

# A \$100,000,000 TRUST THAT THE LAW CANNOT TOUCH

British Public Beginning to Grow Uneasy Over the Vast Secret Funds of the Queer Old "City Companies" Which Spend Half a Million a Year on Banquets Alone.

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London, Oct. 1.—Arthur Balfour, philosopher and former Premier of England, now may boast the honor of being a "freeman of the Worshipful Company of Playing Card Makers," while Joseph Chamberlain, Sir Robert Ball and Lord Cromer may claim to be "Worshipful Spectacle Makers."

That may seem a bit odd, and yet in England membership of the great London livery companies is much prized by statesmen, poets, authors, scientists and other "spirited" to fame. In fact, the "Worshipful Companies" of London are among the most remarkable institutions of modern times.



SITTING OF THE COURT OF THE CUTLERS' COMPANY.  
Apprentices Must Submit Specimens of Their Work to the Officers of the Court—Above Shows a Full Sitting of the Court in the Cutlers' Hall.

ern times. Wielding enormous powers, possessed of "vast funds" amounting to more than \$100,000,000—which they administer "in secret" and without the least public accounting or control—the London livery companies are in a position of power that the Standard Oil Trust might envy.

While statements and other view with each other for "honors" from the closed corporations known as the "city companies" there is, on the other hand, a clamorous section of the public that is demanding that these great companies should no longer be allowed to administer in secret funds which they rightly belong to the people at large. But so far, very little impression has been made by such bodies as the London Reform Union and other "citizens' rights" advocates for any simple reason that the companies look upon their privileges as so ancient that they are beyond present-day law. Only a special act of Parliament can force them even to keep public accounts, and they are able to prevent, through their enormous influence, any such measure of reform.

Meanwhile, the city companies go on as of old, spending every year of less than \$500,000 for "banquets" and "feasts," while another half million dollars is devoted to salaries for various "officers" and sinecures. Though controlling funds which bring them an income of not less than \$500,000 a year, the companies are not allowed to do anything but the business of their own guilds, exercise every wide influence in their own spheres. For instance, all druggists in England must obtain their licenses from the Apothecaries' Company; the Goldsmiths' Company does the "marking" of all gold and silver in the British Empire; and the Fishmongers' Company has power to condemn any fish brought to the London market. The Gunmakers' Company tests and registers all gun barrels; the Stationers' Company attends to copyright registration; companies of plumbers, turners, hammers and others exercise similar, though less important, functions.

Today is that of the Mercers, but they are not the oldest. The Weavers are said to have been incorporated in 1164; while the "Worshipful Peppercorns" claim to have come into existence in 1180. The Mercers have a total income of \$433,000 a year, while other great companies also control enormous sums.

City Companies are derived mainly from property in houses and lands, mostly situated in the best portions of London. Acquiring these sites hundreds of years ago, the value has increased by leaps and bounds. For instance, some of the property adjoining that on which the Goldsmiths' Hall stands, near the London General Post Office, recently was sold at the enormous price of \$12,500,000 in acre.

In addition to the valuable site owned by the Goldsmiths' Company, each of the twenty-four principal companies—there are seventy-four in all—owns land in the very heart of the City of London proper—that is, the square mile of land surrounding the Bank of England. This is the most valuable building land on earth. It is a singular fact that though this property is of such great worth, it originally came to the City Companies practically nothing.

For instance, some of the companies, by simply complying with certain antique matters of form, today get the rents and profits of a number of acres of immensely valuable property. Each year there appears before the lord chief justice a representative of the Mercers' Company, who, in the name of the King's "Remembrancer," do certain "services." Thus, for instance, the lord chief justice is required to do certain "services" for the company, which owns land just back of the Bank street. In early times, this was a large swamp or "moor." The Mercers' Guild drained it, and each year since

Membership in many of the great City Companies is attended with certain very substantial privileges. Persons claiming the "freedom" of the companies are entitled to pensions out of the charitable funds, while "liverymen" have other honours and perquisites. Each of the companies has a special dress—hence the term "livery." Some of these are green and black, others red and black, and one company boasts a livery of "murrey and plunket," whatever that is.

Certain companies exercise an important influence in the London of today. For instance, the Goldsmiths' Company has charge of the royal mint, and all the British coinage has to undergo what is called "the trial of the pyx." The "pyx" is a great chest of very ancient date into which the royal coins are placed, and silver coins of the realm—a sample of the day's minting, called a "journey." When the box gets full it is opened with great ceremony in the presence of the lord chief justice, the lord mayor, the chancellor and other officials. The coins are rolled into a large bag, and are tested. If the bag does not come up to a certain standard of weight it reflects on the mint officials, and they may be proceeded against. The coinage always has been of proper standard, however.

The Goldsmiths' Company always has had the marking or standardizing of all gold and silverware, and hence has arisen the term "marked," owing to the fact that this ceremony takes place at the Goldsmiths' Hall, which, by the way, is an old blacksmith's shop.

Another company exercising a national function are the stationers, who control Stationers' Hall, which looks after England's printing industry. Stationers' Hall is a building of great interest, and for the benefit of its liverymen.

Nearly all the big companies have their own halls. Many of these places are of very costly design, and most of them are very old. The Goldsmiths' Company, for instance, has a hall which is a masterpiece of architecture. In many of the museums there are priceless heirlooms and treasures. One company has a cup presented by Henry VIII. This is a huge tankard with bells attached to its sides. Each person who drank out of it was supposed to empty its contents in such a way that the bells were made to ring.

At the Guildhall banquet given each year by the lord mayor at a cost of \$20,000 a loving cup is passed round. This great tankard requires two guests to handle it. While one drinks the other must hold it. This must be done with both hands. The reason for this observance was that in olden times guests had a playful little way of stabbing their hosts while drinking, and in order to prevent this hands had to be "above board" when the loving cup was used. Each year an immense amount of amusement is caused at the great state banquet given on this ancient cup. When Lord Salisbury was premier he absent-mindedly let the lid of the cup fall while Lady Salisbury was drinking.

Some of the companies still perpetuate many curious customs, dating back into the past. For instance, every year the Clothworkers send four and a half yards of their "Best Black Cloth," to the lord chancellor, the lord chief justice and the lord mayor—a sort of civic Solomon—who decreed that every other year one of the contending companies should invite the other to a big dinner, and so even today it is a toss-up as to which company is sixth and which is seventh, and hence the old phrase, "a matter of sixes and sevens."

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## MAINE ALARMED AT SMALLPOX

Travellers from New Brunswick Must Have Clean Bill of Health.

### MUST BE INSPECTED

Those from Infected Part of Province Must Be Successfully Vaccinated and Not Exposed to Infection—Travellers by Rail and Steamer to Satisfy Inspector.

Augusta, Me., Oct. 30.—At the request of the state board of health the governor and council have approved the rules and regulations relating to the smallpox in New Brunswick.

The rules and regulations provide that until further notice no person shall come from the province of New Brunswick into any city, town, plantation, township, lumber camp or other place in the state of Maine unless he can prove to the satisfaction of the board of health of the place to which he comes, or to an inspector of the state board of health, that he has been successfully vaccinated and has not been exposed to the infection of smallpox.

This order shall not apply to travellers by steamboat lines to Maine, or to travellers by railway, who are able to show to the satisfaction of an inspector of the state board of health that they have come from counties or parts of New Brunswick which are free from smallpox.

## ST. GEORGE LIBERALS TENDER RECEPTION TO W. F. TODD, M. P.

About Five Hundred Present; Stirring Speeches by Member-elect, Senator Gillmor and Others.

St. George, N.B., Oct. 31.—The Liberals of St. George tendered a reception to Wm. F. Todd, M.P., and Mrs. Todd on Friday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Todd arrived from St. Stephen on the afternoon train. At eight o'clock, a committee, headed by E. A. Gearson, president of the Emmerson Liberal Club, James O'Brien, ex-M.P.P., Lewis Connors, of Seniors Bros., Black Harbor, and others escorted the member-elect and Mrs. Todd, Senator and Mrs. Gillmor, from the Senator's home to Colborne's hall, where nearly 500 stalwart Liberals, their wives and daughters awaited them.

The arrival of the leaders of Liberalism in this county was the signal for an outburst of enthusiasm that well testified the feelings of those present in having with them an M.P. and a senator of their own.

The ladies had decorated the hall. A large picture of the great Liberal chief, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, hung in the centre of the stage, and the busts in graceful folds were draped around, and tables groined with good things, tastefully adorned with flowers, filled the main floor. The banquet that followed reflected great credit on the ladies—it was a Liberal banquet, everything good and genial, and it was in great form.

The member-elect from Charlotte, gave a speech abounding with facts, pleasing to the hosts of Liberals. He was modest in his victory, unlike his opponent in the late contest, he said he did not "own Charlotte," but that Charlotte owned him. That her interests were his, that his efforts would ever be for her advancement. His speech stamped him an orator of no mean ability, and it is believed Mr. Todd will be very much strengthened in the house by his presence.

Dr. C. C. Alexander presided gracefully and carried the programme through to the entire satisfaction of all present.

Mrs. Todd, Besiege O'Brien, Messrs. Marsh, Wetmore and O'Neil made much to the enjoyment of the evening.

It was long past midnight when the gathering dispersed, and everyone went home happy and with a feeling that the choice of a representative at Ottawa was a wise one.

## BEST AND CHEAPEST APPLES IN YEARS IN ANNAPOLIS VALLEY

Torbrook, N.S., Oct. 30.—Corrected returns from Annapolis county give the Libby's orchard, S. W. W. Pickup, 134 bushels of apples, and Geo. E. Corbett, his Conservative opponent.

A large summer hotel for the accommodation of American tourists is to be built at Deep Brook, near Digby.

Thirteen moose have been shot in the valley since the season opened.

Rain is very badly needed in the Valley. A large percentage of the wells have gone dry and people, in some places, are obliged to haul water long distances.

Annapolis Royal the electric lighting system is in a bad way for lack of water to turn the power. The drought all through the county is without precedent.

There seems to be a superabundance of crabs in the Valley. A few days ago a carload of beautiful No. 14 were turned into the cider mill at Paradox at the rate of fifty cents a barrel. Borden's are light, as are Ribbons. Borden's are medium and so are the full. The quality of the fruit is the best in years, but prices are low and the markets dull.

## RUNS 4,500 ACRE FARM WITH STEAM ENGINES

Kansas Startles Neighbors by Installing Modern Machines to Do His Work.

While Cheyenne county (Kan.), has been making some revolutions in the matter of farming with gasoline motors, Meade county has just topped off the demonstration by seeing wheat hauled to market in wagon trains drawn by a steam engine. In two trips, J. C. E. McCauley, the county's most extensive farmer, cattle and hog raiser, brought more than a full carload of wheat to market from his big farm of twenty-eight sections, where he has 1,100 acres in the cereal. More than that, he turned around at the station here and hauled a car of coal home on the return trip. The feat brought grain men and spectators from a considerable distance, but McCauley didn't believe he had done anything unusual.

The motive power for this trip was a twenty-horse power steam farm engine, and his idea is that they are not out of every effort to get it moved as quickly as possible. The engine, which makes frequent trips and big loads possible, helped materially in this respect, and he saved the cost of building bins, no slight expense for a 1,100 acre wheat farm.

For the big double wagon trainload, McCauley got 85 cents a bushel in Fowlston.

McCauley is a believer in innovations, and his idea is that they are not out of place on the farm. Just before he demonstrated that he could haul wheat to market with his steam engine over the Western Kansas roads, he built a complete sawmill on his farm to utilize a big patch of cottonwood lumber growing along a stream which bisects his seven sections farm. One of the big engines furnished the power, and the cattle, hog and wheat raiser added lumbering to his industries. He has turned out enough for the lumbering of two big houses, several stables and several miles of fence, for which the cottonwood is particularly available.

Those who know the lumber will remember that its crooked grain gives it a decided tendency to warp, which no amount of nailing will prevent. It does not matter in a fence, but it is different in a house.

McCauley gave his neighbors another start, when he harvested his 1,100 acres of wheat. He owns three complete threshing outfits, had four header gangs busy for harvest, and as soon as that was over prepared his ground for another crop with two big steam ploughs. His third engine was doing the last of the threshing while the others ploughed.

McCauley has solved the problem of doing away with the horse and too many hired men most thoroughly. He owns gang ploughs, double listers, and ploughs, wheat drills, corn binders, corn planters, harrows, &c., all rigged up for use behind the engines.

More than that he waters his farm by means of three big windmills. When the wind fails he has three gasoline motors to fall back on. Crops never fail. When wheat is poor, cattle and hogs are good, and vice versa.

But then one ought to prosper on 4,500 acres.

H. M. HOPPER IS AFTER GLEANER AND EDITOR CROCKET

Proceeds in Two Actions for Libel as Result of Statements in Reference to Queens-Sunbury Election.

H. M. Hopper, secretary-treasurer of the St. John Railway Company, on Friday took preliminary steps in two separate actions for libel which he is bringing against The Gleaner Publishing Company, of Fredericton, and against James H. Crockett, the editor, as a result of statements published in the Gleaner in connection with the election in Queens-Sunbury.

Speaking of the matter last evening, Mr. Hopper said the Gleaner in the recent campaign, referring to the Queens-Sunbury election, had named him and identified him with the position he held with the St. John Railway Company and charged that he had used rum, money and carbon paper in the election. He denied absolutely having used any of these things in connection with the election.

Mr. Hopper added that he had signed two papers yesterday, one in a suit against The Gleaner and the other against Mr. Crockett. The matter was now in the hands of F. R. Taylor, of St. John, and Charles Allen, of Fredericton.

## PRESENTATIONS TO REV. A. M. MCNINTCH

Hillsboro Tributes to His Worth—Now in St. John on His Way to Clark's Harbor.

Rev. A. M. McNinch, late of the First Baptist church, Hillsboro, was in the city Friday, on his way to Clark's Harbor, Shelbourne county (N.S.), where he has accepted a call, and where he will take up the work of the pastorate on the second Sunday in November. Rev. Mr. McNinch was pastor of the church in Clark's Harbor for eight years before going to Hillsboro.

On Thursday night there was a large meeting of the residents of Hillsboro to present the Rev. Mr. McNinch with a letter of commendation and a testimonial. The Rev. Mr. McNinch was presented by Rev. Mr. McNinch, who presented a letter of commendation and a testimonial. The Rev. Mr. McNinch was presented by Rev. Mr. McNinch, who presented a letter of commendation and a testimonial.

A few days ago Rev. Mr. McNinch received a letter from Hon. C. J. Osman, manager of the Albert Manufacturing Company, paying a warm tribute to his character and work, and enclosing a check for \$25.

## SCHOONER ERIC LOST; CREW SAFE

Storm of Friday Night on New England Coast Too Much for St. John Vessel

### WAS COAL LADEN

Bound from New York to St. Andrews, and Had Put Into Salem for Repairs—N. C. Scott Receives Telegram from Captain, Date Provincetown.

It is believed here that the schooner Eric, of this port, foundered off the New England coast on Friday night's heavy storm.

N. C. Scott, North End, owner of the vessel, received a despatch from Captain Henderson on Saturday night, dated at Provincetown, Mass., as follows: "Eric bound from New York to St. Andrews, and had put into Salem for repairs—N. C. Scott Receives Telegram from Captain, Date Provincetown."

To a Telegraph reporter who saw him last night, Mr. Scott said that the despatch was all the information that he had. The Eric, he said, was bound from New York for St. Andrews with coal. She left the former port about six weeks ago, but when off Cape Cod she lost an anchor and damaged some of her rigging and put into Salem for repairs. She had been there for three weeks and had sailed for St. Andrews three days ago.

Mr. Scott said that, judging from the time she had sailed from Salem, he would suppose that she had met with disaster near Portland (Me.), probably foundering. He felt that had the schooner not foundered, the captain would have stayed by her.

The Eric was built at this port in 1880, and registered 135 tons gross. She had two masts; her length was 95 feet; breadth, 26 feet 8 inches; depth 7 feet 5 inches.

The following is taken from Saturday's Boston Journal and probably referred to the schooner Eric:—

A two-masted schooner with her fore and mainmast blown away was seen by life-savers of the Naugatuck station while the storm was at its height Friday morning, but when the weather had cleared this afternoon the vessel had disappeared. It is believed that her crew abandoned her and found safety on board a fishing schooner, which was standing aloof."

## VESSEL WRECKED OFF HALIFAX HARBOR

Schr. M. Finlayson, With Load of Fish, a Total Loss—Crew of Twelve Had Narrow Escape.

Halifax, N. S., Oct. 30.—The crew of twelve men on the schooner M. Finlayson, which was high and dry on the Nova Scotia coast this morning had a very close call for their lives. The schooner itself will be a total loss.

The coast was visited by a heavy southerly gale with terrific rain and the weather was very thick. The Finlayson was bound from St. Peter's, C. B., for Halifax, with a cargo of 500 barrels of salt mackerel and a large quantity of dry fish.

One and a half miles east of Devil's Island, off Halifax harbor, the schooner, which was too far in shore, struck the breakers and was dashed upon the rocks. The sea broke over the vessel sweeping her decks fore and aft. Men working on a breakwater at Cow Bay saw the perilous situation of the men and assisted in getting a line to the shore. On this the crew made their way to the land leaving everything behind and glad to escape with their lives.

The captain was struck by the wheel when the vessel struck and was seriously hurt.

## STONE CARRIERS OF INDIA Laborers of Powerful Physique With Whom Machinery Cannot Compete.

Recently an interesting work impounding scheme has been carried to successful completion in southern India at the Mari-Kanare gorge upon the Vedatru River in Mysore State.

When constructional work was in full swing more than 5,000 natives were employed and the undertaking afforded a novel and interesting example of the cheapness of manual labor as compared with the mechanical appliances.

In India there exists a class of laborers generally described as "nowgummies," or professional stone carriers, who, owing to their capacity for hard work, are in great demand for such enterprises as this. They are of powerful physique and possess considerable stamina. They will work for ten hours a day and transport from 70 to 150 pounds of stone a man. They form gangs according to the character of the work in hand, ranking from one cent a day to sixteen cents a unit.

Although such transportation seems somewhat slow in comparison with the possibilities of handling plants, yet they prosecute their task very energetically and the scale of pay, ranging from ten to sixteen cents a day, is so low in comparison with the cost of mechanical transport. Indeed, a complete installation of the latter was laid down, the cable being stretched across the gorge over the site, bringing the stone direct from the quarries on the hillsides to the abandoned owing to its being far more expensive than the "nowgummy" labor.

These men carried the masonry from the end of the railroad track connecting the site of the barrage with the quarries to its destination and placed it in position.

Saturday marked the end of the B. K. Y. C. season. Commodore Robert Thomson went to Millville and the flag over the club house was lowered, and a gun fired, marking the official end of the yachting year.

## STIFF SENTENCE FOR MONTREAL DOCTOR

Montreal, Oct. 30. (Special).—Dr. J. G. Goffin was arrested some time ago in connection with the Goffin club in the east end of the city and was charged with practicing medicine without a license. He was sentenced to fifteen years.