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ANECDOTES OF GREENWAY

Mr. Greenway was the most tantalizing listener that ever was. A person might convey to him the most startling intelligence without being able to tell by the composed way in which he stroked his beard and rubbed the watch pocket of his waistcoat whether he was pleased or boiling with indignation. If it were a newspaper reporter, the interviewer would be surprised to find at the end of his dramatic recital that Mr. Greenway had pumped him dry, and had not uttered one word that indicated his views. As a rule, about the best the interviewer could do was to get a general impersonal affirmation or denial or a non-committal sentence, and he had to be content with that.

Only once did he give an interview on a political question in Toronto. He was then no longer premier, and the reasons for speaking were urgent. He had known the interviewer for many years, and he wanted to say something, but he feared the consequences. "Look here," he said, "It is very easy to give you an interview, but look at the consequences. For twenty years I have been coming to Toronto and by carefully building up a reputation for never giving an interview on anything else than the weather and the crops I can now come and go in peace. The newspaper men are all friendly, and cannot complain because they are all treated alike. But if I give you an interview I will have to begin all over again to get back again to where I am now."

Beneath that somewhat cold exterior there was a real supply of gentle and humor. One St. Patrick's Day before Mr. Speaker entered, Mr. Greenway came into the house wearing a huge bunch of shamrocks. "Here," said one of the members. "This will not go. The other day you presided at the Cornishmen's banquet, and now you are trying to palm yourself off as an Irishman." "I belong to all nations," said the premier blandly, as he passed along to talk to one of the Icelandic members.

Everybody knows of his habit of sitting in the house with his eyes half shut and twirling his thumbs in front of the expansive waistcoat. Strangers thought he was half asleep. It was just one of his ways of securing himself from interruption and extra effort while he watched how things went in the house. To those who watched him closely, as the reporters in the gallery had ample opportunity of doing, the thumbs were indicators. When everything was progressing smoothly the thumbs traveled slowly round and round upward and forward. Some opposition member made an interruption. The right thumb paused in mid air, so to speak, alert, straining to catch the next word. Mr. Speaker answered the interruption. The thumbs traveled backward and downward smoothly and sedately as before. It was at such a time that Mr. Greenway turned the laugh on the then leader of the opposition. They were discussing a grant to a coal railway, and the opposition leader claimed the grant was largely wasted because the coal was no good. The minister under fire replied that the coal was first class, and was even then burning in the furnace beneath the legislative chamber.

"Ah, that accounts for it being so cold here," retorted the opposition leader. "Are you cold?" asked the premier raising up with every appearance of seriousness. "I should say it is unpleasantly cold here." "Oh, well," returned the premier kindly, "that is characteristic of that side of the House."

Upon the occasion of one of Mr. Greenway's birthdays, a newspaper man prepared a biographical sketch of him. The next day he ventured to

ask the subject what he thought of it. "Very good, very good," said Mr. Greenway, "but you made one bad mistake."

"What was that?" "You said I had twelve children."

"Well, is not that correct?" "No. I have thirteen."

SCOTCHMEN BUY WHEAT

Deputation from Co-Operative Society Visit Western Canada and Make Arrangements for Elevators—Will Buy Canadian Wheat.

A deputation of the Scottish Co-Operative Wholesale society, paid a visit to the Canadian west this summer. In company with their local representative, Mr. Geo. Fisher, they made a trip over the Grand Trunk Pacific railway with a view of looking over elevator sites. It now transpires that on their return to Winnipeg and before leaving for Great Britain, contracts were let for the immediate construction of six elevators along that line within the boundaries of the province of Manitoba, the idea being to erect others further west in the future, possibly next year.

The deputation expressed themselves as much pleased with the country through which they passed, and quite sanguine as to the future of the west. They were also delighted with the new Winnipeg grain exchange, in which the offices of the company for the Canadian west are located. During their stay, these gentlemen met a large number of Winnipeg business men and exchanged ideas as to the trade.

Shuffle in Government

The Toronto World is responsible for the following:

"The vacancy on the railway commission has given the government an opportunity to get rid of a difficult situation. It is admitted that Hon. Frank Oliver has been a weakness to the government as Minister of the Interior. He will be offered an appointment to the railway commission and the Hon. premier Scott, premier of Saskatchewan, will be made Minister of the Interior if Mr. Oliver accepts."

At the general elections Premier Scott proved his strength. His province returned eight Liberals and but one Conservative, while Mr. Oliver in Alberta, could only return four Liberals, three going to the opposition. Mr. Scott would have swept his province, but the government itself admits that it was impossible to defeat R. S. Lake in Qu'Appelle. Mr. Oliver it is believed, would well represent the farming interests of the west, which were intended to be looked after by Mr. Greenway.

"The government looks upon Mr. Scott as the strongest man in the west, and he would have been appointed Minister of the Interior when Clifford Sifton resigned, had it not been that the government could not risk defeat in West Assiniboia, therefore the portfolio was given to Mr. Oliver, who had an absolutely safe seat in Edmonton."

"Mr. Oliver's manner in the house has not tended to disarm criticism, and he has constantly laid himself and his department open to attack, when the exercise of a little diplomacy might have saved the situation. He lost much prestige by his refusal to produce original documents last session, a stand which the government for a time supported, but finally receded from."

The prodigal son wrote his father: "I got religion at camp meeting the other day. Send me ten dollars." But the old man replied: "Religion is free. You got the wrong kind." Atlanta Constitution.

COMIC AND SERIOUS

Passenger: "Say, is this the fastest you go?" Conductor: "Yes, if you don't like it, get out and walk."

Passenger: "Oh, I ain't in such a hurry as all that."—Exchange.

HE WAS SAFE

She—I always feel perfectly safe when you are driving the car. Dr. Smash—I'm glad of that. But why have you such confidence in my driving?

She—I guess it's because you're a doctor.

ONE OF TWO REASONS

"Do women kiss their husbands because they love them?" queried the young person.

"Either that or because they have designs upon their pocket books," replied the man with the missing hair, who had been evidently up against the game—Detroit Tribune.

IN THE FUTURE

"Don't be foolish about it," exclaimed the young bride; "he's merely an old flame of mine."

"Indeed!" cried her aged but very wealthy husband, "I suppose you dream of his tender advances yet."

"No," she replied with a far-away look, "not yet."—Catholic Standard and Times.

MASCULINE TRIALS

Harry is six years old. "Pa," he asked one day, "if I get married will I have a wife like ma?"

"Very likely," replied his father.

"And if I don't get married will I have to be an old bachelor like Uncle Tom?"

"Very likely."

"Well, pa," he said after a moment deep thought, "it's a mighty tough world for us men, ain't it?"—Success.

Upon moving into a new neighborhood the small boy of the family was cautioned not to fight with his new acquaintances. One day Willie came home with a black eye and very much spattered with dirt.

"Why, Willie," said mamma, "I thought I told you to count a hundred before you fought!"

"I did, mamma," said Willie, "and look what Tommy Smith did while I was counting!"—Ladies Home Journal.

Two men met in front of a hotel one day and fell into a political discussion. They were ordinary everyday sort of men, but one of them had a remarkable flow of polysyllabic language. He talked half an hour and his companion listened in a daze.

"And now," the speaker pompously continued, "perhaps you will coincide with me?"

The other's face brightened up. "Why, yes, thanks, old man," he answered heartily, moving towards the bar-room door. "Don't care if I do."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Anecdote—"Now then young man, where's your lamp," inquired a policeman, as he stopped a young cyclist one night. "Where it ought to be," replied the cyclist. "None of your impudence, I mean it ain't a light—you know what I mean!" "Oh, I understand!" Well it was a light a minute ago; it must have just gone out as you stopped me." "I've heard that yarn before," replied the officer as he took off his glove and placed his hand on the lamp, then he commenced a kind of war dance and whoop. "Why couldn't you say it was hot," he exclaimed. "This will cost you something, I'll make it hot for you!"

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