

# The Standard



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SAINT JOHN, WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 21, 1910

## MR. PUGSLEY'S COMEDY.

At yesterday's sitting of the Equity Court, the Chief Justice allowed the demurrer filed to the plaintiff's bill in Pugsley vs. The New Brunswick Coal and Railway Company, and we publish in this morning's issue of The Standard his judgment in full. This suit has even since it was first mooted been the amusement of lawyers and the puzzle of laymen. It is questionable whether another person in Canada would have the ingenuity to conceive, or the effrontery to undertake, such a proceeding. As a piece of humbug it ranks probably as the most colossal of the many vast conceptions of its illustrious author. The air of sincerity with which the play has been performed has been masterful. Literature may be searched in vain for a parallel. The pious rage of Macbeth over the "damned fact" of Duncan's murder, is infinitely inferior as humor to Mr. Pugsley's mock heroism in bringing his old friend, Mr. George McAvity, to justice.

The situation was a most difficult one for even an actor of Mr. Pugsley's consummate skill. No man in Canada knew better than he when he started the suit what the result would be. And yet the expedient was a dangerous one. The last thing, probably, he wished was an accounting, but the thing he most desired was the show of making one.

The circumstances of the case lent themselves admirably to his design. All the persons connected with the company were, without exception, favorably disposed to him, and were not, to say the least, anxious for an inquiry. The company, the only party whose interest would be served by an accounting, was controlled by directors, who, with the exception of Mr. Hazen and Mr. Fleming, were friends of Mr. Pugsley, and the president, Mr. George McAvity, desired a genuine accounting as little as he did.

With a view of having a thorough investigation, Mr. Hazen, on more than one occasion, requested the president to call a meeting of the directors. This course might have been fatal to Mr. Pugsley's plans. Mr. McAvity called no meeting of the directors—in fact he reported that he did not know who or where they were in his anxiety for a full disclosure, he retained Mr. Carvell, M. P., to represent the company, and entrusted to him the duty of racking to the utmost the Minister of Public Works.

The judgment of the Chief Justice has ended the farce. And probably Mr. Pugsley is among those best pleased with the result.

## AGAINST THE POLICY OF DRIFT.

The opinion expressed by Sir James Whitney in recent interviews in London, that a policy of drift on the part of the Mother Country may mean disintegration of the Empire, is taken as a text by the Telegraph for a eulogy on the utterances of Sir Wilfrid Laurier on the question of Imperial preference. Sir James, according to the Telegraph "clearly expresses the view that Canada's loyalty depends upon the attitude of the Mother Country with regard to Imperial preference, while Sir Wilfrid Laurier declares to the world that the loyalty of Canada to the British Empire is not dependent upon any tariff agreement."

It would seem that the Telegraph is making common cause with other organs which are attacking Sir James, and exhibiting for the moment a touching affection for the Empire and an unusual regard for the honor of Canada. Referring to these attacks the Toronto Mail and Empire points out that the claim is put forward that Sir James, by hinting at preferential trade, is trying to injure the Empire through the levying of food taxes upon the British working man, and that a pretence is made that Canada is insulted by the suggestion that separation may come if the drift be not checked, and by the representation that our loyalty is based upon commercialism.

"These criticisms of the Premier of Ontario," continues the Mail and Empire, "are far fetched and absolutely insincere. With regard to the first, it may be said that there was a preferential system to be adopted by the British workman would experience no higher degree of taxation than he now bears. His food is taxed today, and the difference between his position now and his position under a preferential policy would be such only as a change in the details of the taxation would bring. At the same time, the British workman, through the closer commercial alliance with his compatriots across the sea, would experience the great advantage which pertains to the growing market. Why do the various European nations struggle for colonial extensions? The basis of their campaign is trade. They desire to secure for their people the market which a new possession affords. Unless they are misinformed as to the benefit of closer union with other parts of the world, the policy of closer union within the Empire must be worth trying."

The pretence that Canada is 'insulted' because it is said that 'drift' may result in separation, or because our loyalty is represented as 'based upon commercialism,' is as absurd as the allegation so full of theatrical sympathy for the British workman. What we have before us are the declarations and the actions of the ruling mind in our government. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has publicly avowed his purpose with reference to the relations of Canada to the Empire. He stated in Parliament that the goal at which he aims is separation. He added that he did not wish to bring about this change by war or by bloodshed. His programme looks rather to a severance of the British tie, slowly, and, to cite his own words, 'as the ripe fruit falls from the parent tree.' 'If it is an insult to say that this policy of Sir

Wilfrid Laurier may be successful unless action be taken to thwart it, what sort of treatment does Canada receive from the public man who promulgates the separation scheme, and announces that he is bent on carrying it through? We have the actions as well as the words of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to guide us on this momentous question. Since this gentleman has directed our destinies, he has, according to his own statement, made us 'a nation.' The connection with the Empire has thus, in his opinion, been distinctly impaired. This boast is not without warrant. All the little things that can be done have been done to make the union less certain. Two illustrations suggest themselves at once in this connection. One is that afforded by the creation of a Foreign Office; the other is the navy. Both have been justified from within the party as steps towards separation. Both are in harmony with the 'ripe fruit' policy of which Sir Wilfrid Laurier has spoken.

"Contemporaneously with the assault upon Sir James Whitney for his opposition to the policy of drift, and for his advocacy of closer commercial relations within the Empire, comes the announcement that there are to be reciprocity negotiations with the United States. The bargain is to be small at first. But it is to be gradually enlarged until complete free trade between Canada and the Republic is established. Under this policy a preference with Britain will be impossible at any time, and according to Hon. Edward Blake, separation from the Empire is the condition that is most likely to come from it. It is not without reason, therefore, that Sir James Whitney issues his warning against drift. Do something to strengthen the Empire, and to avert the movements that tend to weaken it, he says, and what he says, although fiercely criticized by separatists, is patriotic and true."

## AN IDEAL DRINK.

According to reports from Great Britain it seems a new drink has at length been discovered, which has all the physical properties of beer except its intoxicating effect. The big brewers are said to be taking up the manufacture of the beverage which should lead to its becoming widely popular, and should bring joy to the hearts of the temperance reformers. Attempts have been made time and again to supply a satisfying substitute for beer, but without success. The latest discovery is reported to meet all requirements. It is said to look and taste like beer, to be as satisfying a drink to those addicted to beer and ale, and yet to be absolutely non-intoxicating.

The United States Consul-General reports concerning it:—"It is brewed from malt and hops only and has no 'preservative' in it. It does not look unlike beer, and the 'taste' is very similar. It is made of precisely the 'same materials as the best English home-brewed ale, but alcohol is almost entirely eliminated, and it is 'stated that there is no chemical admixture of any kind. The amount of alcohol produced by the brewing process in this beverage is given as nine-tenths of one per cent, which is less than the percentage to be found in any of the ginger ales, stone beers and other 'temperance beverages."

"The process by which this beverage is made is 'the invention of a French scientist, certain modifications 'being made by one of the professors of the Paris Pasteur Institute and an English brewer. Two kinds are 'made, ale and stout. The ale, it is claimed, has the 'flavor of light beer, and the stout tastes almost exactly 'like a good quality of London stout."

If the new beverage brings with it no yet undiscovered disadvantages, the meeting of the demand for a pleasing drink equal to beer or ale in taste and thirst-slaking qualities and without its intoxicating or habit-producing power for evil, should not be long in winning favor with the liquor trade and those who now use the more harmful brands of beer.

## CURRENT COMMENT

### (Windsor Record.)

Aside from the fact that personal property taxes cannot be collected fairly, they are an unfair impost and should be abolished. They are in the nature of tribute, seeing that the person levied on gets nothing in return. But is not his personal property protected? says somebody. Yes, but if he pay personal property tax, he pays twice for this benefit—once in taxes and again in rent. This needs no argument. Where personal property is protected, rent is higher than where such property is without protection. The real tax-dodgers are not the persons who escape personal property taxes, but those who pay real estate taxes. The man taxed for his personal property gets nothing back therefore—the latter gets back all he pays and much more.

### (Minneapolis Journal.)

The Omaha Bee, writing up the business of the city and doing the proper and requisite boasting, notes: "Fourteen undertakers, nine monument builders, twenty florists and one casket company are taking care of Omaha's dead. The grim cavalcade of departing souls is ushered to the various resting places in the cemeteries with the ceremony and skill that attends an advancing and improving business."

### (Montreal Star.)

The Anti-Cigarette Act continues to astonish its friends. The total number of cigarettes manufactured in and imported into Canada last year was 469,711,071, as compared with 368,295,769 in the previous year, an increase of over a hundred millions. What might we hope to accomplish by a general Anti-Tobacco Act?

### (Toronto World.)

The Evening Telegram, in its campaign for the promotion of spurious national anthems, is now advocating the performance of "God Save Ireland," which was written by an American during the war, and is well known everywhere under its real name of "Tram, Tram, Tramp, the Boys are Marching!" Next!

### (Toronto Mail and Empire.)

Liberalism must surely be getting tired of the hypocrisy which asks it to be satisfied with grafts that run up into the millions, and to be indignant because some Ontario official has had fifty cents worth of washing done at a public institution.

### (Toronto Mail & Empire.)

George Graham has turned the first sod of the Hudson Bay Railway. But then it must not be forgotten that Sir Wilfrid laid the first stone of the Laurier bridge at Quebec.

### (Ottawa Citizen.)

The Ross rifle made its first appearance in the field in the hands of a Canadian regiment, at the British autumn maneuvers, and even that small test proved too much for it.

### (Hamilton Herald.)

There is at least one thing that can be said in Father Vaughan's favor:—He has not made the familiar plea that he was misreported.

## THE FICKLE SEA

By Richard Stillman Powell.

Who has heard the cod line singing  
O'er the bow?  
Who has hauled the flashing prey  
Across the water?  
Who has felt the wet brine stinging  
On the brow?  
When the boat is all a-stagger  
'neath the gale?  
Who has laid him the sagging of the  
sail?  
While the masthead's nodding  
sleepy to the moon,  
And has shivered till the stars grow  
dim and pale?  
Fill your bumpers! Join the chorus  
of my croon!

Oh, the fickle, fuming, frolic fretting  
sea!  
Oh, the limpid, lapping, laughter lov-  
ing sea!  
We who love her fill our glasses  
To the best of all the lasses,  
And we drink a briny bumper to the  
sea!

Who has laid upon the sloping deck  
a-croon?  
Who has hauled and clewed and  
chanted in the wind?  
Who has watched the mainmast bend-  
ing nigh a-crash,  
While the rival boat's a-dropping  
off behind?  
Who has leaned against the creaking,  
jolting wheel  
Through a moonlit summer night on  
southern sea?  
Who has felt the old sea longing that  
I feel,  
Fill your bumpers, men, and shout  
aloud with me!

Oh, the singing, sighing, salty scented  
sea!  
Oh, the rushing, roaring, ramping rag-  
ing sea!  
On your feet and clash your glasses,  
To the best beloved of lasses—  
Here's a brimming, briny bumper to  
the sea!

## THEN IT HAPPENED



In his haste to get onto the subway  
train, Cornelius Skidmore dashed  
wildly across the platform.  
Not a moment was to be lost. The  
train was already pulling out. Cor-  
nelius would have to leap off the plat-  
form to overtake it.  
"Beware the thoid rail, youse!"  
screamed a guard.  
But Cornelius was deaf to entreaty  
and blind to his peril.  
Now he is also dead to the world.  
(The End.)

## FACTS AND FANCIES

Snapping Him Up.  
He—I have a great mind—  
She—Stop making mountains out  
of molehills.

Love Will Find a Way.  
Ethel (getting basket ready for pic-  
nic)—Lettuce is said to make one  
sleepy.  
Tom—Put in a few heads for the  
chapiron.

Inexperienced.  
Singleton—I cannot understand why  
a man's wife is called his better half.  
Wedmore—You would if you had to  
divide your salary with one.

Had Him There.  
He—It's said that a man's brain is  
bigger than a woman's.  
She—His feet are too, but they are  
no more serviceable than a woman's.

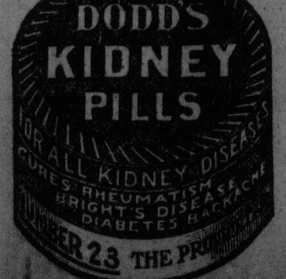
Added Years.  
Young Wife—Tomorrow will be my  
twenty-fifth birthday.  
Hubby—Why, a year ago, just before  
our wedding, you told me you were  
twenty.  
Y. W.—Yes, but we women age rap-  
idly after marriage.

If Studs Could Speak.  
The Collar Stud (from under the  
heaviest dressing table)—Well, by  
Jove I never heard such language  
in all my life, not even when I slipped  
down his back last week! (Bystander.)

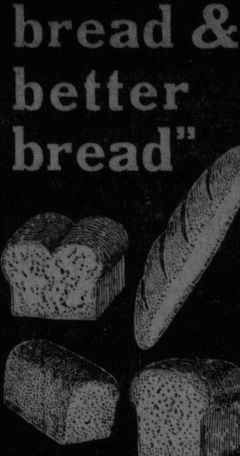
The Orator—I 'arsk yer! Wot is this  
life ve 'old so dear? Soon I'll be  
lying with me forefathers.  
The 'Voice—An' givin' them points  
at the game, too!—Sketch.

Foiled 'Em.  
"I saw in the papers that you have  
been in Switzerland."  
"Yes, I had it put in, but the wea-  
ther was so bad I stayed at home."  
—Journal Amusant.

A Favorite Of Fortune.  
"Say, Edgar, weren't you an ad-  
mirer of the baroness once?"  
"Yes, but I had the good luck to be  
unsuccessful with her."—Fleegende  
Blatter.



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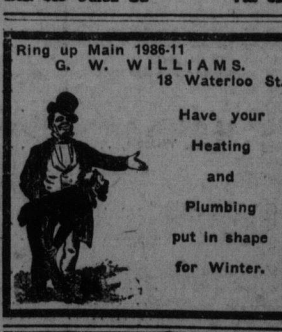
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## ARCHBISHOP OF YORK DIED OF PNEUMONIA

London, Sept. 20.—The Most Rev.  
William Dalrymple MacLagan, late  
archbishop of York, is dead here from  
pneumonia. He was born in Edin-  
burgh in 1826. He served in the  
Indian army in 1846-52, retiring as  
Lieutenant. He was ordained deacon  
in 1856. He held the office of arch-  
bishop of York, 1891 to 1909.

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