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Poetry.

THE CENTURY-FLOWER.

BY REV. E. A. WASHBURN, D. D.

'Tis noon of night, the slumber pale
The dreaming soul of nature fills;
Now lifts the flower its mystic veil,
And flashes morning from its eyes.
A hundred years of waning earth;
Of frost and sunbeam, blight and bloom;
And man, that saw its infant birth,
A fraller flower, has sought the tomb.

A hundred years! what empires sped,
As eddies on the whirling tide!
Lands reeled beneath Napoleon's tread,
The greater Goethe sang and died.
Yet dumb, in shady stillness strange,
Those fringed eyelids wait the hour,
'Till ripening through each mighty change,
It blooms, Time's rich, full-opened flower.

A hundred years! the soul of Truth
Fettered has lain in death-like rest;
Yet lives a Thought its budding youth
Wrapt in some holy prophet breast,
It dawns! the spell of ages breaks!
Stately it towers o'er barren men;
A world of perfumed beauty wakes,
Then drops its seed to rise again.

A hundred years! our fathers lie
Calm sleeping on the field of toil;
We build, we drive the plowshare by,
Heedless of aught beneath the soil.
Silent, through day, through lingering night
Still grew the bud; but see! the morn!
See! burst the glorious petals white,
And Freedom's Century-flower is born.

NORTH ONTARIO ELECTION.

MR. McDOUGALL'S SPEECH AT THE NOMINATION.

The nomination having been completed, the Hon. Mr. McDougall then came forward amidst the loud cheers of his friends. He said that a little more than a year ago, he stood in this place to thank the electors of North Ontario, for having, by a majority of their votes, expressed their confidence in him as their representative. At that time he held an important office in the Administration of this country. They elected him holding that office, and expressed their confidence in him, not only as their representative, but as a member of the administration. He had the honour to-day also of being a member of an Administration. The Administration to which he then belonged found itself unable to command the support of a sufficient number of the representatives of the people in parliament, to allow it to carry the measures which, in the judgment of its members, were necessary for the interests of the country. They therefore resigned the seals of office, although they had not experienced any absolute condemnation by the vote of the House; but feeling themselves too weak to do what the country expected of them they resigned—as he contended patriotically resigned—in order that the Governor General might form a new Administration which might enjoy a stronger support, and occupy a better position. Mr. McDougall went on to narrate the various negotiations which followed at that time, with a view of bringing together the leading men of the political parties to form a strong Administration, and which ended in failure. Among the other overtures that were made, Colonel Tache, as they were aware, had applied to himself (Mr. McDougall) and had made him in fact a better offer than he had made to those to whom he had first applied—offering him four seats for his party, instead of three, in the Upper Canada section of the Cabinet, and the leadership in the Lower House. But he felt that it would be unfair to this section of the country, that he should take a position in the Cabinet on the terms proposed, not having that influence in the Administration which would enable them to give tone to the acts of the Government, and cause their own ideas and policy to prevail. He refused therefore to accept the proposition made to him, and Colonel Tache had to form a Government, constructed purely from the ranks of his own party—the Conservative party—with one exception. Mr. Foley, having been a member of the Macdonald-Sicotte Administration, had been asked to give his place to another gentleman, who, in the opinion of the Premier, would bring more political strength to the Administration. Mr. Foley left the Government, but was dissatisfied, and soon began to show opposition to his old political friends, and his opposition was, no doubt, one of the causes which led to the resignation of that Government. A previous speaker had compared the step just taken by himself (Mr. McDougall) to that taken by Mr. Foley. But Mr. Foley left the party he had always acted with, and took office in a Conservative Government, abandoning his friends, and carrying not one of them along with him. When he went before his constituents, they rejected him. With that one exception, the Administration then formed was a Conservative Administration. When they met Parliament, after their elections, singularly enough they took up the very policy, the very measures of their predecessors, so far as the leading features were concerned, and they asked the other side to assist in carrying those measures through. The Opposition gave that assistance; they could not do otherwise with reference to their own measures. But a question arose towards the close of the session, of a nature to test whether that Administration possessed the confidence of the people's representatives in Parliament. On the vote which was taken on that question, there was a majority of two against the Administration. Sir Etienne Tache and his colleagues had then to choose between resignation and a dissolution of Parliament. They recommended to his Excellency a dissolution. But from the correspondence which had been published, it appeared that his Excellency was strongly of opinion that a dissolution was not likely to be of any service—that it would not solve the political difficulties into which the country had got, to have another appeal to the country, the third general election in three years. His Excellency, therefore, recommended that an attempt should be made to form a Government, uniting the leading men of both parties, who, in his opinion, could unite, without any sacrifice of principle or honor, to carry on the affairs of the country. The Government came to the conclusion that, instead of dissolving Parliament, they should approach the other side with a new proposition, likely to find acceptance. Hitherto Mr. Cartier and his political friends from Lower Canada had steadily resisted that demand on the part of Upper Canada for representation according to our numbers, which in the opinion of the great majority of Upper Canada we were entitled to have conceded to us. But now they came to the conclusion that some concession must be made, and they boldly and manfully approached the gentleman who in Upper Canada had made himself most conspicuous by his advocacy of this change in our political system, and proposed to go with him into the consideration, and to join in framing a measure which would settle our sectional difficulties. This put matters in entirely a new position, one which he (Mr. McDougall) at all events had not expected to see for some years to come. He thought Mr. Brown himself must have been not a little surprised, when he found such a proposition made by Mr. Cartier, who had so long and so strenuously resisted any concession on the point, declaring that its effect would be to place the institutions of Lower Canada under the heel of the Protestant majority of Upper Canada, and that it would be ruinous to any public man in Lower Canada to be a party to any such concession. But now Mr. Cartier took another view, and was supported in it by his friends in the House. And Mr. John A. Macdonald from Upper Canada, who had stood on the same platform with Mr. Cartier, also agreed, and the whole Cabinet agreed, that the negotiations should be opened on that footing with Mr. Brown. The result was that, finding the time had arrived when a great constitutional reform could be accomplished, Mr. Brown, after consultation with his political friends, agreed to aid the Government in carrying through that reform. Mr. Brown's first impression was, that he and his friends should not enter the Administration, but should allow the Administration to prepare its measure and should then assist in carrying it through. But the Government themselves saw that they would have great difficulty in conciliating sufficient support for the measure, especially in Western Canada, if there were not in the Cabinet representatives of that party which had the large majority in Upper Canada; and, after a good deal of discussion, the political friends of Mr. Brown, by a large majority, over-ruled the view taken by that gentleman on this point, and declared it to be necessary that, if the work was to be proceeded with honestly, and with any hope of its successful accomplishment, there should be those in the Cabinet who possessed their confidence, and would be as sureties to their own party that a proper measure would be prepared and submitted. (Hear, hear.) The position then was this—that the friends of the Government from Lower Canada agreed—he believed with almost entire unanimity—to support Col. Tache and Mr. Cartier in the bold move they had made; that, as regarded Upper Canada, the Conservative party agreed by a large majority—with perhaps two or three dissentients—to support Mr. J. A. Macdonald in the movement; and that the Liberal party of Upper Canada agreed unanimously that they should join in the carrying of this constitutional reform—and, by a large majority, that some of their number should go into the Cabinet to assist in carrying it out. This was done. He (Mr. McDougall) and Mr. Mowat had been invited by Mr. Brown to go with him into the Administration. In taking that position, they joined those to whom they had been strong political opponents in past times. But they saw the importance of the crisis. They saw that, if the great evils of which all parties in Upper Canada complained were to be removed, if our constitution was to be modified and improved and placed on a durable basis, so that under it the people of this country might enjoy good government for all time to come—this could only be accomplished by their giving up for the time their feelings as party men, and the hostility which those feelings had engendered, and joining heartily and frankly together for the purpose of attaining this great object. (Cheers.) Having thus entered the Cabinet, it had become necessary that they should appear again before the constituencies they respectfully represented. Mr. Brown had appealed to an intelligent constituency, in the western part of the Province, and had been returned by acclamation. Mr. Mowat had appealed to the electors of the South Riding of this county, and had also been elected by acclamation. But in this constituency there appeared to be a different state of matters. Mr. Cameron, whom he (Mr. McDougall) defeated at the last election, had thought it consistent with his duty in this important crisis to come out with a view of defeating him, and thereby to assist in defeating the great object which the two political parties of the country, with the assent of his Excellency, had united to accomplish, (A voice—He can't do it.) But before referring more particularly to the opposition given to him by Mr. Cameron and his friends, it might be well that he should say a word or two as to the leading features of the measure which the Government proposed to submit. The principle agreed to was simply this, that in the change to be made in the Union Act, security should be given to each Province—whether the division was with two Provinces as at present, or with some greater number, for that was a matter of detail which had not yet been fully discussed—that its local matters, local taxation, local expenditure, local improvements, local legislation, shall be under the control of the representatives of that Province; but that all general matters, all those measures which relate to the general government of the country, matters relating to the criminal law, commerce, trade, the tariff, and a variety of other matters which are in their nature common to all sections of the country, shall be managed by a general legislature, not constituted as under the Union Act, but having—and this is the great step which has been made in advance—representation according to numbers in the lower branch. (Hear, hear.) Under this arrangement, Upper Canada, with reference to matters of general concern, will have a large addition to her representation, and correspondingly increased political power. Mr. Cameron, it appeared, had been unable to comprehend the scheme, or how it was to work in its various details, and had asked him what would be done by the general legislatures, and what by the general legislature—which were the local and which the general laws. He (Mr. McDougall) wishing to give him an explicit answer, had told him that we had already the division ready made to our hands—that if he would but look at the Consolidated Statutes he would find one volume relating to Canada, another relating to Upper Canada, and a third relating to Lower Canada—that, if he put these three books side by side, and looked at their respective tables of contents, he would see in general what was the class of subjects that would be dealt with by the local legislatures and what by the general legislature. (Hear, hear.) Mr. McDougall then adverted to the charge frequently brought against him by Mr. Cameron, that he (Mr. M.) was an inconsistent politician, and challenged that gentleman to produce proofs in support of the charge. With regard to this particular question, he showed the substantial identity of the scheme now proposed with that which he had advocated in the Toronto Convention of 1859, and which had been adopted almost unanimously by the influential assemblage of representatives of the Reform party throughout the country then convened. Subsequently this plan of settling our sectional difficulties had been to some extent lost sight of—the old idea of Representation by Population was again brought more prominently forward. But on every occasion that the Constitutional question was discussed in Parliament, whether on motions for the adoption of Representation by Population, or on any other occasion, and in speaking before assemblages of the people, he had always declared that his own preference was for the scheme of Federation, and had always endeavored to prove that that was the best remedy for existing evils. (Hear, hear.) He held in his hand a book containing extracts from his speeches, which would show that that was the kind of remedy which he had always been most desirous of bringing about—but he would not take up time on the present occasion by reading them. When at last the Conservative party, who had been accustomed to ridicule joint authority, agreed to this scheme, he (Mr. M.) could not object to a proposition which was his own, and which he had consistently advocated as presenting the best basis for such an amendment of our Constitution as would remedy the chief evils which we had experienced under our present system. (Hear) He would not detain them by referring to other political questions which were not really involved in this election. Mr. Cameron appeared to live in the past. He could not forget his old battles, but must fight them over again, and all through the country had been attempting to raise discussions about separate schools about the conduct of the Macdonald-Sicotte Government, about his (Mr. M.'s) having voted, while in the Government, against a motion of Mr. Cameron's, and other such topics. His (Mr. M.'s) answer was—"We discussed all these matters at the last election, submitted to the people of North Ontario, and obtained their verdict—why go back to these old matters? We have now something before us of greater importance; look to the future, and deal with that important reform which has been agreed to by both political parties, through their leaders and representatives in Parliament, which has been assented to by His Excellency, and a measure for the accomplishment of which the Government have pledged themselves to submit next session." He did not think that Mr. Cameron would be able to induce the electors to pass a verdict on these old matters and shirk the present issue. (Hear, hear) Mr. Cameron and his friends said that he (Mr. M.) might be defeated, and yet the Government go on. He said he was not opposed to federation, and would vote upon it according to his judgment and his conscience when the measure came before the House, and yet, at the same time, he was doing all he could to defeat a member of the Government formed to carry that scheme. He (Mr. M.) took this ground, that any man who came forward to defeat the election of a member of this Administration was doing all he could to defeat the policy of that Administration, and the electors of North Ontario should look upon Mr. Cameron's conduct in that light, and deal with him accordingly. (Cheers.) Mr. McDougall went on to refer to the injustice that was done to his Conservative colleagues in the Government by this contest. He had found it necessary to defend the character of these gentlemen against the imputations of their own political friends. It had been whispered about among them that Mr. John A. Macdonald, in consenting to the present arrangement, was playing a game; that he was engaged in another great shuffle; that he had got the rope round the necks of Mr. Brown, Mr. Mowat and Mr. McDougall and was going to string them all up, and kill them off politically. (Laughter.) This was what had been industriously circulated. Could any man believe it possible? That Mr. Macdonald should have brought them into the Cabinet only to betray them—that, under the solemnity of an oath, he should have advised his Excellency to this course, only to deceive his Excellency, to deceive the country, and to deceive those who joined him as his colleagues! It was monstrous to conceive this of any man who had the slightest regard for his reputation. No. He (Mr. M.) had the fullest confidence that Mr. Macdonald had gone into the arrangement, intending to act faithfully by his colleagues. They believed that he would do so, and th se who gave circulation to any other view of the matter, were doing their best to destroy the reputation as a public man of the gent eman whom they had been accustomed to recognize as their leader. (Cheers.) If they intended to form a new Conservative party, with a new policy, and with Mr. M. C. Cameron as the leader of that party, he could understand the course they were pursuing. But, if they still professed to be followers of Mr. John A. Macdonald and his colleagues, if they still professed to belong to the party represented by the twenty-five Conservatives in the House, in opposing him to-day they violated the compact their leaders had entered into, and were doing all in their power to place their leaders in a false position. (Hear, hear.) Mr. McDougall then adverted to some personal charges with regard to his administration of the Crown Land Department, which in the face of Parliament he had pronounced false when first made, which were so absurd that the leaders of the Government to whom he was then in opposition had ridiculed his sensitiveness for having taken any notice of them, which he had shewn to be false at various meetings throughout the riding, and which, nevertheless, Mr. Cameron and his friends still persisted in repeating. With reference to the Wallace Mine matter, it was alleged that he had granted—his opponents had not the honesty to say *sold*—to two gentlemen political friends of the Government of which he (Mr. M.) at the time was a member, 400 acres of mineral lands on the North Shore of Lake Huron, and thereby great wrong was done to other parties who had previously owned the location, and that this was done under circumstances which showed some fraud—what the fraud precisely was, Mr. Cameron had never ventured to define. The policy which led to the sale of these mineral lands was simply this. On entering office, he found that the North Shores of Lake Huron and Superior were monopolized by certain speculating companies in Montreal and Quebec, which as long ago as 1847 had taken up mineral locations of 6,400 acres each. They had paid one instalment—in some cases two—and proceeded no further. In 1861, the locations, on account of the non-fulfilment of the conditions, had been declared by a previous Government liable to forfeiture. Having devoted his attention to the subject, after entering on his duties in the Crown Lands Department, and finding that so much valuable land was locked up by these old companies from enterprise and settlement, he recommended that the claims which had been declared liable to forfeiture in 1861, should be absolutely forfeited. This was done, and some 200,000 acres of these lands were thus thrown open for sale. The Order in Council was adopted on the 27th February, 1864, and on the same day the Crown Lands Department was informed that from that day forward those lands were open for sale. Meanwhile several parties had from time to time applied for portions of some of those old locations, on such terms as the Government might impose. The Order in Council provided that the price should be raised from four shillings an acre, paid in instalments, to five shillings an acre, cash, and that the quantity sold to one purchaser should be limited to 400, instead of 6,400 acres. Two or three of the applications referred to, had been made in December of the previous year, and, so soon as the Order in Council was passed, the parties who had made those applications came, paid the money, and asked to have their locations patented, and accordingly the patents to which they had become entitled the moment they paid the money—were very soon afterwards issued to them. As to his knowing anything about the matter, or having any interest in it, that was out of the question. It mattered nothing to the Department whether the applicant was a printer or a blacksmith, and he had yet to learn that he was guilty of any crime in having the Department so managed that parties entitled to patents could get them without any unnecessary loss of time, or in bringing back to the public domain those lands for which the conditions of sale had not been fulfilled, or in re-selling them at an enhanced price, and putting the proceeds into the public treasury. (Cheers.) Mr. McDougall then referred to a charge which had been brought against him with reference to the dismissal of an officer of the Indian Department, and stated the circumstances under which he had found it necessary to appoint a successor to that gentleman, who had become incapacitated for his duties by insanity, and having gone to England had been placed there in a lunatic asylum, where at the latest accounts he still remained. In conclusion, he again referred to the important scheme now before the country for the settlement of our sectional difficulties, and said that he and his colleagues asked the people of Upper Canada generally, whether Tories or Reformers, Conservatives or Liberals, to give them their aid in carrying it successively through. As Upper Canadians they were alike interested in the accomplishment of this great object, and he trusted they would all join in giving their influence and assistance to secure its success. (Loud cheers.)

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C. Blackett Robinson,
Publisher and Proprietor.

THE CARNAGE.

The following thoughts on the fearful carnage in the present War are from the New York *Times*:—

"We fear that our people have ceased to consider the frightful loss of life that accompanies even the most profitless encounters of this campaign. But a small proportion of Gen. Grant's forces were engaged in the ineffectual assaults upon Petersburg, and yet the loss in killed and wounded was as great as that which history, with a shudder, records in many of the most decisive battles in modern warfare. At Marengo, one of the most brilliant of Napoleon's triumphs, and inscribed with pride upon the escutcheon of France's military glory, the loss on either side did not exceed seven thousand men. Yet, the victory of Marengo finished the campaign, and "compelled the Austerlitz" has become a familiar phrase. That memorable field furnishes one of the most glorious themes for the admirers of the great Corsican. Speak the word "Austerlitz" to a Frenchman and his eye will kindle with enthusiasm. In that decisive battle, Napoleon routed the Austrian and Russian armies, with what history represents as the most terrible slaughter. His victory closed the campaign, caused the peace of Petersburgh and the subjugation of all Northern Europe. It is said that William Pitt never recovered from the shock occasioned by the announcement of the signal triumph of the French arms. He died broken hearted at the failure of his plan. In this battle the loss of the allies amounted to ten thousand men, and, of these, some two thousand were drowned after victory had been achieved, the ice of the lakes and morasses breaking beneath the tread of disorganized battallions as they grushed and crowded on each other in the panic of their flight. We can all remember the excitement caused by the tidings of what was then called the desperate battle and decisive victory of Inkerman, yet that victory was achieved by the combined forces of the French, English and Turks, with a loss to them of, very little over four thousand men. Before Petersburg, eight thousand of our countrymen have fallen upon one ride, and we know not how many countrymen on the other side, and in the face of this fearful slaughter, the result of the campaign remains yet as much as before, an uncertainty."

MARRY HER FIRST.

Many years ago, in what is now a flourishing city, lived a stalwart blacksmith, fond of his pipe and his joke. He was also fond of his blooming daughter, whose many graces and charms had ensnared the affections of a susceptible young printer. The couple, after a season of billing and cooing, "engaged themselves," and nothing but the consent of the young lady's "parient" prevented their union. To obtain this, an interview was arranged, and typo prepared a little speech to astonish and convince the old gentleman who sat enjoying his favorite pipe in perfect content. Typo exlated upon the fact of their long friendship, their mutual attachment, their hopes for the future, and like topics, and taking the daughter by the hand spoke thus:—

"I know, sir, ask your permission to transplant this lovely flower from its parent bed."

But his "phelinx" overcame him, he forgot the remainder of his oratorical flourish, blushed, stammered, and finally wound up with—

"From its parent bed into my own."

The father keenly relished the discomfiture of the suitor, and after removing his pipe, and blowing a cloud, replied—

"Well, young man, I don't know as I've any objection, provided you will marry the girl first."

A western court has recently decided that a kiss is a valid consideration. It seems that an old bachelor—these old bachelors, by the way, are useles institution, anyhow you can fix it—offered a young lady a pony for a kiss. The young lady accepted the offer and gave the kiss; but the mean old cur-mudgeon, after receiving the oscillatory salute, refused to stand by his contract.