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Yours truly, JOHN F. CLARKE,
80 West Utica St., Buffalo, N. Y.

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Oliver Wendell Holmes the Only Survivor of a Notable Group—The 85th Anniversary of the Gentle Poet's Birth—His Work and How He Composes.

On the 29th day of August each year Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes celebrates the anniversary of his birth in his summer home at Beverly Farm, Mass. He was born August 29, 1809. While there is no public expression on his own part in these later days he is never forgotten either by his many personal friends who send their contributions of love, or by the world of admirers who have constituted themselves a loving family to keep him in affectionate remembrance. Wherever he is, upon that day will be "home" to those who love and honor him. To those who have the privilege of being with him and of seeing his dainty hands open telegrams and letters from friends at a distance or from strangers, there will be an opportunity given of securing one more mental photograph, against the time when their post shall have climbed the hills of God. For he has long stood alone on those Alpine heights, the summits of foumere, close to the tabernacles of the sky. Yet is there no sadness in his heart at the thought of other hunters who used to "speak" him from other heights with the ringing horn. Of these Whittier was the one he most missed, of whom he said while he lived:

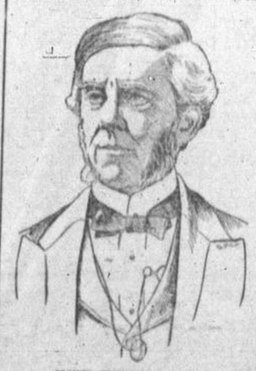
"My dear and honored friend Whittier, whose heart is a cornucopia of blessings for his fellow creatures."

This was on the occasion of his birthday anniversary in 1892, when Whittier sent his friend Holmes two poems written for the occasion, the last he was to contribute. Dr. Holmes received also on that occasion a silver-framed Nautilus from a Chicago lady which he described as "an exquisite piece of work, fit for a young prince's heirloom rather than an old poet's."

Dr. Holmes regards "The Chambered Nautilus" as his finest inspirational poem. However, he does not himself believe in calling anything inspirational and is credited with saying to an ambitious young poet who consulted him on his "methods" that inspiration was only another word for preparation.

"It takes hard labor to write good poetry," he said to the writer on one occasion; "you cannot go on writing verses as you would cut slices of bread and butter. No one knows the amount of work I do before I let my thoughts go on paper. I look at them in every light to see if they can be improved. You see, I am not much of a believer in Minervas or the brain of Jove."

The house in which "The Chambered Nautilus" was written and which was the



OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

birthplace of his children was a plain dwelling on Bosworth Place, which is off Tremont street, between Bromfield and School streets, Boston. It has been torn down to make room for modern buildings. He made several copies of the poem and finished it as it appeared in print, after which he read it to his wife, and remarked that he could never excel it and never wished to.

The home in which the poet has spent his later years is a brown stone house, covered with a luxuriant growth of English ivy, which conceals doorplate and bell handle from the too curious gaze of passers by. It is on the "water side of Beacon street," and the view from the poet's library covers the Charles river basin. Here, surrounded by the luxury that his poet-soul loves, on a commanding height betwixt town and country, and the profuse decorations of modern household art, Dr. Holmes spends the time when he is not at Beverly Farms communing with nature in her simpler forms.

It is worthy of record that while Oliver Wendell Holmes has been instinctively a society man all his life he has omitted the forms of society from his poetry. His wit and sarcasm have touched on many of the trivialities of social life; his genius, never. In an interview upon the subject he said:

"The disposition with very many—in the main with young men out of college—is to indulge in the lighter character of verse, which, where carried to a great extent, is shameful. Too much stress is laid on mere form also. The French school is being followed too much with us here. Now if one is to succeed in poetry he must give free swing to sentiment and imagination, and this he cannot do in the more mechanical forms of verse-building. Browning's best poetry is in a given sense devoid of form; it is simple and natural, and yet what tremendous power it has. It is so, too, with Tennyson's poetry, as in his two great masterpieces, 'Maud' and 'In Memoriam.'"

He tells young writers that he received no pay for his first work but was glad to get it printed without any compensation. His fine poem, "Old Ironsides," was included in this unpaid list, which first appeared in the Boston Advertiser.

Dr. Holmes is very proud of a copy of his poem, "The Last Leaf," which he possesses in the peculiar handwriting of Edgar Allan Poe, whom he once met, and who he says made an impression upon him he can never forget.

Everybody has seen the little cheap stereoscope that is the accompaniment to the family album when visitors are to be entertained. How it brings out the laces in Aunt Hannah's dress and develops the watch chain Uncle Silas wears, besides giving a lifelike intensity to the features. Few are aware that it was the invention of the poet who wrote the favorite "Last Leaf" and "One-horse Shay." It was never patented, because Dr. Holmes said he did not care to be known as the patentee of a pill or a peeping contrivance.

When Dr. Holmes sits down to compose he requires the actual contact of pen and paper. It may be that he will not need them, for of the fancies that crowd his brain, even now when he rarely writes for publication, none may be acceptable. If he is writing a stanza for a friend or the dedication of a book it must be done with the same exquisite care that has environed his best poems. His neatness and perfect order are against all traditions of the muse; the desk in his handsome library looks as if it were eternally new and nothing upon it had been disturbed by any approach to work.

The group to which Holmes belongs includes Hawthorne, Longfellow, Emerson, Lowell, Whittier and Margaret Fuller. He is the last of this great company, and it is perhaps too soon to fix with accuracy his relative place in that group. But it is not too soon to say that none of them has had more readers, and few of them have been so universally enjoyed.

CHINA'S FIGHTING FORCE.

The Celestial Army is Made Up of Strangely Incongruous Elements.

THE war between China and Japan has only begun. The Japanese could, if necessary, throw something like 300,000 trained soldiers into the field. Their army is thoroughly organized and it has been drilled after the best methods of Europe. When I visited Japan six years ago I found German officers in charge of all its branches and my interview with the minister of war was carried on in the German language. He was a Japanese who had been educated in Germany, and who could not speak English. The Japanese are a nation of fighters. They have all the quickness and bravery of the French married by years of training to the discipline of the Germans. I have seen their cavalry and infantry in review again and again during the present summer. Their troops are splendidly equipped and they have arsenals and navy yards of the most modern methods.

To-day I want to tell you something about the army of China. It is almost impossible for one who has not been on the ground to appreciate its condition. It is a mixture of the old and the new, of the weak and the strong. It is the most wonderful military jumble on the face of the globe.

Each province has a governor, and in some of the biggest provinces the governor is viceroy as well. Each of these viceroys and governors has an army of his own. Li Hung Chang's forces number about 35,000 men. These have eleven camps within the province of Chili. They are armed with foreign guns and are well drilled, and will form the chief support of the government in the present war. Li Hung Chang has also eleven camps of men in the province of Chantong, and he is, as far as this war is concerned, practically commander-in-chief of the whole. At Nankin I found a viceroy who had 28,000 men under him. He controlled the big gun factory of Kiagnan. Some distance below Shanghai there is another great governor who has an immense military establishment. This is the governor of Foochow. His troops number more than 61,000 men.

Besides the archery corps of the interior there is: First the Eight Banner Corps, which includes the Manchus and Mongols, and which is supposed to have something like 300,000 men. Of this army there are in Peking 32,398 soldiers, and connected with them about 11,000 supernumeraries. In Mongolia there are 9,484 Manchus and 8,281 supernumeraries. There are kept about the summer palace of the king just about 5,000 of such troops. Just outside of Peking is the imperial hunting park. Four thousand soldiers are kept there. In addition to these in Peking there are artillery and musketry to the number of 8,000, infantry 2,300 and other troops to the number of 6,600, making a grand total of Manchus surrounding and about Peking of 100,000 troops. These troops are supported entirely by the government. Their officers are of high rank, and about 700 of them have high positions as guards inside the forbidden city, where the emperor lives. Then there is Li Hung Chang's army, the best drilled and the best equipped of any in the empire. In addition to these there are the three great armies known as the army of Manchuria, the army of the centre and the army of Turkistan. The Manchurian army contains 70,000.

In addition to this there are the armies of the governors, which are scattered throughout the eighteen provinces of China, and which include all the large centres. In Suantung there are 20,000 men. In Shansi, 25,000, and in Foochow 30,280 men. The governor of Honan, one of the most anti-foreign provinces of the empire, has 13,000 soldiers. The governor of Nanking has 28,000. The governor of Foochow, 61,435. The governor of Chekiang, 38,000, and those of Hupe and Hunnan, 58,000 men. In Shensi, Kensuh and Ili there are 97,900 men, and in Szuchenn there are 53,897. Kwantung has 68,000, Kwangsi has 29,600, Anhui, 9,000, and Yunnan and Kweichow 42,000, making a grand total, with one or two smaller provinces added, of 701,517. Just how many of these troops can be relied upon in case of war I don't know. The reports are those of the Chinese government, and many of them may be overestimated. FRANK G. CARPENTER.

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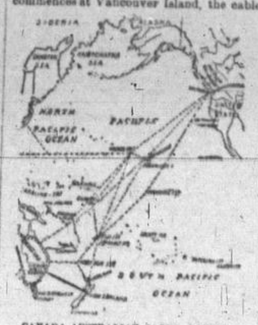
In calling for tenders for the construction of the Canadian-Australian cable, the Dominion Government has prepared a chart illustrating the several proposed routes for which offers are to be received, and from which the selection is to be finally made that may be adopted by the Governments interested. The resolution of the Colonial Conference provided that immediate steps should be taken to provide telegraphic communication by cable, free from foreign control, between Canada and Australasia. The Government has included in its invitation for tenders the Hawaiian route as well, although this is not the popular route with the projectors. Upon the accompanying chart are outlined the several routes for which tenders are invited.

The first route, classified as route No. 1, commences at Vancouver Island, the cable



CANADA-AUSTRALIAN CABLE ROUTES.

to extend to Fanning Island, thence to a suitable island in the Fiji group, and thence to Norfolk Island. At that point the route will bifurcate to the northern part of New Zealand and to a convenient point near the boundary between New South Wales and Queensland. The distances are as follows: Vancouver Island to Fanning Island, 3,232 knots; Fanning Island to Fiji, 1,715 knots; Fiji to Norfolk Island, 1,022 knots; Norfolk Island to New Zealand, 415 knots; Norfolk Island to Tweedmouth, near the boundary of New South Wales and Queensland, 761 knots. Total, 7,145 knots.

Route No. 2—From Vancouver Island the cable to be laid to a small unoccupied island indicated on the charts as Necker Island, situated about 240 miles westward from the most western island of the Hawaiian group, and about 400 nautical miles from Honolulu. From Necker Island the cable to extend to Fiji, and thence, as in route No. 1 to New Zealand and Australia. On the section between Necker and Fiji possibly Howland Island or Baker Island may be available for a mid-station, but the exact position has not been ascertained. From Vancouver Island to Necker Island is 2,431 knots; Necker Island to Fiji, 2,546 knots; Fiji to Norfolk Island, 1,022 knots; Norfolk Island to New Zealand, 415 knots; Norfolk to Tweedmouth, 761 knots. Total, 7,175 knots.

Route No. 3—As in route No. 2 the cable would extend from Vancouver Island to Necker Island, and thence to Onoatoa or some other one of the western islands of the Gilbert group. From this station in the Gilbert group two branches would extend, one to Queensland and the other to New Zealand; the Queensland branch to touch at San Christoval Island, in the Solomon group, and terminate at Bowen, connecting at that point with the land lines easterly to Brisbane and Sydney, westerly to the Gulf of Carpentaria. From Vancouver Island to Necker Island is 2,431 knots; Necker Island to Onoatoa, in Gilbert group, 1,917 knots; Onoatoa to Fiji, 980 knots; Viti Levu to New Zealand, 1,004 knots; Omatoa to San Christoval, in the Solomon group, 953 knots; San Christoval to Bowen, Queensland, 980 knots. Total, 8,265 knots.

Route No. 4.—As in route No. 2 and 3, the cable to be laid from the northern terminal point to Necker Island. From Necker Island to extend in a direct course to Bowen, touching at Apamana, a central island in the Gilbert group, and at San Christoval of the Solomon group. From Vancouver Island to Necker Island is 2,431 knots; Necker Island to Apamana (Gilbert group), 1,865 knots; Apamana to San Christoval (Solomon group), 970 knots; San Christoval to Bowen, Queensland, 980 knots. Total, 6,246 knots.

Route No. 5—As in routes Nos. 2, 3 and 4, the cable to run from Vancouver Island to Necker Island; from Necker Island to Fiji, thence to Jersey, thence direct to New Zealand. The distances are: From Vancouver Island to Necker Island is 2,431 knots; Necker Island to Fiji, 2,546 knots; Fiji to New Zealand, 1,150 knots. Total, 6,127 knots.

Route No. 6—From Vancouver Island the cable to extend to Honolulu; from Honolulu to Fiji, and from Fiji to follow route No. 1 to New Zealand and Australia. On the section between Honolulu and Fiji one of the Phœnix Islands may possibly be found available for a mid-station. From Vancouver Island to Honolulu is 2,280 knots; Honolulu to Fiji, 2,600 knots; Fiji to Norfolk Island, 1,022 knots; Norfolk Island to New Zealand, 415 knots; Norfolk Island to Tweedmouth, 761 knots. Total, 7,078 knots.

Route No. 7—From Vancouver Island the cable to extend to Honolulu; from Honolulu to Onoatoa of the Gilbert group; from Onoatoa to San Christoval of the Solomon group; from San Christoval to Bowen. From Vancouver Island to Honolulu is 2,280 knots; Honolulu to Onoatoa, 2,081 knots; Onoatoa to San Christoval, 953 knots; San Christoval to Bowen, 980 knots. Total, 6,294 knots.

Route No. 8—From Vancouver Island the cable to extend to Honolulu; from Honolulu to Fiji, possibly with a mid-station on this section if a suitable island be available; from Fiji the cable to run direct to New Zealand. From Vancouver Island to Honolulu is 2,280 knots; Honolulu to Fiji, 2,600 knots; Fiji to New Zealand, 1,150 knots. Total 6,030 knots.

The time allowed for the completion of the cable is three years from the date of the contract; but as it is desirable to have telegraphic communication established as soon as practicable, proposals may state a shorter period, or the same parties may make two offers, one on the basis of three years, the other on the shortest period within which the undertaking may be accomplished. The northern terminus of each route is on Vancouver Island. The cable will land at some suitable point to be determined, probably at Port San Juan, near the entrance of the Strait of San Juan or at Barclay Sound. The calculated transmission speeds for each section of the cable shall in no case be less than twelve words per minute.

In order to obtain definite data to enable all the Governments concerned to consider and adopt the best means of carrying out the undertaking, the Canadian Government deemed it expedient to invite proposals for establish the cable in three different forms, viz.:

First—The cable to be owned and controlled by Government, to be worked under Government authority, and to be kept in repair by the contractor for three years. Cable manufacturing contractors to state the lowest cash price for which they will be prepared to supply and lay the cable, the terms and conditions upon which they will guarantee its permanency, and the annual payment for which they will maintain it in efficient condition for three years after the whole line shall have been completed and put in operation.

Second—The cable to be owned, maintained, and worked by a subsidized company. The contracting parties to find the capital, establish, work and maintain the cable in efficient condition, for a subsidy to be paid to them annually for a term of years by the contributing Governments. The offers to state the amount of subsidy to be paid yearly, and the number of years it is to be paid. The maximum rates to be charged on messages to and from Great Britain and the Australasian colonies to be as follows: Three shillings per word for ordinary telegrams, two shillings per word for Government telegrams, and one shilling and sixpence for press telegrams. The charges on messages between Canada and the colonies to be proportionate.

Third—The cable to be owned, maintained and worked by a company under a government guarantee. The contracting parties to find the capital, establish, work, and maintain the cable in efficient condition. The offers to state what guarantee of gross revenue will be required; the difference between gross earnings and the

HON. MACKENZIE BOWELL.

amount guaranteed to be made good each year to the company by the contributing Governments. The rates to be charged for the transmission of messages to and from Great Britain and the Australasian colonies to be as follows: Three shillings per word for ordinary telegrams, two shillings per word for Government telegrams, and one shilling and sixpence per word for press messages. Transpacific messages to be charged at proportionate rates. The tariff of charges to be approved by Government, and not changed unless by governmental sanction.

Hon. Mackenzie Bowell and Sandford Fleming, C. E., have been prime movers in this scheme, having gone on a mission to Australia and having worked up the Intercolonial conference, spoken of in the opening paragraph. Both are enthusiasts in the project, especially Mr. Fleming, who makes this rosy estimate:

"Assuming," he says, "that the cost of the cable and its maintenance for three years will be, in round figures, £2,000,000, the revenue account for the year 1898 would stand as follows: Earnings as estimated, £110,000; interest on £2,000,000 at 3 per cent., £60,000; staff and management, £30,000; interest and staff and management, £90,000; £90,000 from £110,000—£20,000 surplus revenue."

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Is your digestion weakened by "la grippe?" Use K. D. C.

Rum and Quinine Hair Tonic.

Its ingredients are such as have been used for years in many of the best preparations for the hair and have given great satisfaction. It cleanses the head from dandruff, prevents the hair from falling off, and promotes the growth of new hair. Prepared at the City Drug Store.

J. B. McLEOD,

Corner Princess and Montreal Streets, Kingston.

NEW FALL MANTLES.

SPENCE & CO.

Have opened and put into stock to-day their second consignment of

IMPORTED MANTLES!

In quality they will be found unequalled, as the material was selected by ourselves and made to order.

STYLES the very latest and prices the lowest.

Now is the time to make a good choice.

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The Leading Mantle Store.

ELECTION TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY for the Electoral District of Kingston, held 19th and 26th June, 1894.

The following is an Abstract of the Statement filed with the Returning Officer, in pursuance of Section 193 of "The Ontario Election Act," of all expenses incurred in connection with said Election by or on behalf of "Edward H. Smythe," a Candidate, including payments in respect of his personal expenses, viz:

Livery and Cab Hire	$65 50
Rent	5 25
Printing	3 25
Telegraphing	2 50
City Directory	2 00
Total	$79 00

Kingston, 27th August, 1894.

EDW. H. SMYTHE.
FRANCIS KING,
Agent of said Edw. H. Smythe.

PIANOS TUNED

BY E. CUNNINGHAM, from Chickering's, New York. Leave orders at McAuley's Bookstore.

DON'T STRIKE

Unless You Strike a Bargain.

We have them in

Hosiery,
Boating Shawls,
Parasols, Silk Belts,
Underwear, Ribbons,
All Reduced.

LAIDLAW & SON

Our Heating and Cooking Stoves

Hot Air and Hot Water Furnaces

All carry with them a full guarantee.

THE HAPPY THOUGHT [redacted] RANGE is higher in

McKELVEY & BIRCH,

69 and 71 Brock Street.

28,800,000

Of E. B. EDDY'S Matches are made and sold daily. Do you get your share?

You do not experiment when you buy

E. B. EDDY'S MATCHES.

STOVES—To burn either wood or coal for heating or cooking.

FURNACES—For coal or wood for dwellings or public buildings, fitted up complete and fully guaranteed. Information and prices cheerfully given.

McKELVEY & BIRCH, Brock

Rates per $1,000 WITH PROFITS.

Age near's Birthday.	
25	$13.75
26	14 00
27	14 25
28	14 50
29	14 75
30	15 00
31	15 35
32	15 60
33	15 70
34	15 88
35	16 04
36	16 21
37	16 44
38	16 68
39	16 94
40	17 20
41	17 48
42	17 80

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ESTABLISHED 1875.

R. H. MATSON, General Manager for Canada, 37 Yonge Street, Toronto.

D. F. ARMSTRONG, Manager, Kingston.

DISTRICT AGENTS WANTED.

Rates per $1,000 WITH PROFITS.

Age near's Birthday.	
45	$19 16
46	19 60
47	20 04
48	20 50
49	20 97
50	21 72
51	22 24
52	22 84
53	23 68
54	27 60
55	29 34
56	30 24
57	31 15
58	32 05
59	33 00
60	34 00

NAVIGATION.

Kingston, Ottawa & Montreal.

THE NEW PALACE PASSENGER STEAMER JAMES SWIFT, Lighted by Electricity and heated by steam (CAPT. FLEMING, Master), will leave Swift's Wharf every MONDAY and THURSDAY at 6 a.m., arriving at Ottawa every Tuesday and Friday at 8 a.m., connecting with the Ottawa Forwarding Company's Steamers for Montreal and Intermediate Ports, forming a through line twice a week between Kingston, Ottawa and Montreal.

RETURNING will leave Ottawa every Tuesday and Friday at 3 p.m., arriving at Kingston every Wednesday and Saturday.

Freight carefully handled, promptly delivered, and at rates as low as by any other line.

Passenger accommodation unsurpassed.

Connections made at Ottawa with the Ottawa River Navigation Company's steamer "Empress" for Montreal and all ports on the Ottawa River.

Through tickets issued over this line from Kingston to Montreal and return, via Rideau Canal and Ottawa River.

Apply to G.R.S. City Agents, Capt. Bowie, steamer Empress, or to CAPT. NOONAN.

Richelieu & Ontario Navigation COMPANY.

MONTREAL AND TORONTO LINE.

Steamers leave Kingston, going East, DAILY (except Monday) at 5 a.m.; going West DAILY (except Monday) at 3 p.m.

To Montreal, single, $3.25; return, $5.50; to Toronto, single, $2; return, $3.50.

Meals and berth extra going East, but will be included going West.

MONTREAL AND HAMILTON LINE

Steamer MAGNET leaves Kingston every Wednesday for Montreal, at 5 p.m., and every Sunday, for Toronto and Hamilton, at 8 a.m.

To Montreal, single, $4; return, $7.50; to Toronto, single, $3; return, $5. Hamilton, single $3.50; return, $6. Meals and berth included both ways.

For freight rates apply to JAS. SWIFT & CO. For tickets apply to THOS. HANLEY & SONS, C. F. GILDERSLEEVE, General Manager.

KINGSTON & PEMBROKE —AND— Canada Pacific Railways

INDUSTRIAL FAIR, TORONTO

Sept.