

The Echo

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THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

Although the Province is to be congratulated in a general way upon the result of the elections it is needless to say we are greatly disappointed at the outcome in Montreal Centre and in St. Mary's. It is hard to understand why, in the former constituency especially, such a small vote should have been cast for the labor candidate, and we are unable to account for it unless on the supposition that a very large number of workingmen who promised their votes refrained from going near the polls, and that a very large number also deliberately went back upon their pledged word and secretly "knifed" the man whom they outwardly sympathized with and supported. However it was, the result is a standing disgrace to the workingmen of both divisions, and anything but encouraging to men who have devoted the best years of their life to the interests of labor. The result also shows too plainly that the average workingman is swayed by other considerations than that of principle. It was clearly shown by the vote in one part of the division that the false race cry raised by His Worship the Mayor, and taken up by the friends of the other candidate and used for all it was worth, was not without effect. The raising of this ghost of a dead issue was contemptible, to say the least. It was a paltry exhibition of intolerance, bred of ignorance, and there is only room for surprise that men who are supposed to be intelligent could be led away from the consideration of their true interests by such a flimsy subterfuge. In point of capability, intelligence and honesty of purpose the odds were greatly in favor of Mr. Boudreau, yet the workingmen of Montreal Centre deliberately overlooked his qualifications and returned a man whose highest ambition is to do as he is directed by his superiors in consideration of favors to himself and family. We have no doubt the general body of electors will, when repentance is too late, begin to see the rashness and folly they have been guilty of. Even now, when the fight is just over and people are not blinded by the smoke of political fireworks, the more sober-minded are beginning to contrast their member elect with the other two English-speaking representatives of the city, Messrs. Hall and Morris, and the sharp contrast makes a cold shiver run down the back. McShane, with all his faults, made a much better representative than Kennedy can ever hope to be, and the electors will not be long in finding out that in

discarding the "People's Jimmy" for the "People's Pat" they have made a huge mistake. While organized labor ought to have been equally opposed to both, we recognize that it was not so, or there would have been a different tale to tell. No inconsiderable number of labor's most earnest friends are, mistakenly we think, opposed to any political action, and would rather unite forces in the endeavor to kill an unpopular candidate than run one of their own, and the question to be considered in the future is, which is the wisest course to pursue? In the contest just over both candidates to all appearance were decidedly unpopular,—the one because of his many times broken promises to the representatives of labor and the other because of his utter incapacity to understand or intelligibly interpret the wishes and aspirations of workingmen: yet when the opportunity was given the electorate they failed to take advantage of it. None are to blame but the workingmen themselves, and they must stand by the consequences.

Another cause of Mr. Boudreau's poor showing at the polls (and it is humiliating to have to acknowledge that it was considered so much of a necessity) was the lack of funds to carry on the campaign effectively. After the deposit had been paid, committee rooms rented, etc., there was absolutely nothing left for other legitimate expenses, and although his friends were numerous and faithful it was found that a proper organization could not be kept up without money, more especially in the face of the fact that the other two candidates were spending money freely, the successful one being backed up by large subscriptions from manufacturers and capitalists, who, at the same time, were not slow to bring a certain kind of persuasion into force. In the face of many difficulties and much opposition it is not surprising that Mr. Boudreau was defeated, but it is surprising, and not at all creditable to the workingmen of the division, that the count was so small.

In St. Mary's Division the circumstances were somewhat different. Mr. Beland, whose services in the Assembly on behalf of the working classes ought to have secured him his re-election, was not (while we believe as much opposed to boodling as any one could be) sufficiently clear in his denunciation of Mercierism. His opponent, although in every respect the inferior of Mr. Beland as a representative of the working classes, carried with him the support of a great many whose inherent honesty revolted against the exposures which have brought such disgrace upon the province, and this, combined with an excellent organization and unlimited control of money lost the seat to a good, honest and faithful representative. Had Mr. Beland made his position in regard to Mercier clearer, he would undoubtedly have been returned; as it was, he preferred to risk defeat rather than kick a prostrate man.

In the other divisions of the city matters came out as was generally anticipated. In St. Antoine Division Hon. Mr. Hall was returned by a majority of which any man might be proud, and which shows not only the personal regard in which he is held but also the appreciation of the Government of which he is so distinguished a member. There is no room for question as to Mr. Hill's ability and fitness for the position which he holds, and we venture to predict that the finances of the province will be carefully looked after while he retains the portfolio. The election of Mr. Morris as member for St. Lawrence Division is also very popular. We are quite content to see men of Mr. Morris' stamp in the House, whatever politics they profess; men with such a high sense of personal honor cannot become mere party hacks, and we have no doubt, should occasion arise, that Mr. Morris will vindicate his

character for independence and integrity at the expense of party, and we believe he will also give a hearty co-operation and support to any measure introduced for the benefit of workingmen.

The electors of Huntingdon are to be congratulated on the able representative they have secured in the person of Mr. G. W. Stephens, whose independent character and watchful care of the interests of his constituents is so well known as to need no comment. We are certain the constituency of Huntingdon will never regret the confidence they have reposed in Mr. Stephens, and his presence in the Legislature is a guarantee that every action of the Government will be carefully watched and criticised.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A St. John, N. B., despatch to the Gazette says: The manufacturers here are banding together to resist the attempt of the federated St. John workmen to enforce the nine hour day in all working lines here. At a meeting of the manufacturers' committee of the Board of trade, held in the board room on Thursday night, every speaker, save one, took the ground that were the nine hour system adopted St. John manufacturers could not possibly compete against Quebec cheap labor and the ten hour working day that obtains in the manufacturing cities and towns of the upper provinces. The only dissenting voice was that of J. S. Sims, broom manufacturer, who has adopted the profit-sharing system with his employees and who regards that system as the practical solution of the struggle between capital and labor. It was resolved to procure exact information as to what constitutes a day's work in Ontario and Quebec and a committee was appointed to meet the labor organizations and endeavor to come to some amicable and mutually beneficial solution of the present difficulty.

The sentence of nine months' imprisonment imposed on Mrs. Osborne, the London society woman who stole jewellery from a friend and then tried to blacken her character by raising an action for slander and swearing falsely against her, is one of those cases where the punishment does not fit the crime. Had Mrs. Osborne been a woman of the people she would have been promptly sent to the penitentiary for from five to seven years; but this is one of the social contrasts we meet with every day and is only another evidence of the fact that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor. Of course there is much sympathy expressed for her among the class with whom she associated, which has been given expression to in various ways, and the probabilities are that after a short retirement in the jail hospital she will be again restored to "society," of which, previous to her being detected in thieving, she was a "brilliant ornament."

There is considerable interest among the mining population of England and Scotland, consequent on threatened reductions of wages. Last week there was the possibility of a general strike, involving many thousands of men, but this appears to have been temporarily, at least, averted. The coal barons' percentage of profit must be kept up whatever comes, and the first point of attack, in order to do this, is the workers' wages. It has ever been the case, and ever will be until the wage system is abolished entirely and some system of equality in the profits of production established. Until such a revolution in industrial conditions take place there will be strikes and lockouts on the part of workers and capitalists, as in spite of all that has been said the wage-earner has no other weapon whereby he can meet injustice. Strikes may not be so effective, through the introduction of improved machinery and other

causes, as they once were, but still they are a sufficiently powerful argument when wielded by a strongly organized body to make capitalists pause before inviting their application. In the case of miners, where all are generally organized, a strike is still a very powerful weapon as the conditions under which they labor have not been so greatly altered by the introduction of machinery as other occupations. In the Durham collieries the miners have decided to quit work to-day for two weeks or longer. In taking this course the miners are playing into the hands of the coal-owners, who pleaded they were forced to reduce wages on account of the heavy stock on hand, or else lower the price to get rid of the over-production. Rather than strike or submit to a reduction they have voluntarily decided to quit work for a time. Through this action several iron and steel works will have to close down, and it is said that some 10,000 men will be affected.

Goldwin Smith has again been caught giving the Americans free advice how to annex Canada. This time it is a rigid enforcement of the policy of excluding Canadian goods from free transit in bond across the territory of the United States, and the time given to accomplish the desired object is three weeks. There was a time probably when the learned professor was listened to, but that time has gone, and the people of Canada now only laugh at the treasurable mouthings of this victim of hypochondria. Although only a short time out of its swaddling clothes this country is quite able to take care of itself, and has a much higher destiny before it than being swallowed up by the neighboring republic.

A terrible disaster occurred in a Belgian mine yesterday through an explosion. Nearly three hundred miners were entombed, and when the relief party made their way to them the sights they witnessed were horrible in the extreme. The latest official returns give the number of dead at two hundred. The calamity will no doubt be set down to "accident," but it is likely, if the matter is fully probed, that it might through the exercise of modern precautions have been prevented.

Notice has been given by the Hon. Mr. Mills of a resolution setting forth Canada's right to negotiate its own commercial treaties. It will likely come up next week and give rise to an interesting discussion. The resolution is as follows: "That in the opinion of this House, it is expedient to obtain all necessary powers to enable Her Majesty through Her representative the Governor-General of Canada, to appoint agents to negotiate commercial treaties with other British possessions or with foreign states, trading to the advantage of Canada, subject to prior consent or subsequent approval of the Parliament of Canada."

Ladies' Morning Wrappers and Tea Gowns in a great variety of new styles at S. Carsley's. All the Latest European Novelties in Dress, Jacket and Mantle Trimmings at S. Carsley's, Notre Dame street.

1862.
CHAS. A. BRIGGS,
2097 Notre Dame St.
PRACTICAL
Hatter and Furrier.
A large assortment of the LATEST ENGLISH and AMERICAN Styles on hand at the
Lowest Possible Prices!

CARSLEY'S COLUMN.

NEW JACKETS

ONE THOUSAND

JACKETS

Under \$12.00.

TO SELECT FROM

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At S. CARSLEY'S.

Mail Orders Receive Prompt attention.

NEW MANTLES.

Receiving daily large consignments of Outdoor Garments for spring wear.

Thousands of Mantles—Thousands of Jackets In all leading styles to select from.

Spring Ulsters

In Plain and Fancy Tweeds.

Misses' Jackets

Still further supplies of these garments arriving daily.

Jackets in all Colors.

All fashionable lengths in Jackets.

New Empress Pelerines.

The most stylish garment for the season.

S. CARSLEY.

Mail Orders carefully Filled.

NEW DRESS GOODS.

A consignment of new German Plain Fabrics, Spring Weights, in every stylish design and Colorings.

Costume Tweeds in all shades and in the following new patterns—

Snowflake Tweeds. Figured Tweeds.

Silk and Wool Tweed Effects.

Alma Striped Tweeds.

Clayton Stripes in Tweeds.

Herringbone Striped Tweeds.

Fancy Mixtures.

S. CARSLEY.

Mail Orders Promptly Forwarded.

NEW GINGHAMS.

Splendid selection of high class Scotch Gingham now in stock to choose from.

Stylish Striped Gingham,

Stylish Plaid Gingham,

In all the latest and most fashionable colorings.

ZEPHYR LUSTRES,

In a variety of New Designs.

NOW IS THE TIME

to secure a really Stylish Dress for Summer wear.

S. CARSLEY.

Mail Orders Receive Careful Attention.

NEW BUTTONS.

On all Stylish Dresses for the coming season will be worn quantities of Pearl Buttons; we have, therefore, laid in a good supply.

ENDLESS VARIETY

of Pearl Buttons, in all sizes, to select from.

Plain Pearl Buttons. Carved Pearl Buttons.

Pearl Buttons riveted with Steel.

White Pearl Buttons. Natural Pearl Buttons.

Smoked Pearl Buttons.

S. CARSLEY.

Mail Orders Carefully Forwarded.

KNITTED GOODS.

Children's Knitted Headwear, comprising Caps, Hoods and Tam o' Shanter,

AT NOMINAL PRICES.

Reductions made for last January's Sale still in force.

Knitted Shawls Knitted Clouds

At Reduced Prices.

Fascinators and other Wool Goods

At Reduced Prices.

MILLINERY.

The remaining stock of Trimmed Millinery now selling at less than Half Price.

S. CARSLEY.

Mail Orders Promptly Attended to.

MEN'S FURNISHINGS.

Spring Weights in Men's Half Hose

Fancy Merino Half Hose

Dark Colored Cashmere Half Hose

Natural Cashmere Half Hose

Fine Lamb's Wool Half Hose

SPECIAL LINES of Woerby and Four-in-Hand Ties, in Fancy Silks and Satins of all shades, to be sold at the following prices: 2 for 25c, 3 for 70c, and 3 for \$1.00.

NEW GLOVES—New lines of Unlined Gloves for Spring. Russian Calf Gloves, Dog-skin Gloves, Antelope Gloves, Reindeer Gloves

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RIGBY. RIGBY. RIGBY

The Rigby Waterproof Overcoat is the correct thing for the coming spring.

PERFECTLY POROUS.

The Rigby Clothing just introduced is porous as the best Scotch or Canadian Tweeds and resists rain as effectually as rubber or oil cloth. Rigby Clothing for both Ladies and Gentlemen is a success from the start, and must become popular throughout Canada as it becomes known.

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