

THE DAILY EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 6, 1898.

A CAUTION.

The result of the bye-election in the first district of Queen's, shows that the overthrow of those who established themselves upon political corruption, deceived the people, mixed and muddled public business, brought in the tax-gatherers, added deficit to deficit, and saddled the country with a heavy permanent debt is within measurable distance. But this event, gratifying as it will be, can be followed by no great improvement unless accompanied by political reform; and no party can accomplish the reform that is needed unless strongly backed by a large majority of the people and given a free hand to do that which is required. Apart from the wretched Asylum and College blunders,—which Mr. Farquharson may, perhaps, be able to arrange,—there are two questions of essential importance to be grappled with: (1) electoral independence and (2) the financial equilibrium. In the past six or seven years, not right-thinking and action, but money has prevailed at our elections. The Liberal leaders have not scrupled to use money, out of their own pockets and out of the public treasury, to buy over the purchasable electorate which holds the balance between the two parties; and to their shame, it must be written, there have been found many electors, even well to do farmers, ready and waiting to sell the franchise birthright of British freemen for a consideration,—a five dollar bill, or even less, or a bottle of case of whiskey, furtively given and taken, being sufficient to decide for them which way they should vote. So great has the scandal grown that in some districts a candidate who has not the command of money, no matter how talented or how correct his views, has not the ghost of a chance of election. How is this fundamental evil to be suppressed? In our opinion it will be necessary to abolish the custom of personal canvassing, whether by applications from door to door or by letter or any other means,—and to require that all arguments to the electors, by or on behalf of the candidate, shall be addressed, generally, at public meetings or through the medium of the press. Let us have free public discussion, but no private persuasion or intimidation,—and let the candidate or his agent or friend who uses either of the latter be heavily punished. Only by some such radical measure as this will the rottenness of the present electoral system be done away. We hope that the incoming political party, of whomsoever composed, will make the authority and power to enact some such measure a condition of its acceptance of office and responsibility.

Authority and power to deal with the financial question in a businesslike and manly way ought also to be taken from the electors by the incoming party. The time for making a row about direct taxation has gone by. Direct taxation has been permanently fastened upon the country. The only question now is how much taxation to the end that the revenue shall, year by year, balance the expenditures. This is the object which must be gained if we are to maintain our provincial independence, and this object should be made a *sine qua non* by those who may be called upon to accept responsibility, on behalf of the people, for the future government of the Province. The first step towards obtaining this object is the introduction of a system of book-keeping for the Province, similar to that of the City of Charlottetown, according to which the exact financial position of the government will be clearly shown to the Legislature and the people at the end of each month, quarter or year. The next step is to cut down all needless branches of the public service, and require every official to work just as clerks in private business offices are required to work, paying for such work a sufficient salary to capable and honest men, and the third step is to assess equitably and fearlessly for the balance of revenue that may be needed to make ends meet at the close of next year.

Those who may be required to carry on the Government can afford to be stiff and precise in making conditions with the people. There is literally nothing in provincial politics for any capable man who is prepared to act honestly. For a lawyer there may be a prospective judgeship, and a governorship may occasionally fall to the lot of some one else. But for the members of the government and legislature, as a whole, there is literally nothing to attract men of such ability and capacity as are required to administer public affairs successfully. Only public spirit and a desire to raise the provincial government out of the rut into which it has been drawn and place it upon the high road leading to an honorable independence, will induce any honest and capable man to enter Provincial politics; and such men ought to be given, and to insist upon being given, freedom of action according to the plan here set forth.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—Big farmers' excursions from Ontario to Manitoba are being announced, and the Gazette thinks that with what is to be seen in the West as an inducement they are likely to be followed by big settlers' excursions in the spring.

—The Montreal Gazette remarks that the Laurier press is hardly right in calling the McInnis overthrow of the Turner Government in British Columbia a Liberal victory. Mr. Semlin, the new premier, is a pronounced Conservative, while Mr. Cotton, one of his colleagues, also ranks himself in the Federal Opposition. The supporters of the new ministers include a number of Conservatives.

—The Liberal papers are endeavoring to make light of the closing of the German market against Canadian farm products because of the operation of the Laurier tariff. Still they must be disappointed greatly. It is a somewhat sorry record they have to deal with, that of the advertisedly strongest business Government Canada ever saw, whose one accomplishment for the export business of the country was the shutting in its face of the door to a market of fifty millions of people.

—"Before bringing in our tariff," said Sir Wilfrid in London, "we looked carefully round the world, and we found England to be practically the only country which receives our product freely. We desire to show England our gratitude, and at the same time to go as far as we could at the moment in the direction of free trade, and we framed our preferential clause with this end in view." Sir Wilfrid, the Mail and Empire points out, thus described to John Bull a tariff which has decreased British exports to Canada by \$500,000, and has increased United States exports to Canada by \$19,000,000. Sir Wilfrid thus described, without wincing or blushing, a tariff that admits free of duty into Canada \$9,000,000 worth of British goods and \$40,000,000 worth of United States products. It must have required a good deal of brass to impose upon Great Britain this way.

—The Miner remarks on the rapidity with which British and Canadian companies are absorbing the holdings of United States citizens in the Roseland district. Two years ago, the Miner says, nearly all the important properties were held by Americans; today, with the exception of the Iron Mask and the Jumbo, there is scarcely a property of importance in the control of citizens of the Republic. The revolution has been a quiet as well as a wholesome one, and while, no doubt, the United States prospectors who first ventured into the region made well, the greatest profits will remain with this country, and, what is more, the experience gained in the Roseland district will give Canadians the knowledge that is needed to begin the development of other mineral regions. It was because mining was new to Canadians and not that they lacked courage or enterprise that made them at first seem such a small factor in the Pacific mineral belt.

—It is pointed out that Bryanism in the neighbouring Republic appears to be neither dead nor sleeping. In the State campaigns now in progress it is showing an astonishing amount of vitality, and a general desire for Bryan on the old 16 to 1 platform has been expressed by the members of the Democratic National Committee. The feeling is of course strongest in the South and West, where, as a New York paper points out, the average Democratic voter has been taught to believe that free coinage is the only living issue and Mr. Bryan the only really great statesman in America today. Another free silver fight will probably be more disturbing to business in the United States than the war with Spain has been.

Lecture on Mexico
BY MRS. JOHN RICHARDS
St. Peter's Hall,
TUESDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER

PROGRAMME.
MEXICO—PART I.
I. Song, Miss Annie Hyndman
II. Violin and Piano Duet, Master Kenneth Richards and Miss Kathleen Canning.
IV. MEXICO PART II.
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**KITCHENER'S VICTORY
FALL OF THE KHALIFA.**

(Continued from 1st page.)

advancing to the attack in battle array, chanting war songs.

Their front consisted of infantry and cavalry stretched out for three or four miles. Countless banners fluttered over their masses and the copper and brass drums resounded through the ranks of the savage warriors, who advanced unwaveringly with their old-time ardor.

The infantry formed up outside the camp.

On the left were the first battalion Northumberland fusiliers, the second battalion Lancashire fusiliers, and the first battalion Grenadier Guards, with the Maxims, manned by the Royal Irish fusiliers.

In our centre were the first battalion Warwickshire, first battalion Cameron Highlanders and the first battalion Lincolnshire regiment, with Maxims worked by a detachment of the Royal artillery, under Major Williams.

On our right were the Sudanese brigades commanded by General Maxwell and General MacDonald.

The Egyptian brigades held the reserve, and both flanks were supported by the Maxim Nordenfolt batteries.

At 7.20 a.m., the enemy crowded the ridges above the camp and advanced steadily in enveloping formation.

At 7.40 our artillery opened fire, which was answered by the Dervish riflemen. The attack developed on the far left, and in accordance with their traditional tactics,

THEY SWEEP DOWN THE HILLSIDE,

with the design of rushing our flank, but the withering fire maintained for fifteen minutes by all arms in our line, frustrated the attempt, and the Dervishes, bulked, swept towards our centre, upon which they concentrated a fierce attack.

A large force of horsemen trying to face a continuous hail of bullets from the Cameron Highlanders, the Lincolnshire regiment and the Sudanese, was literally swept away, leading to the withdrawal of the entire body, whose dead strewed the field.

The bravery of the dervishes can hardly be overestimated. Those who carried the flags struggled to within a few hundred yards of our fighting line, while the mounted emirs resolutely

THREW THEIR LIVES AWAY IN BOLD CHARGES.

When the dervishes withdrew behind the ridge in front of their camp the whole force marched towards Omdurman.

As our troops mounted the crest adjoining the Nile, the Sudanese on our right came into contact with the enemy, who formed under cover of a rocky eminence and had massed beneath the black standard of the khalifa, in order to make a desperate effort to retrieve the fortunes of the day. A mass, 15,000 strong, bore down on the Sudanese. General Kitchener swung round the centre and left of the Sudanese seized the rocky eminence, and the Egyptians, hitherto held in reserve, joined the firing line, in ten minutes, and before the dervishes could drive their attack home,

he flower of the khalifa's army was caught in a depression and within

A ZONE OF WITHERING CROSS FIRE

from three brigades, with the attendant artillery.

The mahdists strove to make headway, but every rush was stopped, while their main body was literally mown down by a sustained deadly fire.

Directly the dervishes planted their standards and died beside them.

Their dense masses gradually melted to companies, and companies to dribbles beneath the leaden hail.

Finally they broke and fled, leaving the field white with jibbah-clad corpses like a snowdrift dotted meadow.

At 11.15 the Sirdar ordered an advance and our whole force in line drove the scattered remnant of the foe into the desert our cavalry cutting off their retreat to Omdurman.

Among the chief incidents of the battle was a brilliant charge of the 21st Lancers under Lieutenant-Colonel Martin.

Galloping down on a detached body of the enemy, they found the dervish swordsmen, passed behind, and were forced to

CHARGE HOME AGAINST APPALLING ODDS.

The lancers hacked through the mass, rallied and kept the dervish hordes at bay.

Lieutenant Grenfel, nephew of General Sir Francis Grenfel, was killed, four other officers wounded, 21 men killed and 20 wounded.

The Egyptian cavalry were in close fighting throughout with the Baggara horsemen. For a short period the enemy captured and held a gun, but it was brilliantly retaken.

The heroic bravery of the Dervishes evoked universal admiration. Time after time their dispersed forces reformed and hurled themselves upon the Anglo-Egyptians; their emirs conspicuously leading and spurring death. Even when wounded and in death agonies they

RAISED THEMSELVES TO FIRE A LAST SHOT.

Among the wounded is Colonel Rhodes, the correspondent of the London Times, and a brother of Cecil Rhodes.

DERVISHES SURRENDER.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—The war office has received the following dated Sunday evening:

"The remnant of the Khalifa's force has surrendered, and I have not a very large number of prisoners on my hands. Our cavalry and gunboats are still pursuing the Khalifa and his chiefs, who, with only about 115 fighting men are apparently making for Kordofan."

Signed Kitchener.

KAISER CONGRATULATES.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—The Cairo correspondent of the Times says:

The first telegram of congratulation to arrive from Europe was from Emperor William, who said: "I am sincerely glad to be able to offer my congratulations on the splendid victory at Omdurman, which at least avenges poor Gordon's death."

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