the whites of their eyes."

When the battle of Waterloo was fought and won, news of the victory was brought to England by a courier who rode from the battlefield to an English channel port, chartered a boat and crossed over to London several days after the battle was over. Today the events in the front line trenches are recorded within an hour at the uttermost parts of the earth.

As to the differences in the equipment of today and that of a century ago they are simply infinite. When the Maxim, the first rapid fire gun was invented, it was designed to fire a shell weighing about a pound and costing \$1.60 each. On a demonstration of the gun before Li Hung Chang it fired 400 of the shells, costing about \$650, in one minute. The old Chinese statesman, on being told the cost of the shells, said, "This gun fires altogether too fast for China."

Between the ships, the guns, the aeroplanes, the submarines and other material equipment of today and that of a hundred years ago lies the gulf between the ancient and the modern. We are living in a new world, a world made new within a hundred years.

And what of the human material? Has it developed in the same proportion? Is our statesmanship, our patriotism, our endurance, our determination to keep the old flag flying, as deeply imbedded as it was when Waterloo was won, when the Indian mutiny was quelled after weeks of continuous marching day and night, after agonizing endurance of starvation and disease and death in beleaguered fortresses?

Human nature is much the same as it was when the savage protected his home and his family with a club against the assaults of his savage neighbor. Love of home and kindred impelled the one to fight and to sacrifice and risk his life; greed and lust of gain impelled the other to employ means for encompassing his ends which even the ethics of the savage would not justify. War was hell even in those days of crude implements, of primeval ideas of right and wrong, as it is today when Christian rights are being protected or being assailed by the products of centuries of inventive genius and the refinements of educated and enlightened diplomacy.

The blood-soaked fields of Europe today, the ruthless violation of international treaties, of "gentlemen's agreements," the barbaric methods employed by a nation of highly cultured savages to encompass their ends, to dominate the world and the means that must be adopted to protect the world from their savagery, compel us to admit that we have progressed only in outside material things, that the original savage has only been polished on the surface, that inwardly, he is as he was when he roamed a painted savage in the wilderness. And yet we may hope that even out of this tribulation, out of this reversion to savagery we may, to quote the peroration of Premier Lloyd George in a recent speech, "march triumphant through the darkness and the terror of night into the bright dawn of the morning of a new age."

RETURNED SOLDIERS

In a St. John N. B., paper there appeared recently an advertisement stating that a "returned soldier" so many months in France, "desired a position as time-keeper, checker, shipper or any position of trust." Mr. Charles Robinson, Secretary of the Returned Soldiers' Commission tried to get into communication with this man but failed to do so. He intimated that he had several applications for such men and could easily find a place for him. The Returned Soldiers' Aid Com-

mission for New Brunswick, like those of all the other provinces, has placed a large number of returned soldiers in positions and are ready to do so at any time provided the Commission is applied to. The fact that the St. John Secretary was unable to locate this applicant is regarded by the Commission as convincing evidence that the application was not genuine.

There is a good deal of cheap talk about the securing of positions for returned soldiers; a good deal about the duties of employers of labour towards returned soldiers and a good deal less about the duties of the returned soldiers themselves. It is quite safe to say that any employer in Canada would give the preference, other things being equal, to a returned soldier over any other applicant. And this is as it ought to be. What the country owes to the men who have become broken or disabled in its service will never be repaid in full, no matter how much is done for them. But there are other considerations. There is the matter of fitness for the position, the matter of personal honour, the matter of reliability. These considerations cannot be overlooked. While we owe much more than we can repay to our soldiers, returned or yet to return, our soldiers owe it to themselves and to their country to place themselves in touch with those whose duty as well as pleasure it is to do everything possible for them, to help in every way those who are in every way trying to help them, and to so live and act as to commend themselves to those who have positions to offer.

The placing of returned soldiers in positions which will be acceptable to themselves and satisfactory to those who employ them, is going to be one of the most difficult problems of the war and it will require the sympathy and the co-operation, not of the returned soldiers alone but of the whole community to do it successfully and satisfactorily.

There will be faultfinding by those who have other purposes in view than serving either the returned soldiers or the country; there will be advertisements similar to the one above mentioned and someone will be blamed for failing to find positions for such. Unfortunately also there will be soldiers whose conduct after their return will not entitle them to positions of trust. These things must be kept in view and while it is the duty of everybody to help secure positions for every soldier who returns it will also be their duty to use their influence in fitting any unfortunates, morally as well as physically for such positions as they may be qualified to fill.

MEXICO AND AMERICA

A Louisville Courier Journal statement that the withdrawal from Mexico of the Pershing force recalled the popular song refrain, "He walked right in and turned around and walked right out again," drew from the New York Herald this striking comment on the Mexican situation:

He never should have "walked in" unless he had intended to accomplish the purpose of his walking in. He never should have "turned around," especially not upon the dictation of Carranza. When he did "turn around" he should have walked right out, but did not. His remaining in the circumstances served only to make a bad matter worse. However, the walking out is better late than never.

Give credit where it is due. During nearly one hundred and fifty years of service as impersonator of the American spirit, Uncle Sam had never thought of a critical situation that way. Not until he was rigged up in the garb of Don Quixote and mounted on an ass was Uncle Sam brought to a realization of the allurements of "watchful waiting." He would be the first to insist that all credit belongs, not to him but to Mr. Wilson.

At this moment, says an exchange, when the relations of America and Germany are strained to the breaking point, the uncertainties of the Mexican situation add to the anxieties. What will develop out of the Mexican difficulty is as much a matter of doubt and speculation as is the outcome of the submarine controversy. Shrewd observers suspect that Teutonic influences are being exerted in Mexico in an effort to bring about a war which will forfeit a curtailment of American shipments to the Entente. It will occasion few surprises if Villa and his gang take advantage of the withdrawal of the American forces to commit new depredations. The presence of strong American forces on the border may prove sufficient to protect American interests, and if the bandits confine their attacks to Mexican soil the issue may be left to Mexicans to settle.

NEW MACE FOR CANADA

One of the pleasing features in connection with Premier Borden's visit to England will be the presentation to him of the new Mace for the Canadian Parliament, which has been made by the Goldsmiths' Company and is now completed. It will probably be handed to the High Commissioner (Sir George Perley) in the course of this month. When, last February, the Canadian House of Commons at Ottawa was destroyed by fire only a few twisted fragments of the filagree work of the original silver-gilt Mace were recovered from the ruins. The then Lord Mayor of London (Colonel Sir Charles Wakefield) and the Sheriffs (Mr. Alderman Touche, M. P., and Mr. S. G. Sheard) offered to provide a new Mace. It is an exact replica of the old one, and has an added value in the fact that there have been interwoven in the new emblem the rescued fragments of the old.

NOTES

"Now," says a London paper, "they call it Plotsdam"—and it doesn't matter which syllable comes first either.

THAT TIGNISH RACE

Sir.—In reply to "Fair Play's" letter of the 5th, I wish to say that if he reads my letter of the 30th, he will find that my challenge was to Semicolon, and that no amount was mentioned. However, the mention of the thousand dollars doesn't scare me in the least, as I know "Fair Play" will not know that he is trying to run a big bluff, and feel sure that he has one horse that he thinks can trot, that he won't put against Augie. As for the others he mentions, if he wants to race, I will match any horse he has in his barn for any amount big or small. Before any money is put up, let "Fair Play" come out like a man and give us his name for I figure that a man who is afraid to sign his name to a letter, is not worth the bother of racing with. Now, "Fair Play" be a man and give us your name, we know you, and are not afraid of it. The man who hasn't got spunk enough in him to sign his name, certainly hasn't enough to make him risk any such amount on a horse race.

Regarding J. Christopher's driving, I beg to say that he drove a good fair race, and the story about him hitting Poley's horse with his whip is a false one. Little Augie was between Frisco and Semicolon, and Frisco couldn't get over to Semicolon without an accident with Augie. As to Semicolon trimming Augie I feel that it is now up to his driver, as Little Augie is waiting for him to name the day.

Now "Fair Play" when you are man enough to come across with your name, we will match any horse you own, or have in your barn for any amount you wish to name. I am, Sir, etc., P. C. MURPHY, Jr., Tignish, Feb. 6, 1917.

Sir.—In reply to J. Christopher's letter of the 30th inst, in which he declared "Fairplay's" statement, concerning "the Tignish race" to be untrue, I may say that Mr. C. W. McQueen, who is behind my sleigh, and myself can prove the statement at any time, and we defy J. Christopher to contradict it.

Mr. Christopher said there was no need of resorting to foul play to win the race from Semicolon, why then did he do it? As he is aware of four horses answering the bill, he on one side of the field, if he had speed enough to win from Colon, why did he run Frisco under the whip across Murphy's and McKay's track and run Semicolon down? Then after running from the first quarter to the finish he was given second place by the competent judge Mr. Christopher also said I had no idea of how scoring is carried on. Oh, ha, perhaps not. If he knew the game of scoring as well as he should know it, he would not have written such a statement to a paper. About those quarter boots, well had I any intention of starting him in the race, I would have taken them with me when I started, but Mr. J. Christopher must remember I did not ask him nor anybody else for them that day. But when asked by more than one to start the horse, I did, little dreaming that a simple horse race would be the means of finding out what some people are really made of. And now I leave to the public to decide whether Mr. J. Christopher won second place by fair means or foul. As for the challenge Semicolon is ready to accept it with any horse Mr. Christopher owns at the present time for \$50 or \$100, and if Frisco's owner, H. Hogan wants a race between him and Colon on fair terms, Colon is ready to accommodate him at any time.

I am, Sir, etc., B. A. FOLEY, Tignish, P. E. I., Feb. 3, 1917.

Sir—would you please publish the following, "In Memory of that Tignish Race": It is better to lose with a conscience clean than to win by a trick unfair; it is better to fall, and to know you've been, whatever the prize was, square; than to claim the joy of a far off goal and the cheers of the standers by and to know down deep in your inmost soul a cheat you must live and die. Who wins by trick may take the prize and at first he may think it sweet. But many a day in the future lies, when he'll wish he had met defeat; for the man who lost shall be glad at heart, and walk with his head up high, while his conqueror knows he must play the part of a cheat and a living lie. The prize seems fair when the fight is on, but save it is truly won; you will hate the thing when the crowds are gone, for it stands for a false deed done. And its better you never should reach your goal, than ever success to buy at the price of knowing down in your soul that your glory is all a lie.

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HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

The Countess of Minto held an at home in the Victoria and Albert Ward of the No. 4 General Hospital, London, during Christmas week for the amusement and pleasure of the wounded and Canadian and Australian officers. She spoke very feelingly of her stay in Canada during the period the Earl of Minto was Governor-General, and the pleasant recollections she had of the Canadian people. "Yes," she said, "I did so like Canada. We were very happy there."

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Lefurgey, of Summerside, are visiting Mrs. H. D. Chapman in Ottawa. Mr. and Mrs. Lefurgey are on their way home from Vancouver, where they spent a few months.

His Honor, the Lieut. Governor and Mrs. Macdonald have entertained most successfully on several occasions since taking up their residence in Government House, but never more so than last evening when they threw open their beautiful home to upwards of fifty guests, whom they had invited for Bridge. The fleeting hours passed very quickly as the ladies and gentlemen moved from table to table, the game being very enjoyable to all. Dainty refreshments were served during the evening, the dining-room looking lovely with decorations of pink carnations and ferns.

Among the visitors this week from Halifax, were Mr. and Mrs. Morton, who were warmly welcomed by their numerous friends.

Mrs. William Dennis of Halifax left this week for Ottawa, having been summoned by the governor-general to receive her decoration of Lady of Grace of St. John of Jerusalem. Mrs. Dennis is the second Halifax woman to be decorated with this order. Mrs. Charles Archibald having been made a Lady of Grace last year, Miss Caroline Carmichael of New Glasgow, is also a Lady of Grace of this order.

The Daughters of the Empire, who held their annual meeting this week, are to be heartily congratulated on the splendid work they did for Patriotic purposes, having realized over one thousand dollars for this grand cause. The officers for the past year were all re-elected except the Secretary, Mrs. Bulman, who is now visiting in the United States. Mrs. Bagnall taking her place.

Among the recent hostesses at afternoon tea was Mrs. John S. Morris, who is now living in Col. Peake's beautiful home on the North River Road, the affair being in honor of Mrs. Deacon. Owing to the disagreeable weather many of those invited did not attend, but those who did spent a very pleasant afternoon. Assisting were Mrs. T. Morris, Mrs. MacCreedy, Miss Palmer, the Misses Jenkins and others.

Miss Helen Warburton is being warmly welcomed home from her visit to England.

Mrs. Fitzgerald, wife of Lieutenant Roy P. Fitzgerald, of Edmonton, Alta., is spending a few weeks with Mrs. Frank Eagar in Halifax.

Mrs. A. B. Warburton was hostess for the Thursday evening Bridge Club this week at her home on Longworth Avenue.

The popular form of entertainment in St. John at present is "Chain-parties" and the question of the day is, "Have you been to or have you had a 'chain party'?"

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. McLean are at present visiting in Ottawa.

Miss Sue Von Duser, who visited this city in operative days, is this week playing in Toronto in "Daddy Long Legs."

The snowfalls of the past week have brought sleigh driving into vogue and the bright moonlight nights are being taken full advantage of by sleigh loads of young people whose voices in laughter and song make the passer by smile, as they glide on for a suburban home where refreshments and dancing await them.

(Continued on page eight.)

SCOTCH MUSIC

Contains the Most Popular Tune in the World

The Scotch, Welsh and Irish—that is to say, the Celtic peoples of the British Isles—are born poets and musicians, and of the three, the Scotch excel both the others in the number of world-famous melodies. Many of the Scotch melodies are very ancient, and it is impossible to approximate the exact date of their creation.

The Scotch have always been a warlike race, and as a consequence many of their airs are military. Their steadfast adherence to the tragic cause of the Stuarts for many years, produced numerous songs that have survived their origin through the centuries. Next to their songs of war in number were their lilted songs of love, and their dances—their strathspeys and their reels. There are two kinds of Scotch music—that of the lowlands, and that of the highlands, or Gaelic. The latter is more primitive, even than the former. Its melodies are simple, wild, and irregular, but of a marvelous beauty. A peculiar melancholy pervades the music, a coloring perhaps due to the nature of the people themselves, formed by climate, scenery, and a sombre history.

The most popular tune today in the world among two hundred million English-speaking people, is said to be "Annie Laurie." This is the vote given by twenty thousand music-lovers, during a four-years' song-gathering by Joe Mitchell Chapple, which resulted in "Heart Songs"—a collection of four hundred world-famous songs in one volume, and which is now being distributed by this paper to its readers, almost free. The present daily outgo it will not last much longer. The coupon, printed daily, explains the terms fully.

Let Thine Almighty Arm Be their defence and shield, And whosoever cause is Thine To them the Victory yield.

He—But you say yourself that your father is anxious to get you off his hands.

She—Yes; that's why I don't think he'll listen to you.

ALL ABOUT THE MILITIA

SIR THOMAS WHITE, MINISTER OF FINANCE TELLS AN INTERESTING STORY ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITIA DEPARTMENT UNDER SIR SAM HUGHES.

Hon. Sir THOMAS WHITE (Minister of Finance) spoke on the address after Sir Sam Hughes saw down. He said:—Mr. Speaker, it had not been my intention to participate in this debate upon the Address, but the ex-Minister of Militia, (Sir Sam Hughes) has made some remarks regarding myself and his relationship to the Government of which he was a member, which seems to call for a reply on my part. At the outset of his remarks he read some letters. I do not understand him to claim the opinions expressed in his correspondence as his own, but I was struck with the political wisdom of these letters. We have heard of the letters of Chesterfield, and it seems to me that the advice which was given to the ex-Minister in these letters contained more political wisdom than even the letters of Chesterfield.

In one of these letters, reference is made to intrigue on my part against the ex-Minister of Militia, who was my colleague for so many years. There are some things, Mr. Speaker, which a gentleman will not discuss, and one is his own honour. I believe I have the confidence of hon. gentlemen on this side of the House and I believe that I have the confidence of hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House. Outside of the ex-Minister of Militia I do not believe that any man in this House is of the opinion that I am capable of intriguing against any one, much less a colleague. I say further that if the ex-Minister believes—and I really do not believe that he believes—that I intrigued or conspired against him, all I have to say is that the strain of the last two years has impaired the powers of what was once a very strong mind. The ex-Minister of Militia referred in the letter which he read to the House to the Montreal Daily Mail, and to its attitude towards him. He stated that the president of the Montreal Daily Mail is my half brother. That is correct. Mr. Nichols is my half brother. His profession is that of journalism. He is president and manager of the Montreal Daily Mail, but I have no interest in the Montreal Daily Mail. I do not even know the shareholders of that paper and if my brother, in pursuance of his judgment and discretion as editor in chief, or as president, of the Montreal Daily Mail, attacked the ex-Minister of Militia, it certainly was not at my instigation but was, I have no doubt, in pursuance of what he believed to be his duty to the public whom he is serving to the best of his ability, as I am in the position which I have the honour to occupy.

The hon. ex-Minister of Militia also referred to the Toronto Evening Telegram. He says that I had a connection with the Toronto Evening Telegram. So I had thirty years ago, from twenty-five to thirty years ago, from accurate. The ex-Minister of Militia has not, I think, read very carefully the Toronto Evening Telegram during the last five years, because I do not believe that there is any public man who has come more frequently under the animadversion of the editor of the Evening Telegram than myself. I think I was connected with the Toronto Evening Telegram for many years, and I desire to say to the ex-Minister of Militia, and to the House, that there is no man outside of the proprietor who controls that paper. The Toronto Evening Telegram is an absolutely straight, independent paper, and if the action of a public man is such that the Evening Telegram can approve of that action it will approve. If the action of the public man in the

opinion of the editor of the proprietor of the Evening Telegram, such as to call for criticism, criticism will be passed upon that public man. So far as concerns any attacks which have been made on the ex-Minister of Militia by the Montreal Mail, or by the Toronto Evening Telegram, I have had absolutely nothing whatever to do with them and I have no responsibility for them and never had. My hon. friend has dealt with his relationship with the Government. He was my colleague for five years and I always gave him a generous measure of support in regard to his policy and his plans for the improvement and development of the Canadian Militia in which, in common with him, I have always had a just pride. Not only that, but I always regarded the ex-Minister of Militia as a gallant soldier and a true patriot—and I regard him so today. I do not believe that the ex-Minister of Militia has been quite fair to me, but I believe he has been misled. I am going to be scrupulously fair to him and any statements I make here will be made in that spirit. My hon. friend has stated that he was on some occasions brought into conflict with me because I took the view that I should exercise supervision over the estimates of every department of the government that is true. That is the duty of the Finance Minister. The Finance Minister, more than any other minister, is responsible to the public for seeing that expenditures are kept within reasonable bounds. That must be so for two reasons. In the first place, he is the minister who is most likely to know what are the resources of the country and what are the resources available by way of borrowing