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London Wednesday, May, 28.

REV. DR. RYCKMAN, of Ottawa, on Sunday in a sermon strongly disapproved of anyone sneering at the idea of a Christian politician; but Mr. Ed. Meredith, brother of the Tory leader, thinks he makes a strong point when he sneers at Mr. N. Rowell, of London, because he is a local preacher of the Methodist Church and a consistent Christian gentleman.

SINCE Principal Caven publicly declared that Mr. Mowat had practically given the Equal Rights people all that they desired, the Tory organs have begun to turn up their noses at him. One Tory orator in West Elgin, talking before an audience of Presbyterians, boldly charged that the venerable Principal of Knox College was "bought by the Grits."

QUEEN VICTORIA went to Balmoral, her Highland home, this week, and will remain there till the last week in June. The royal train was composed of sixteen saloon cars, altogether 558 feet in length, the Queen's parlor and sleeping saloons being placed in the center of the train, which was preceded as usual by a pilot engine, and was signalled along the entire route. Her Majesty, in her increasing years, finds London festivities increasingly distasteful, and she leaves the entertainment of the upper ten to the Prince and Princess of Wales. It would not surprise us if she abdicated in favor of the heir to the throne one of these days.

MR. EDWARD WILLIAMS, who ran in opposition to Hon. J. M. Gibson in Hamilton in 1883 in this year supporting the Provincial Secretary. Mr. Williams is a prominent trades unionist, and he endorses Hon. Mr. Gibson because since 1883 the Ontario Government has passed a number of measures calculated to improve the condition of the workingman and give legitimate protection to his interests. And Mr. Gibson will be elected, too. His opponent's record is easily stated. He was born with a silver spoon in his mouth and has contented himself with collecting his house and store rents and drawing revenue from the sale of vacant lots rendered valuable by the settlement of workmen in their neighborhood.

MR. JAMES BEATTY, Q.C., of Toronto, known in boondoggling circles as "The Boy," from the title which he gave himself while writing regarding some of his schemes, came out in his true colors at a meeting in favor of the Tory candidate in North Westworth the other night. He undertook the defense of Rykert, speaking of the notorious timber limit trafficker as "poor Mr. Rykert, who makes a slip, as many men will do." No doubt Mr. Beatty judges Rykert by his associates, but what kind of a man is this Toronto touter, to organize opposition to an able statesman like Oliver Mowat? The man who apologizes for Rykert's flagrant misconduct, because it is the work of a friend, is not a fit person to give advice to any elector.

A BOGUS EQUAL RIGHTER.
MR. DALTON MCCARTHY makes at least \$100 a day when he undertakes any legal work of importance, and he is kept pretty busy, too. At the same time Mr. McCarthy's income appears on the assessment roll of Toronto, where he has his home and law practice, as being \$800. He thus avoids the income tax, which ordinary mortals have to pay. How about "Equal Rights" in a case of this kind? Mr. McCarthy's income, we are informed, is nearer \$30,000 a year than \$800.

UNWARRANTED ATTACK ON THE G. T. R. MANAGEMENT.

The Tory papers are industriously circulating the statement that the Grand Trunk management recently sent a confidential agent to all the station agents on the system, warning them that they "must vote for candidates of the Mowat Government at this election, under the pain of losing their heads." The statement was further made that "the agents were also instructed to notify their subordinates of the order."

London is by no means an unimportant station on the Grand Trunk Railway, but though we have been at pains to make investigation into the allegations in the Tory campaign literature, we have been unable to discover that any such edict was issued here. We are certain that the station agent neither received nor issued an order of that description. The same report comes from other stations on the line. We do not believe that any agent of the Grand Trunk ever told a workman under him that he would "lose his head" if he failed to vote for Liberal or any other candidates. The Grand Trunk managers are not fools, and they know very well that any such

threat would not only be intimidation, punishable by law, but absolutely non-effective.

It is difficult to understand what end the Tory organs can hope to gain by retelling such falsehoods. We have heard it said that the G. T. R. authorities endorse Oliver Mowat. The ground taken is that the Mowat Administration has always treated the railway with fairness and consideration. Is not that a good reason for saying a word in season? Hundreds of employers of labor all over the Province are doing the same thing. They know when Ontario is well off.

THE SECTARIAN CONTROVERSY REVIVED.

In 1871 Geo. Brown had some correspondence with prominent Roman Catholics in relation to their position politically in the Province of Ontario. The controversy respecting separate schools and ecclesiastical corporations had resulted in a serious succession of Roman Catholics from the ranks of the Reform party, but now that these matters of difference were all removed by the new constitution, many of both sides were desirous of reaching an understanding. In response to a paper laid before him by a committee acting on behalf of a meeting of prominent Catholics in all sections of Ontario, Mr. Brown published a letter in which he set forth the relation of Roman Catholics to the Liberal party during the fifteen years preceding Confederation, and particularly with the dominant influence possessed and exercised by French-Canadian members of the Cabinet and their supporters under the old union. In this letter Mr. Brown said:

"Not only were Reformers refused that which had been promised for years, but principles and measures were urged or directed to the views and feelings of the Reformers of Upper Canada. A large section of the Liberal party became alarmed, and remonstrated; but without effect. Indignation and estrangement followed. The French-Canadians felt their power and used it relentlessly; a section of the Upper Canada Reformers went into the opposition, while another section adhered to the Government, and the party became thoroughly disorganized. . . . The French-Canadians turned the divisions among Upper Canadians to their own advantage in every possible way. Unjust and injurious legislation, waste and extravagance in every public department, increased debt and heavier taxation, were the speedy consequences, until the credit of the country was seriously impaired. A remedy had to be applied to this state of things; and it had to be such a remedy as would overthrow the unjust dominance of the Lower Canadians over Upper Canada affairs, and remove from the public arena as far as possible all such questions as excited strife and heartburnings among our own people. That remedy was believed to be found, first in the adoption of population as the basis of parliamentary representation, thereby securing to Upper Canada her just influence in the Legislature; and, second, in the entire separation of Church and State, placing all denominations on a like footing, and leaving each to support its own religious establishments from the funds of its own people. . . . The Reform party entered on an organized agitation for a reformed system of representation, and for the sweeping away from the public arena of all sectarian issues. . . . At the same time the most determined efforts were put forth for the final but just settlement of all vexed questions by which religious sects were arrayed against each other, clerical men dragged as combatants into the political arena, religion brought into contempt, and opportunity presented to our French-Canadian friends to rule us through our own dissensions. The clergy reserve injustice was assailed, the 57 reserves were exposed, the impolicy of separating the youth of our country and studding the land with sectarian schools was strongly enforced, and the waste and impolicy of using the public funds for sectarian uses was firmly maintained and enforced. On all these and many similar questions we were met by the French-Canadian phalanx in hostile array; four whole policy was denounced in language of the strongest character, and the men who upheld it were assailed as the basest of mankind. We on our side were not slow in returning blow for blow, and feelings were excited among the Catholics of Upper Canada that estranged the great bulk of them from our ranks. Our annual motions for reform of representation got a stronger support every session, until hardly a candidate dared present himself for election without pledging himself to go for it. Our anti-sectarian motions were still more successful. The justice of them commended itself to the public mind, and one after another all these vexed questions found their permanent solution and disappeared from parliamentary discussion. AND I CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS FACT, THAT SETTLED THOUGH SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS WERE IN A VERY SATISFACTORY FASHION, THE DAY OF THEIR EXISTENCE AS TOPICS OF DEBATE. NOT IN A SINGLE INSTANCE WAS IT PROPOSED TO RAISE THEIR ASHES FROM THE TOMB, OR MAKE THE MODE OF THEIR SETTLEMENT AFTER THE EVENT THE SUBJECT OF PARTY WARFARE. Need I remind you how, year after year, the Reform party stuck to their great purpose; and how, at last by a party sacrifice having few parallels in party history, they won for the people of Upper Canada—Protestant and Catholic alike—that great measure of justice embodied in the act of 1867. UNDER THAT ACT THE PEOPLE OF ONTARIO ENJOY REPRESENTATION ACCORDING TO POPULATION; THEY HAVE ENTIRE CONTROL OVER THEIR OWN LOCAL AFFAIRS; AND THE LAST REMNANT OF THE SECTARIAN WARFARE—THE SEPARATE SCHOOL QUESTION—WAS SETTLED FOREVER BY A COMPROMISE THAT WAS ACCEPTED AS FINAL BY ALL PARTIES CONCERNED. . . . We have obtained our just share in the administration of the affairs of the Dominion; we have obtained exclusive control over our Provincial affairs; we have banished sectarian discord from our legislative and executive chambers; and we enjoy a degree of material prosperity, and have a degree

of consideration for the religious views and feelings of each other, than any living man ever witnessed in Canada until now. . . . I am not assuming to advise Catholic Reformers as to the course they should pursue in public affairs. That is for them alone to judge and decide. Neither am I seeking to cloak over past feuds or apologize for past occurrences. The principles and measures my party contended for in the past I contend for still. I glory in the justice and soundness of these principles and measures. I am proud of the men who stand long and bitter discouragement stuck to the good cause until they carried it to victory and I point with glad thankfulness to the banishment of religious jealousy and discord that so long rent our country, and to the peace and prosperity that now reign among us, as the undeniable fruits of the twenty years' conflict of the great Reform party of Upper Canada."

There are men in the present campaign, mostly Tories, but in a few Reformers, who have little knowledge of politics or the political history of our country—who are fond of saying that were George Brown alive to-day he would be found by the crusaders with the anti-French-anti-Catholic question. Mr. Brown was never a more faithful Protestant than Mr. Mowat, and whoever reads the foregoing extracts from a letter published by him four years after Confederation will see that he was perfectly satisfied with the settlement of the school question and was glad that it had been finally settled to the common satisfaction of all parties. And that this continued to be the sentiment of Mr. Brown is further shown by the following extract from the volume of his life by Hon. Alexander MacKenzie:

"The removal of matters relating to education from the domain of political discussion, and the limitation of the powers of governments to maintain the systems of education as they existed at the time of the union, so far as sectarian schools were concerned, WAS PECULIARLY WELCOME TO MR. BROWN, who had at one time incurred some odium in one quarter for the strong ground he had always taken in favor of a non-sectarian system. This was one of the questions he was bound to deal with and settle when he formed his Government in 1853. It was one of the difficult points he had to deal with in the Confederation compact. The settlement might not be exactly all that he desired, or that his opponents on the education question demanded, but it WAS LOYALLY ACCEPTED BY ALL AT THE TIME AS A FAIR COMPROMISE."

We feel certain that there is not a member of the Reform party who had a share in the long struggle which ended in the compromise embodied in the Confederation Act who favors a reopening of that question, with all the dissensions which it would necessarily engender. Hon. Samuel Blake stated the whole matter in his great speech in the city of Toronto the other evening, when he said:

I am as much opposed to separate schools as a man can be opposed to anything he does not believe to be in the real interest of the community. But, gentlemen, it is many a year since I have seen a man so very anxious to interfere with the rights of a very large and strong Protestant body as to say that we should overlook the fact that to-day there are educated in our Province of Ontario 50,000 Roman Catholic children, side by side with Protestant boys and girls, while there are only about 3,000 in their separate schools. (Applause.) If in our city of Toronto we were by sword compelled to give up these separate schools, it would not withdraw a single Roman Catholic child from that separate tuition, because they would support with the large majority of the people of this city, and in the schools in their own way, and would educate their own children there. (Hear, hear!) 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