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**W. E. BLAKE**  
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## THE "RAMBLER" AGAIN

His Interesting Reminiscences of North Wellington

In my last I referred to that place bearing the name of "Smoke Hollow," to the fine section of an agricultural country surrounding it, and to the men who by their labors, and their experience, have brought it to the most advanced stage of production. Associated with Smoke Hollow are many interesting incidents which, whilst they afford some amusement, cannot in all cases fail to produce pain. Away back in the fifties as the birthday of a sovereign—Queen Victoria—whose virtues have placed the throne of Britain upon a loftier plane, was about making its annual visit to the county of which Smoke Hollow was the centre, and as all the population both male and female, were loyal to the extent that it not infrequently burst out the finger ends, it was proposed that a demonstration of physical and of military strength be held in a broad field adjoining. The proposition was so popular that it was jumped at as readily as a fish ever jumped at a fly, and accordingly the people of all ages, of all sexes and of all conditions, were attracted to that broad field on the memorable twenty-fourth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand and fifty. The men, always the fighting element, were to have a good sound military training on that day, as far as the mysteries of the kindergarten curriculum could go, and they were to receive the word of command and the lesson of instruction, from men bearing military titles who had never smelt burnt gunpowder on the tented field. The men were arranged in "squads," and at the word of command they marched, and they counter-marched under a broiling sun, and they marched again, not alone over the field, but over each others' loyal toes. But marching and counter-marching were not the only important things which they were instructed to do on this memorable day. In majestic tones and in stentorian thunder they were commanded to "stand at ease," to wheel to the "right," to the "left," backward, "forward," all of which they executed with a neatness and a precision worthy of the very best graduates of the very best military school in the very best country in the world. As the day advanced and as the May sun with increasing force warmed up to the sweating point Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, stones flew through the air, proclaiming that loyalty should be the undisputed heritage of one class of people only in that section of Her Majesty's dominions, named Arthur. Messengers commenced to fly around the field, and to fly through the air, in the midst of which a gentleman seemingly clothed with the authority of an ambassador, approached Mr. Patrick Kelly, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, and addressed him as follows: "Mr. Kelly, you are a Magistrate. Why don't you stop 'the rioting'?" As the ambassador had concluded adding stone of no ordinary size was stepped in its course as it struck the magisterial shoulders of Patrick Kelly. This was a state of affairs which set that excellent man thinking, but he did not think very long when he thundered forth the decree: "Well, then, be Kripes, if this is the way ye want it, let everyone peg away now just as he likes." The pegging commenced in real earnest, the Arthur Justice of the Peace carrying around justice in his hands and distributing it generously without fear, favor or affection. The hot skirmish was not of a protracted duration, however, and it came to a close through the withdrawal of a number of red-hot loyalists, all vowing that Smoke Hollow was so degenerate a place and inhabited by so degenerate a people, that no self-respecting man should be seen there at all.

It is pleasant to have an opportunity of recording the fact that whilst within my own memory outrages have been committed by so-called Christians upon one another and personally, for the love of God, that in the present day they are regarded as follies of the past, and that Catholics and Protestants, as they have learned to know and understand each other more fully, desire nothing now more than neighborly peace and Christian harmony. In writing upon such a

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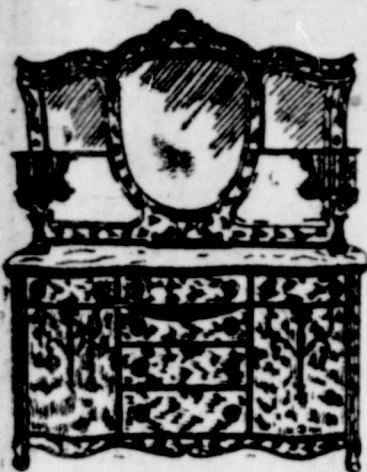
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Sideboard, in quarter-cut oak finish, polished case 42 1/2 inches, bevel plate mirror 36 1/2, two small drawers, long linen drawer, double cupboard. Regular \$24.00, for **18.95**  
Sideboard, in quarter-cut oak, case highly polished, British bevel plate mirror 36 1/2, two small drawers, large double cupboard, and linen drawer. Worth \$28.00, for **32.95**  
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Kitchen Cabinet, white basswood top, bakeboard, flour and meal bins, large drawer, divided, and one towel rack. **4.99**  
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theme I cannot withhold my regret that the "Local Preachers" of a generation now passed contributed not a little in fomenting that sectarian rivalry which has been productive of such evil. Many of them were men extremely illiterate, but all had a few texts of Scripture committed to memory and all of them could tell their audiences that the Pope was the man of sin, that he was anti-Christ, or worse yet, that he was the beast with horns. Happily this class of men have disappeared from the theatre of religious controversy and educated men with higher aims and with broader minds, have taken their place; and the anti-social bitterness which they fomented has, in a great measure, passed away with them.

The "Clare Settlement," to which I have already in one of my letters made a passing allusion, lies east of the "Owen Sound Road." Forty-one years have passed since I first became acquainted with Clare, and with its people, and now taking a retrospect I can sincerely say that the charm of fascination presented to my mind on that occasion accelerated subsequent visits. The Claremen whom I have met here reflected no dishonor on the county which contributed so much towards the emancipation of seven millions of British subjects. Lovers of old Ireland and of Ireland's, whether political or religious they were worthy descendants of the brave Dalcassian race which met and overthrew Ireland's enemies on many a well-fought field centuries ago. It would be unfair for me to say that the Settlement was entitled to the distinctive characteristic of being peopled by Claremen exclusively. No; I have met there a sprinkling of Irishmen from other countries, and it is with pleasure that I readily bear my testimony to the fact that in their patriotism, their Catholicity, or in the possession of those many qualities which go to make man what he should be, they can compare with the very best. Of the families whom I have met with I recall the Quinlivan's, the Shannons, the Sheehys and the Sharrys, Rafits and Reids, McNamaras and Madigans, Kellys, McDillons, Finucanes and others, whose names memory fails to have treasured. Patrick Quinlivan, who was the leader of the Clan, was a man endowed

with many excellent traits of a social character, through which he merited to make friends. In Irish history he was an authority and in the Irish language he had few masters. He disposed of his farm in Arthur several years ago, and moved away to the neighboring Republic. He was subsequently followed by two brothers—Simon and Daniel—and it is with sincere regret that I have recently learned that the three excellent brothers have passed over to the solitude of the grave. Michael, another brother, and the only survivor of a clever family, also disposed of his valuable farm, and moved to Detroit where I met him last summer. Here, in the company of his wife, who is full of life as ever, and surrounded by a clever battalion of daughters, he contemplates spending the evening of his life. One of Mr. Michael Quinlivan's daughters was the wife of my lamented friend, the late Mr. D. J. Mungovan of Orangeville, and here I must make a slight digression.

Many years ago Mr. Mungovan took up his residence in Orangeville, and before the lapse of much time he became the proprietor and publisher of the Dufferin Post, a paper which had already passed many years of existence in the company of his wife, who is full of life as ever, and surrounded by a clever battalion of daughters, he contemplates spending the evening of his life. One of Mr. Michael Quinlivan's daughters was the wife of my lamented friend, the late Mr. D. J. Mungovan of Orangeville, and here I must make a slight digression.

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pered by his clever, faithful wife, who transferred his thoughts to paper and sent them abroad in typographical characters through the Dufferin Post. It is needless to say that those articles sustained the vigorous tone which has won for that paper so wide a circulation.

Amongst the old friends whom I had the pleasure of meeting in this step, he has sold his farm, and a son to Mrs. Mary Anne O'Shaughnessy, the "Queen of Arthur," has become the purchaser. Most of the excellent family raised by Mr. O'Hara are scattered abroad, but they all fill positions of honor, of trust, and of responsibility. Thomas holds the office of Bridge Inspector for the C.P.R. with headquarters at London, whilst Frank fills a similar position for the same railway corporation with office at Ottawa. I meet Frank very frequently at the Dominion capital and from all I can gather, I feel safe in predicting his rise.

One of those calamities inseparable from political life and custom in Canada fell with terrific force on the whole of North Wellington on the occasion of my last visit, being nothing more nor nothing less than a parliamentary bye-election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Thomas Martin, one of the most popular men who has ever elbowed his way into the Canadian House of Commons. Before making my appearance in the Township of Arthur, however, I had singled out the fittest man to shout for, if I shouted at all, and this was Mr. A. M. Martin, the brother of the deceased member. Mr. Martin, the Liberal candidate, was certainly supported by the biggest crowd, and when the ballots were counted on the evening of election day, it was found that by several hundreds they were the biggest crowd also. Amongst those who contributed materially in swelling the majority of Mr. Martin, prominence must be given to that old veteran war-horse, Senator McMullen, who in many a stiff fight dragged out of hands notoriously incompetent the representation of North Wellington in the Dominion House of Commons.

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AND

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