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Single insertion, application at office. Address  
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LONDON, CANADA.BRANCH OFFICES:  
Toronto—C. Rowland Orr, 11 King street  
West.  
Montreal and Maritime Provinces—A. McKim  
& Co., Montreal, Que.

London, Thursday, Jan. 23.

## HALDIMAND.

Once more there is a vacancy in Haldimand. There have been three such occurrences in as many years in the now notorious county. In two the Tory candidate was the victim, and now it is the turn of the Liberal candidate. By a majority of 3 to 2, the Supreme Court has dismissed the appeal of Mr. Colter, Liberal M.P., against the judgment of Judge Falconbridge, who was called upon to deliver judgment on a point of election law never raised in this country till the fight in Haldimand brought it forward. In view of the result, it is worth while to consider what this point was. At the previous election trial, Mr. Justice Street was the presiding judge, and to his attention was brought a novel set of facts. The Tory bosses of the county went into the box and swore that they had carried on the election without any regular organization. They had no division chairmen, no secretaries, no election managers, no committees, nothing. The inference was that they had purposely refrained from appointing committees in order to prevent the establishment of the agency of those guilty of corrupt acts. By this dodge, they were able to swear out of responsibility for the corrupt practices established at the trial, as the judge in each case ruled against the appellant on the ground that the agency had not been shown. The case was carried to the Supreme Court, and Dr. Montague, the Tory respondent, was unseated, but the agency question was not raised. In the last contest, when the same candidates were brought forward, the Liberals borrowed a page from the Tory book of instructions, and failed to appoint committees or to organize. When the case came for trial, it was proved that a man representing himself as a friend of the Liberal candidate, though he was not known personally to Mr. Colter, nor had he any authority from that gentleman or his legal agents to act for him, had paid the railway fare of a voter who desired to leave the constituency on election day. Judge Falconbridge took a contrary view to that adopted by Judge Street, and ruled that, inasmuch as the respondent's friends had no regular organization for carrying on the election, all who were shown to have been actively engaged in promoting his interests, either with or without authority, must be regarded as his agents. It is this decision which the majority of the judges of the Supreme Court of Canada have sustained, thereby again causing a vacancy in Haldimand.

Fortunately the task of the Liberals in the bye-election which must now come off will not be so hard as it was in the two elections which have already taken place since last general election. The voters' lists have at length been revised, the bogus Tory votes which were found on the lists of 1885 cannot now be polled, and the Liberals assert that they have added 100 to their strength in the last revision. If this is so it will not be possible for either Dr. Montague or any other Tory candidate, even with the assistance of sleight-of-hand manipulators of ballots at the polls, to prevent a Liberal triumph. It is a misfortune to the constituency that through the act of a mistaken, though zealous man, it is once more plunged into an election tussle. Of the result, there seems to be no doubt. Mr. Colter will keep the seat, unless the wholesale ballot spoiler of Oneida is duplicated at the other polling places, and the Liberal scrutineers should be able to prevent that.

## A BAD BEGINNING.

Mr. John Morgan, who ran against Mr. John Waters, M.P., in North Middlesex, at last general election, and was beaten by a very substantial majority—the Liberal majority being doubled when compared with that in 1885—is again in bad luck. The other day he was selected as Tory candidate to contest the seat of Hon. G. W. Ross in West Middlesex. The choice was not made because it was believed that Mr. Morgan would defeat the Minister. On the contrary, it had been on record by the Tory leaders in the riding that neither Mr. Morgan nor any local man could hope to win the people over from Liberal principles. But Mr. Morgan was chosen as a makeshift, with the sole object of keeping Mr. Ross in his own constituency as much as possible when the campaign opens. The nomination had been offered to School Inspector Hughes, of Toronto, but he refused it on the ground that he had lost all faith in Mr. Meredith as a leader, and that he could only run on the platform of the Equal Rights party. That platform the West Middlesex Tories refused to have anything to do with, and as a last resort Mr. Morgan was asked to sacrifice himself. He consented, and at once set on foot such tactics as he believed would obtain for him the necessary prestige to make even a decent showing in the West Riding. In bygone days he had been selected as reeve of Adelaide,

and his friends resolved to get him re-elected as a preliminary to the canvass in the adjoining constituency. Mr. Morgan will not be present at the ensuing session of the County Council, however. He will not preside over the deliberations of the Township Council. He has been elected to stay at home. Notwithstanding that Liberals were prevailed upon to vote for him, on the ground of old associations and on the assurance that the election was not being run on party lines, and despite the fact that the Tory element was appealed to for support because of Mr. Morgan's position as a party boss, he was defeated at the polls. Poor fellow! He is deprived of even the little consolation which his selection as a township official would have afforded him, and he is beaten on the ground selected by his own friends.

We hear that in some quarters there is a movement among the Tory rank-and-file to advise Mr. Morgan to retire. They do not want to go into a contest in which their candidate is sure to be beaten. In view of the facts, they cannot be blamed. Meanwhile, the Liberals should arrange to roll up even a bigger majority than that given to the Minister of Education at last general election.

## PUTTING ON AIRS.

The airs of Toronto the Good are almost ludicrous, especially in what concerns the dignity of its body of aldermen. At their meeting for organization the other day as much parade was made as if the Council was a Parliament. Invitations to the number of nearly 1,000 had been sent out to all the bigwigs of the city, including their better halves, and even some great men outside the city were honored with a card. But it does not appear that the bigwigs were greatly elated by the honor, unless it be that they were one and all on the suspicious opening day paying their respects to Mons. La Gripper. Hon. Oliver did not grace the occasion; neither did Sir John or Mr. Blake; and excepting Dr. Wild and Mr. Creighton the only distinguished people present were the ward politicians and the wives and daughters of the worthy aldermen. We do not read in the reports of the opening that the Mayor was escorted to the chamber by Col. Denison's troop of cavalry, or that cannon was fired, or that a Lord Mayor's procession paraded the streets, or that the approaches to the chamber were thronged by glad and huzzing thousands, or any tomfoolery of that kind. But as far as they could go the Mayor and aldermen made the show as imposing as they could. The Mayor even went the length of preparing an address, which for length if not for weight might vie with the speech of a United States President. Yes, and we almost forgot to mention that the services of a chaplain were engaged and the proceedings were opened with prayer. After the prayer and the address the fun began, and aldermen made a show of themselves in the presence of their wives and daughters by bickering over the make-up of committees. The reports say that some of the wrangles were loud and spicy. Several scimitars of the tongue occurred, statements and contradictions went flying about the chamber to the great edification of the ladies, and Baron Beef knocked the Marquis of Hyde "out in the first round"—metaphorically speaking, we suppose. It does not seem to have been a very great show which the 800 odd magnates were invited to witness, and doubtless the knowing ones stayed away. But now that the Toronto aldermen have taken to spe Parliamentary display at their opening, we think it is high time for Parliament to go out of that business. Our Local Legislature has been growing quite democratic in recent years upon opening days, and no harm will be done if the service of Col. Denison and his cavalry is handed over to the City Council.

SOL. WHITE, Mr. Meredith's lieutenant, made a speech at the inaugural banquet of the new Town Council in Windsor the other night, and a report of his speech is given in the Detroit Free Press. Mr. White is apparently not prepared to stand by the certificate given to him recently by Mr. Meredith as an opponent of annexation. He says he will stand by his platform, "the chief point of which was political union." Here is an odd declaration, made by the same politician, in his speech:

"We have to recognize the rapid progress of our country, and I claim to be a loyal subject of Queen Victoria when I announce myself a strong supporter of political union."

What an odd compound Mr. Meredith's bosom companion is to be sure. He is a loyal subject of the Queen and a strong supporter of political union at the same time. It is evident that Sol. is after keeping hold of the voters in Windsor and neighborhood. His principles are capable of adjustment to meet the exigencies of the situation along the border.

THE Toronto Empire now repeats the story that Mr. Farrer, editor of the Toronto Mail, loaded up the Senate Committee on Relations with Canada with a statement that the Dominion was anxious to be annexed. The Mail editor acted as emissary of the opponents of unrestricted reciprocity, and apparently endeavored to influence the committee against arranging for full reciprocity between the two countries by telling its members that the refusal to agree to such a reciprocity would hasten annexation. The combines who wish to have the policy of high taxation continued will no doubt sincerely thank the Mail editor for working a little racket that will aid in the continuance of the present state of affairs. Sensible Canadians desire neither political annexation nor a continuance of excessive taxes on commerce between the two countries; and in this respect they are opposed to Tory tactics, whether exemplified by the Empire or by the Mail.

A BILL has been introduced in the New Jersey Legislature requiring that the printed label of every bottle in which poison is sold shall state the antidote for such poison. This measure deserves to be made law not only in New Jersey, but in every State and Province of America.

THE European country possessing the largest number of public libraries is Austria, which has no fewer than 577, containing 5,475,000 volumes, without reckoning maps and manuscripts, making an average of 26 volumes per 100 of the entire population.

IN GERMANY it is a dangerous thing to say that a woman has hair of a color not provided by nature. At a ball in a German watering place last winter the wife of the Berlin Councillor Meyer told the editor of a society weekly that Frau Hubner, also of Berlin and her vis-a-vis in a quadrille, had bleached hair and a false complexion. The editor of the society weekly repeated this information to Frau Hubner, who upon her return to Berlin sued Frau Meyer for libel. Two weeks ago the case was decided. Frau Meyer was fined \$50, and was severely lectured by the court.

THE clergy of Derby, England, have set a movement on foot for doing away with the marriage fee, in the hope of checking the tendency to civil marriage. Persons who are fond of accusing English priests of a lack of devotion to their office take notice. When last year a class of laymen in any country shown any disposition to sacrifice its means of living in order to preserve others from breaking ecclesiastical law, i. e., from committing the crime which is no sin in the eye of the State? The clergy of Derby hope that their example will be followed by their brethren throughout England, but, whether it shall be so or not, they have put their own sincerity beyond question forever.

HYPERISM is decidedly a novel factor in legal proceedings. The London Graphic tells how "A medical student at Helsingborg recently prosecuted a Swedish doctor in the same town for hypnotizing him against his will on repeated occasions, so that his nervous system had been much affected. He called numerous witnesses for his case, but they behaved in the most extraordinary manner in court, giving foolish and contradictory answers, and acting altogether like lunatics. At last a doctor pronounced that his fellow-practitioner, the defendant, had hypnotized all the witnesses, wherefore they were obliged to give such answers as he chose, without being able to exercise their own will or judgment. The case was adjourned for further medical testimony."

NEW PUBLICATIONS.  
MARK TWAIN'S "Majestic Literary Fossil," which he will describe in Harper's Magazine for February is "A Dictionary of Medicine," by Dr. James, of London, assisted by Mr. Boswell's doctor, Samuel Johnson, published at the time of the rebellion of '45. Mark Twain says that "if it had been sent against the Pretender's troops there probably wouldn't have been a survivor."

THE February Wide Awake opens with a good Persian ballad, "Abu Said," by Mary E. Bradley, followed by a stirring episode of Western military life by Lieutenant Fremont, entitled "Snowshoe Thompson." There is an inspiring story of Greek boy-life, by Mrs. Knight, "A Boyhood in Athens." G. H. Sanborn tells the story of "The Frog-legs Mikado," and Mrs. Fremont will interest all readers with her account of "Kit Carson." Grant Allen concludes his serial, "Wednesday the Tenth," in triumph. Mr. Stoddard's serial of "A Rough Boy" is proving that young Gid Granger is "no slouch." One of the very best of John Brown's stories is given in the School Series, "The Wicked Waterbury Clock." Mrs. White gives artistic girls a good business hint in her article on dressmaking in the "Business Openings." An Amateur Photographer's is a piquant reading. "Men and Things" abounds with good original anecdotes and curious lore. "A S. C. Case" is the best of the long poems, very amusing in text and pictures, by Gordon Browne, the popular English artist. Wide Awake is \$2 40 a year. D. Lothrop Company, publishers, Boston.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE has introduced an agreeable diversity in its department of fiction by engaging some stories from popular English novelists, who are also widely known upon this side of the Atlantic. The February number contains a complete novel, "The Sign of the Four," or "The Problem of the Sholtoys," by A. Conan Doyle. The author of that remarkable novel, "Micah Clarke: His Statement," needs no introduction to American readers. The second part of Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Elixir of Life" appears in this number. Francis Galton, F.R.S., the celebrated English scientist and author, contributes a timely and interesting article entitled, "Why Do We Measure Mankind?" Among the other articles is a pleasing one on "Shelley's Welsh Haunts," by C. H. Herford; "The Newspaper and the Individual: A Plea for Press Censorship," a clever article by John Habberton, entitled, "Married Geniuses." Charles Morris writes upon "The Forestry Problem." Charles McVane gives some odd advice to readers in his article, "The Dissipation of Reading," and an entertaining article follows entitled, "Traduttore Traditore," which shows what a number of laughable mistakes the "traitor translator" has made. J. B. Lippincott & Co., publishers, Philadelphia.

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—Mrs. L. L. Brown, Denmark, Mass.  
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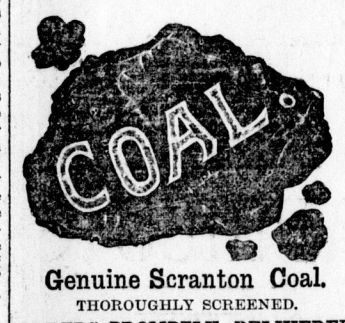
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LAWRENCE SPECI

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lish Runner F

Toronto Unrepresented

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General

## ATHLETIC

G. W. Rowdon, the

champion at running high

as acting as a cat. At a

ment he gave the follo

Jumping through a hoop

diameter held six feet

jumping to a man's sho

thence over a bar raised

ground; jumping in and

jumping on the handle

point being placed on

jumping over a man's head

removing an apple from t

spike of his shoe; jump

chairs, two at a time, a

ward, each spring and pit

brick; jumping over five

chairs in one rising jump;

off bars and handles of f

on to the backs of seats

maintaining, and also on to

man; jumping on and fr

without injuring him; clea

one spring. Mr. Rowdon

board or artificial means,

stances his "take-off" was

prizes. Rowdon is the p

prizes, won at athletic meet

## KNOCKING AT THE

At the baseball meeting

Wednesday night represent

inaw presented the p

slating Saginaw and

the International League.

met with hearty approval

of the meeting Saginaw

at the Buffalo meeting was

wire to make written appli

inaw-Bay City franchise

who strongly favors the p

field. This gives Saginaw

a splendid batter, fielder

and has not a convenient

meeting. Hamilton or Lond

been chosen.—[Globe]

## SPRINGING.

William Mills, the prote

of Boston, who had such a

from drowning at Johnston

flood, has challenged James Q

ford, Ont., to run 75 yards

quick has accepted, and in

will run any man in Cana

up to 100 yards for any res

## TUFF.

John Watts, the famous E

is going into the breeding bu

purchased a stock farm at

land.

The fastest combined reco

on is that of Robert McGre

Bonnie McGregor, 2:13, an

tion.

HARRY LE

MERCHANT TA

Corner Richmond and Carl