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SAINT JOHN, WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 9th, 1910

DRUMMOND-ARTHBASKA.

From the smoke and din of the conflict in Drummond-Arthabaska there are some points which stand out with tolerable clearness. In the first place it was not a contest which was initiated or carried on by the Conservative party. It was absolutely and entirely a matter among Liberals themselves. Beginning in a family jar some years ago, it later developed into a bitter family quarrel, and has ended in a hot family fight with probably fatal injuries to the head of the family. Bourassa, who stands as the leader of the dissent faction, was, and is, a Liberal by descent and practice. He entered parliament as the disciple and devoted worshipper of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, lay in his bosom, basked in his smiles, and was loved and trusted in turn even as he himself loved and trusted. But he had in him the substance of old Liberal doctrine, and an honest hatred of graft and crookedness. To his surprise he soon found the hero of his early worship very human in regard to vital matters of administration, and he began to remonstrate, at first more in sorrow than in anger, and then, finding no response, in public criticism and denunciation of the evil practices. In the end Sir Wilfrid took, as he always has done, the part of the political grafter and, wearying of the protests of his disciple, cast him and his co-actor Lavergne into outer darkness. There he hoped it would end. But Bourassa was made of better fighting stuff than many of Sir Wilfrid's one time friends and colleagues, whose mouths have been shut by rough treatment and threats, or by the softer methods of patronage and hope, and he refused to be either bought or bullied at the expense of his convictions.

Matters came to a crisis in 1910. Bourassa was campaigning the French constituencies, and availing himself of the crude, ill-considered, expensive and comparatively useless naval proposals of the government to rouse the electors against his old time chief. Sir Wilfrid, on his return from his summer Western tour, determined to crush Bourassa, and laid his plans accordingly. He so laid them, that, as he thought, his success would be certain, and Bourassa's killing swift and complete. To that end he called the spectacular Montreal meeting, the one and only purpose of which was to warn Quebec that Bourassa was a pestilent member of the family, that must be done for, once for all, and to taunt and madden him to show fight and accept battle. Then with cold calculating cunning he proceeded to select the battle ground, which of all others would be most favorable to himself, and most impossible for Bourassa. He chose Drummond-Arthabaska, which was his native county, where he has long had his home, which, supposedly, contained many personal friends, and which, best of all, at the last contested election, gave a Liberal majority of 2,400, and whose average majority for a series of elections was over 1,200. The fussy little gentleman of very mediocre ability, who represented it was lifted to the reformed Senate, and pensioned for life with \$2,500 per year, plus travelling expenses, plus the yearly stationery trunk, with a French clock or an electric vibrator thrown in; and all at the country's expense. This done, the live was opened and the knightly leader of the great Liberal party with fine courage, dared the young fledgling to come on. It wasn't very brave or very chivalrous in Sir Wilfrid, but it would prove, so he hoped, efficacious. Either Bourassa would refuse the unfair fight and his prestige would be ruined, or he would fight and be utterly crushed. Bourassa did not refuse and he was not crushed, but he wilyly knighted himself, to his infinite surprise, was ignominiously stricken from his saddle, and sent to earth. Of all political jousts ever held in Canada this has been the most dramatic and startling. But it was all a Liberal family scrimmage. The Conservative party occupied seats in the gallery and watched the progress and moves of the contestants with keen interest; but they were only spectators, with possibly something up on the game.

In the second place as to the issues and tactics they were mixed and various. An attempt will be made to pose Sir Wilfrid as a victim to his Imperial loyalty, slain in the house of his friends by Imperial disloyalty. The difference between Laurier and Bourassa as regards real and hearty assistance in the naval defence of the British Empire is the difference between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee. Both are in principle opposed to it. Of the two Bourassa is more definite and outspoken in the position he takes, Laurier is evasive and double-faced. Both exalt autonomy and denounce Imperialism. Both seek to break the weight of criticism by the English and predominating section of Canada by asserting their loyalty to the Union. Neither brings forth the practical fruits of this assertion. Bourassa calls for a submission to the people of the naval policy, and the plain intimation by this call is that, if the majority of the Canadian people speak their approval, the policy goes. Laurier brings forth the dead fruits of a sham navy, which cannot fight if it were allowed to, but which is not to be allowed to fight if it could—for Britain's wars and at the Empire's call. And for such an abortion he proposes to spend \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000 of the people's money, without asking the people's views thereon. The true Imperialist finds little to choose between these plans, but of the two Bourassa's has the elements of popular con-

sideration and approval and of consequent permanency and stability.

Judging by the speeches of the candidates and their friends, there is little to choose from. The government's candidate declared that Canada's fleet was not to fight in Imperial wars, but was a step towards independence. The Lord High Admiral, Minister of the Navy, declared that it was to punish thieves and pirates who might want to rob our out-going steamers. Sir Wilfrid represented himself as the valiant defender of Canada against the twice repeated demands of the British Government for contributions and aid towards Imperial naval defence, and boasted of defeating arrangements, which were favored by all the rest of the Empire. The "vortex of European militarism" was fittingly and eloquently exoriated. Bourassa and Monk denounced the actual proposals as useless, ineffective, and very expensive, and demanded popular approval before they were finally saddled upon the country. Both were personally opposed to aid or assistance in Empire wars, until Canada had some part in the deliberation and declaration of the same. Neither intimated his intention of contravening the will of Canada if, on opportunity being given, that will was pronounced in favor of cooperation. Whatever else may be kept in reserve by these two gentlemen as to national or Imperial matters, on the naval question the above outlines their position, and though we may differ from it in some particulars, the position cannot be characterized as unreasonable.

But there were other influences than the naval question which contributed to the striking defeat of Sir Wilfrid. He had grown autocratic to a degree. No man in Canada is more susceptible to flattery than Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and never did interested and self-seeking followers pour forth more fulsome and highly flavored adulation. Honest and candid friends were not encouraged, and were gradually thrust into the background. In Quebec it became disloyal to criticize, and treason to condemn any of his actions. Public policy arguments, reasons, were denied a hearing, the elector was to vote for Laurier because he was Laurier, and represented the French race. If he did not he was branded as a traitor to his kind, a friend of the "Orangistes" and an ally of the enemies of Quebec. An interested ring worked this rich vein for all it was worth, grew haughty and domineering, as they increased their gains, and dispensed their patronage. Dissensions inevitably succeeded, and dissatisfaction followed the dissensions. All this bred disgust in honorable men, and discontent in disappointed ones. The overthrow of Laurier on November 4th, was due in no inconsiderable degree to the revolt against this overgrown and intolerable one-man power, based on an appeal to name and race, which over-rode reason and denied all independentness of judgment. If this dangerous and degrading one-man power, based not on reason but on race, has received a death blow, or even a decided check in Canada, there are few sensible and patriotic people who will not be grateful to Drummond-Arthabaska.

A NEW REVELATION.

Press dispatches from Salt Lake City, the seat of the Mormon church, says the Winnipeg Telegram, bring advices that the officials of the sect founded by Joseph Smith have issued definite and positive orders that the faithful shall henceforth regard plural marriages as contrary to the word of God as revealed by His prophet and his successors. The Latter Day Saint who yields to a yearning for another soul-mate is warned that such lapse from observance of the law and the gospel "will call down the wrath of the church." The Mormon hierarchy, in issuing the order, continues:—

"In giving the manifesto to the churches, President Wilford Woodruff presented the will of God. It was as binding on the churches as any written revelation, and we are bound by it. It is as if God said it himself. Some of our brethren who were not satisfied with the manifesto have gone outside and over the law, and they have offended God in doing so. "There is not a man on earth today possessing the authority to perform plural marriages. We want every one of you to clearly understand this, the sisters particularly. Plural marriages are unrighteous and unlawful now. We doubted the constitutionality of laws, but they have been tested and sustained in the courts and we must obey them."

It will be remembered that Brigham Young, he of the some score of wives, multiplied his helpmeets—if not his domestic difficulties—in pursuance of what he declared to be a positive order from On High. But Brigham Young has long since passed from the stage of earthly activities. Since which time the courts of the United States, from Utah to Washington, have interpreted affairs to square with somewhat old-fashioned notions regarding marriage. At any rate, plural marriages have been interdicted since the passage of the Edmunds act. It is not now possible for a Mormon who owns to more than a single boss in the domestic circle to hold a federal office. Moreover, the American government makes it a crime for any man to have more than one wife at the same time.

But this is a digression. What is of interest is the fact that somebody in Mormon authority in Salt Lake City has had a new inspiration either from a close study of statutes and the attitude of the federal authorities or from an admitted misunderstanding of Divine purposes as revealed by Brothers Brigham and others. At any rate, polygamous marriages are to be tabooed in Utah. And after all, that is of more interest than any curious inquiry into the real reason for this latest revelation.

Current Comment

(St. Thomas Times.)

The Countess of Aberdeen is the chief director in the fight being made in Ireland against the "white plague." She has organized lecturing trips, sending vans with nurses and doctors through parts of Ireland where there is no railroad. She seized upon the idea of utilizing abandoned coastguard stations and turning them into preventorium where persons who have been exposed to the disease might get plenty of fresh air and good food while they grew in strength. She has dotted Ireland with sanitariums for the treatment of persons who have the disease.

(Ottawa Journal.)

An Ottawa paper in a headline describing a "didn't-know-it-was-loaded" accident, relates how the gun went off, "without the slightest warning." Apparently some people are accustomed to a gun that blows a whistle and waves a red flag and then gives five minutes' notice, before deciding to send someone to the Kingdom Come.

(Moncton Times.)

The editorial solum of the St. John Telegraph, in an article on "Shooting Accidents" hands out the following:—"Do not shoot at possibilities. Be sure of your target. A man does not look like a deer, or stand, or walk, or act like one. There is no open season for man. He does not even resemble a moose or a bear; so do not shoot him."

REVEREND N. PARKER DIED YESTERDAY

Methodist Clergyman Had Served Faithfully in Many Fields—Helped to Build Ten Churches—Strong Character

Rev. I. N. Parker, one of the best known ministers of the Methodist church in New Brunswick, died yesterday morning at the General Public Hospital after a short illness. Rev. Mr. Parker on Friday evening, October 28, was tendered a farewell by the people of Sussex, and presented with a purse of gold preliminary to his removal to Boston, where he and Mrs. Parker intended making their home with a son who holds a responsible position in that city. A day or two later Mr. and Mrs. Parker came to this city en route to Boston. They registered at the Clifton House, and while there Rev. Mr. Parker was taken ill. After several days it was seen that his condition was serious, and his removal to the General Public Hospital was decided on. His condition gradually became worse and for the last couple of days it was apparent the end was near. The news of his death yesterday morning was heard with regret by many friends in the city and it will be learned with sorrow in the different districts in which he has labored.

Rev. I. N. Parker was born in Wilford, Annapolis county, N. S., and was educated first in the common school at his home and then at Mount Allison, and for a time taught school. He united with the church under the ministry of the Rev. Samuel Avery, and was made a local preacher. In 1862 he began his ministerial career as chairman of the district on the old Shofield and Salmon River field. The following year he began his probation for the ministry in the regular way and was sent to Dalhousie. Here he spent three years preceding his ordination in 1866. The field was an immense one and the difficulties many, but he succeeded. Leaving this field, with its reach of fifty miles in Quebec, he more than seven years in New Brunswick, he served Hillsboro, Petticoat, Jerusalem, Kingston, Gagetown, Richibucto, Bathurst, Dorchester, Courtenay Bay, Nashua, Grand Lake, Gagetown, Hillsboro. In 1897 he became a supernumerary, but has taken vacant fields since and done effective work and fields at which he officiated was very great. He secured the erection and dedication of ten churches and one parsonage, besides the renovation of others. Mr. Parker was a man of strong convictions and possessed the ability to present them. He was a successful pastor and did good work.

Rev. Mr. Parker was twice married. His first wife was Miss Maggie McMillan of Boiestown, and they had three children. His second wife, who survives, Miss Dora Williams of Gagetown, was also the mother of three children. The members of his family surviving are: Mrs. C. Price, Moncton; Mrs. George H. Davidson, Hampton; and Miss Bessie, at home, and W. L. Parker in Boston. The deceased was seventy-three years of age.

NEWSY NOTES FROM ALBERT COUNTY TOWNS

Albert, N. B., Nov. 7.—Rev. Mr. Love commenced his pastorate with the Hopewell United Baptist church on Sunday last. His first service was in the Riverside Public Hall at 11 a. m. The reverend gentleman, with his family, will occupy the rooms over the "Riverside Drug Store" lately vacated by Dr. Carnwath.

Dr. Paul M. Atkinson has returned to his home here and is residing with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Atkinson. Dr. Atkinson is warmly welcomed to his native village, and after his successful graduation from McGill followed by a year's work in the general hospital, connected with that institution, and another year spent in a New York maternity hospital, takes up the practice of his profession here. Dr. Atkinson's office is in the Central Telephone Building.

Dr. Ernest A. Baxter, brother of Dr. George O. Baxter, of St. John, has located at Albert. He has commodious offices and rooms in the Waverly Hotel.

Mrs. I. C. Prescott is visiting relatives and friends in Boston. Mr. Prescott, with his daughter, Kathleen, left this morning to accompany her home. On the way they will visit relatives in St. George, St. John, and Sussex.

George D. Prescott, M. P. P., and Mrs. Prescott, are in St. John for a short visit. Mr. Prescott has exchanged his auto for a much larger car.

The many friends of Harvey Graves will be sorry to hear of his serious illness at his home at Sherman Brook. His son Xenophon, and his daughter, Bessie, have returned from Vancouver, and are watching at their father's bedside.

Mr. Graves has been suffering for some two years with an affection of one of his feet, but hopes were entertained that no immediately serious result would follow. But while on a business visit to Hopewell Cape about a week ago, Mr. Graves was stricken with paralysis, not serious at first, but it has gradually become general, until he is entirely helpless and speechless.

It is understood that the large new law library of the late C. A. Peck, K. C., has been purchased by G. H. Adair, a rising young attorney-at-law. Mr. Peck lost his father's library in the big fire at Albert some six years ago, and about a year later he purchased a new and entirely up-to-date collection of law books.

Arthur Fowler, for-man for I. C. Prescott, shot a fine black bear a few days ago, while on his rounds of the lumber camps. The skin is a handsome one, and was purchased by J. N. Wetmore.

An unusually large acreage of ploughing is being done in this county this fall owing to the open weather, and the undeviated faith in the country stimulated by the good showing of the farmers at the local exhibitions. Several sales of horses at good figures are reported this last week, among which was the exchange of a six months colt for the tidy sum of eighty dollars.

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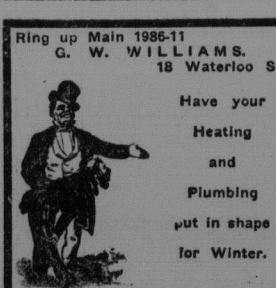
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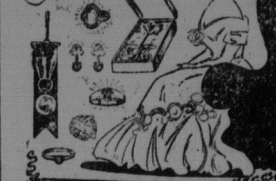
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