

A DIALECT SONG.

Who Wrote "De Wreck of La Julie Plante."

George C. Rankin Maintains That the Late Frank Morton, of Detroit, was the Author.

Editor of The Planet.

Sir.—Some little time since, while I was away at the mining ranch I am interested in at Algoma, there appeared in the Planet a communication from the well known Mr. Ed. Sandys, editor of "Outing," upon the subject of the authorship of the French Canadian English dialect ballad, "De Wreck of La Julie Plante."

Mr. Sandys' letter was in reply to an insipid dialect brochure of mine, over on some de plans, which I am free to admit I have since regretted the publication of, in that I have gotten to realize that the subject matter thereof should have been approached in a more serious vein than could be given it in an assumed dialect.

But apart altogether from this dialect creed (in which I am quite sure I made no uncompromising mention of Mr. Sandys), I had in conversation with that gentleman assured him that I personally knew, and gave him my reasons for so knowing, that my friend, the late Frank Morton, of Detroit, was the author of "De Wreck of La Julie Plante" and not Dr. Drummond, of Montreal as the Toronto Globe, the Buffalo Express and certain soap and syringe advertisers were endeavoring to make him out to be.

In view of this, while I can't say that I was very much hurt (one would be foolish to be because of the opinion of a skeptic under such circumstances), I none the less felt disappointed that Mr. Sandys should have to some extent gone out of his way to tell the public through the Planet, in a patronizing sort of way, that while I was a genial fellow, he didn't believe my story of the origin of the dialect ballad in question.

Notwithstanding this, so long as I had remained in the bush "away from the madding throng," I don't think I should have bothered my head about anything Mr. Sandys' communication at all, but now that I am back here in the city, I have thought that the following statement bearing upon Mr. Sandys' incredulity might be of interest to Planet readers and I therefore beg to proffer it for publication.

HOW IT CAME ABOUT.

The grotesque, mock heroic story involved in "De Wreck of La Julie Plante" is based upon a supposition incident of the cord wood and building and supply business of the city of Detroit, as it once carried on some twenty and thirty years ago. At that time the city obtained (and for aught I know to the contrary, may still obtain) the bulk of its cord wood and sawdust from along the shores of Lake St. Clair, which at that time on both the American and Canadian sides, were principally inhabited by descendants of the old pioneer settlers under the regime of the Nouvelle France. During such season of navigation a large fleet of skows and small flat bottomed hookers were engaged in this traffic, and these were chiefly manned and equipped by a sort of marine habitude from along the lake's shores, the crew of each vessel usually consisting of a captain, a mate, a cook and two or three sailors and a female cook.

The sayings and doings of these grotesque crews furnished material for many a good French Canadian dialect story extant along the frontier twenty-five years ago, and it was during the existence of these conditions that the late Frank Morton, who was originally a printer, and subsequently the local Michigan Central Railway ticket agent at Detroit, wrote the "Skow Buss" or "De Wreck of La Julie Plante." I never knew anyone possessed of great powers of memory and a strong sense of the ridiculous than poor Frank Morton.

It was, I think, sometime during the winter of 1876 that I first heard him sing at Detroit the song in question to the air of "How ye winds of mornin' blow ye winds of ev'ning," in June of 1885, the piece was played for a week by the then Montreal Theatre, under the management of Mr. William Lytell, incidental to the action of the piece, "De Wreck of La Julie Plante" was sung to a somewhat different air from that of Morton's, and to suit the stage setting and locale of Montreal I substituted Lac Saint Pierre (St. Peter) which is near Montreal, for Lac Saint Claire, and eliminated Groses Pointe, which is now a residential suburb of Detroit, at the foot of the lake, some several or eight miles above the city.

THE SEVEN VERSES.

Of the song as thus altered is the production credited to the genius of Dr. Drummond by the dramatic editor or reporter of the Montreal Gazette to give him a copy of the song, and I finally did write out and give him the Lac St. Pierre version thereof.

Shortly after this it appeared in the

Gazette, and I think if Mr. Sandys will take the trouble to enquire he will find that somewhere about this same time, July or August 85, Dr. Drummond, of Montreal, first became acquainted with the existence of the dialect "doggerel" "De Wreck of La Julie Plante."

However that may be the fact remains that during the winter of '85-'86 I elaborated L'Habitant into a four act melodrama, the title of which "Jean Baptiste" I copy righted both in the States and Canada.

Subsequently the manuscript of the thus enlarged piece was stolen from me, in some change of the ignominious one of "The Canuck" in which Mable Burt sang the St. Pierre version of this French Canadian dialect ballad (I never thought it anything else than a doggerel; yet, as emanating from Dr. Drummond, the Buffalo Express man, describes it as a "classic").

I have thus given a veracious history of, to vindicate my reputation for truth in the estimation of Mr. Ed. Sandys, who as a compatriot and the son of a distinguished friend of my father's I should like to have the good opinion of. Meanwhile, as the question of literary theft to the extent I have herein described, I am amazed that a man of Dr. Drummond's talent should have assumed the false position he has with regard to the authorship of "De Wreck of La Julie Plante."

GEORGE C. RANKIN.

KENT BRIDGE.

John French is sick with la grippe. Very many attended a Valentine social at Mr. and Mrs. William Meritt's last Monday evening. Owing to the severe storm the night the meeting was adjourned to some future time.

The Y. P. S. C. E. and Epworth League were well attended last week. Mrs. Frederick Arnold returned last Thursday from visiting her daughter, Mrs. H. P. Poole, Chatham. Misses Hardy and Langford attended a box social at Harwich, Friday evening.

Amusing parties are all the rage. Edward Winger and family returned last week from an extended visit with friends at Inwood. E. Worth attended Masonic meeting at Toronto last week. A number of lady teachers called on friends in the village on Saturday. Mr. Johnston and family purpose moving out to Blenheim soon. A. M. Mason was in the village on Friday, looking after his interests in the coming campaign. John Fleming, Croton, spent Sunday in the village. A number of the young folks attended the rink at Thamesville on Saturday evening.

Robt. Head is getting out new gills for a barn on his farm in Canada. The following delegates were appointed from the Sunday schools to attend the convention at Blenheim: Knox S. S., Misses Fleming and Hardy; Methodist S. S., Mr. and Mrs. Geo. N. Shaw.

A genuine taffy pull at O. F. Shaw's on Wednesday evening, 2nd inst.

Mr. Collins conducted service in the Methodist church on Sunday evening. Miss Maud Crow is visiting friends in the village.

CONCERTS.

Concerts and revival meetings are all the rage here.

Henry Fawcett is all smiles lately. It's a lay.

Alex. Smith has been on the sick list lately, but is able to be around again. James Dymond, of this place, has been removed to the hospital in Chatham.

A concert was held in the school-house on the 29th. There was not very large attendance, but an enjoyable time was spent. Campbell's string band was in attendance. The following program was carried: Hugh Cummings acted as chairman; music by the band, a dialogue by J. Reed, A. Reed, S. Thomas, E. Cooper, A. Hook with and C. Cooper, a recitation by Miss A. Pollock, a vocal selection by the Misses Cooper, a recitation by J. L. Askin, a Pollock and R. S. Askin, music by the band, vocal music by the Misses Cooper and Miss Vandouzen, a song by Fred Parkins, a recitation by Mr. Stewart, a reading by J. L. Askin, music by the band, a recitation by Miss L. Carr, music by the band, a dialogue by the Misses Cooper and Mr. Estel Cooper, music by the band, a reading by R. S. Askin, music by the band, God Save the Queen. A dance is to be held at Alf. Reed's on Wednesday night. A good time is expected.

AS TO PAVEMENTS.

Harkins—They say tonight is paved with good intentions.

Dames—And I wonder if they, too, have to rip up the pavement every time anybody gets ready to put in a hollow promise?

If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain; If I can ease one life the aching, Or cool one pain, Or help one fainting robin unto his nest again, I shall not live in vain.

—Emily Dickinson.

Female Weakness

Cured by Paine's Celery Compound

The Only Life Giver for Sick and Afflicted Women.

Jessie M. Ross says: "I Was Completely Cured by Your Wonderful Medicine."

It Gives Prompt Results and Permanent Cure.

Wells & Richardson Co.

Dear Sirs.—It affords me much pleasure to testify to the great good that Paine's Celery Compound has done me, and a victim of female weakness, and after using three bottles of your wonderful medicine, I was completely cured. It is the best blood purifier I know of, and I recommend it to all who are troubled as I was.

Yours very truly

JESSIE M. ROSS, Quyon, P.Q.

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—Emily Dickinson.

THE MARKETS

LOCAL MARKET CHAT.

All grains are higher in price this week.

Wheat, 88 to 90.
Corn, 30.
Oats, 24 to 26.
Barley, 40 to 45.
Beans, 40 to 55 unpicked; 60 to 65 hand-picked.
Dressed hogs, \$5.35 to \$5.85.
Live hogs, \$5.75.

WHAT CHATHAM MILLERS ARE PAYING.

Wheat, 88 standard.
Oats, 25 to 26.
Corn, 30 to 32.
Barley, 40 to 60c. per cwt.
Wool, 17c.

LOCAL GRAIN MARKETS.

Wheat, 88 to 90c.
Oats, 24 to 26c.
Barley, 40c. per cwt.
Beans, 40 to 45c.
Corn, 30 to 32c.
Buckwheat, 30c.
Millet, 30 to 32c.
Dressed hogs, \$5.35 to \$5.85.
Live hogs, \$5.75 to \$6.
Clover seed, \$3 to \$3.25.
Timothy, \$1.
Rye, 40c.

LOCAL WOOL AND HIDES.

Wool, 17 to 18c.
Hides, No. 1, 6 to 7c.
Hides, No. 2, 5 to 6c.
Lamb skins, 7c. per lb.
Sheep skins, 50 to 80c.
Lamb skins, 50 to 65c.
Horse hides, \$1.25.
Tallow, rendered, 3c.; rough, 11-2c.
Hay, 45 to 50c.

RIDGETOWN MARKETS.

Wheat, 88c.
Oats, 20 to 22c.
Barley, 30 to 32c.
Beans, unpicked, 30 to 60c.
Beans, hand-picked, 60c.
Corn, 25 to 26c.
Apples, per bush, 40 to 50c.
Onions, \$1.
Potatoes, per bag, 60 to 70c.
Hay, timothy, per ton, \$7.
Hay, clover, \$5 to \$6.
Straw, per ton, \$3 to \$5.
Hides, 4c.
Turkeys, 8c.
Chickens, 6c.
Ducks, 8c.
Butter, 14c.
Eggs, 14c.
Lard, 10 to 12-1/2c.
Feathers, 50 to 60c.
Wood, per cord, \$3.
Wool, 17c.
Pork, dressed, per cwt, 45c.

TILBURY MARKETS.

Wheat, 80 to 82c.
Oats, 22 to 24c.
Corn, 20 to 22c.
Barley, per cwt, 40 to 50c.
Dressed hogs, \$5.75.
Live hogs, \$5.75 to \$6.
Butter, 14 to 20c.
Eggs, 20c.
Lard, 8c.

BLENHEIM MARKETS.

Wheat, 88 to 90c.
Beans, hand-picked, 60 to 65c.
Beans, picking stock, 45c to 50c.
Oats, 16 to 17c.
Dressed hogs, \$5.75.
Live hogs, \$5.75.
Potatoes, per bush, 50 to 60c.
Butter, 14c.
Eggs, 14c.
Lard, 8c.
Corn, in ear, 30 to 35c.
Corn, shelled, 35c.

WALLACEBURG MARKETS.

Wheat, 80 to 82c.
Oats, 22 to 24c.
Corn, 20 to 22c.
Barley, per cwt, 40 to 50c.
Dressed hogs, \$5.75.
Live hogs, \$5.75.
Potatoes, per bush, 50 to 60c.
Butter, 14c.
Eggs, 14c.
Lard, 8c.
Corn, in ear, 30 to 35c.
Corn, shelled, 35c.

COMBER MARKETS.

Wheat, standard, 82 to 85c.
Oats, 24 to 26c.
Corn, 20 to 22c.
Flour, per cwt, \$2.25.
Manitoba, 20 to 22c.
Breakfast rolled wheat, per 100 lbs., \$2.90.
Breakfast rolled oatmeal, \$2.25.
Breakfast rolled germed wheat, \$2.75.
Butter, 15c.

GRIPPE'S LEGACY

SHATTERED NERVES

Weakened Heart

IMPOVERISHED BLOOD

Mr. Geo. Turner, who has resided in Chatham for over 40 years and is well and favorably known, writes the following letter.

Gentlemen.—Five years ago I fell a victim to a bad case of la grippe, and with it had serious lung trouble. Since that time I have been weak, nervous, dependent and debilitated, oftentimes unable to work, having to sit down and wait until my heart stopped its excessively rapid beating.

As soon as I was able I would go about my work, but in a tired and exhausted condition. I had great pain in my heart. My blood was thin, and I lacked vitality. Sleeplessness also gave me much trouble, and I suffered greatly from dizziness and defective memory. In fact, I was just about completely prostrated.

In this condition I slowly made my way to the Central Drug Store, and there got a box of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. From the time I commenced them I rapidly grew better. They made my nerves strong, cured the terrible weakening heart trouble, restoring restful sleep, and I regained my mental condition is vigorous, sound and, and my memory as bright as ever.

I have only words of praise for this magnificent medicine.

WHEATLEY MARKETS.

Wheat, 88c.
Oats, 24 to 26c.
Corn, 30 to 32c.
Barley, 40 to 45c.
Beans, 40 to 55 unpicked; 60 to 65 hand-picked.
Dressed hogs, \$5.35 to \$5.85.
Live hogs, \$5.75.

THAMESVILLE.

Wheat, 88 to 90c. per bushel.
Oats, 24 to 26c.
Corn, 30 to 32c.
Barley, 40 to 45c.
Beans, 40 to 55 unpicked; 60 to 65 hand-picked.
Dressed hogs, \$5.35 to \$5.85.
Live hogs, \$5.75.

HIGHGATE.

Wheat, 88c.
Oats, 24 to 26c.
Corn, 30 to 32c.
Barley, 40 to 45c.
Beans, 40 to 55 unpicked; 60 to 65 hand-picked.
Dressed hogs, \$5.35 to \$5.85.
Live hogs, \$5.75.

DETROIT BEAN MARKET.

Wheat, white, per bush., 83 to 85.
Wheat, red, 80 to 91.
Wheat, goose, 82-1/2.
Barley, 35 to 36c.
Oats, 31 to 32c.
Peas, 50 to 60c.
Rye, 40c.
Buckwheat, per bush., 34c.
Turkeys, per lb., 8 to 10c.
Ducks, per pair, 50c to 75c.
Chickens, per pair, 30 to 50c.
Geese, per lb., 5 to 6-1/2c.
Butter, in lb. rolls, 15 to 16c.
Eggs, new laid, 19 to 20c.
Potatoes, per bag, 60 to 65c.
Beans, 30 to 40c.
Onions, native per bag, 50 to 60c.
Hay, \$7.50 to 8.
Straw, 10 to 15c.
Clover, hinds, 6 to 7c.
Beef, fore, 4 to 4-1/2c.
Lamb, carcasses, per lb., 8c.
Veal, carcasses, per lb., 7c.
Mutton, per lb., 5 to 6-1/2c.
Dressed hogs, \$5.15 to \$5.25.

DETROIT BEAN MARKET.

Prices quoted by vendors were: Honey, 9 to 10c. per lb.
Honey, by the box, 2 for 25c.
Cabbages, 1 to 2c. per head.
Celery, 10c. per bunch.
Beets, 10c. per peck.
Onions, 20c. a peck, \$1 a bag.
Carrots, 50c. a bushel.
Chickens, dressed, 20 to 35c.
Eggs, 16 to 18c.
Corn, 25 to 30c.
Butter, 16 to 18c.
Potatoes, 85 to 90c. a bag.
Apples, 15 to 30c. per pk.; 50c. to \$1.25 per bushel.
Sage, savory and mint, 5c. per bun.
Cream, 30c. per quart.
Lamb, 7 to 8c.
Pork, 4 and 7c.
Peppers, 5c. per doz.
Pickling onions, 6 to 10c. per qt.
Turnips, 25c. a bushel.
Parsnips, 15c. per peck.
Oyster plant, 5c. a bunch.
Hickory nuts, 5c. a quart, 75c. bus.
Walnuts, 2 quarts for 5c.
Geese, 50 to 60c.
Turkeys, 75c. to \$1.40.
Pickled cucumbers, 2c. a doz.
Mixed pickles, 5c. per qt.
Sausage, 10c. per lb., 15c. a gal.
Squash, 5 to 10c. each.

FRESH.

White, dressed, 10c. per lb.
Trout, dressed, 10c. per lb.
Haddock, 8c., dressed.
Smelt, 10c. per lb., 3 for 25c.
Shrimp, 20c. per lb.
Yellow pickerel, 8c.

TORONTO BEAN MARKET.

Toronto, Jan. 31.—Beans.—Unchanged. Dealers continue to quote choice hand-picked beans at 85 to 90c., and common at 80 to 70c. per bushel.

TORONTO DRESSED HOGS.

Toronto, Jan. 31.—Markets for dressed hogs unchanged. Dealers are quoted in choice light weights, on track here, at around \$5.15 to \$5.25 and heavy at \$5.80 to \$6. On the street farmers' loads sold at around \$5.25 to \$5.50 according to weight. Provisions steady.

TORONTO PRODUCE.

Toronto, Jan. 31.—Wheat.—Wheat markets acted a little tired today. Montreal exporters, who set the pace yesterday, were out of the market this afternoon. Local exporters were also inclined to go slow. Purchases today were light, partly because demand dropped off, and largely because outside holders were unwilling to make concessions whatever. In Chicago May wheat closed easier at 97-7/8c, and after the close, sagged off to 96-1/2c on the curb. A few odd cars of No. 2 red, north and west, sold at 95c, but in the afternoon buyers were disinclined to buy at that figure. Hard North Bay, sold at \$1.06 this afternoon, and track, Midland, offered at \$1.03.

Flour.—Buying for export in the last few days has been heavy. Export agents paid the small mills \$3.95, in wood, middle freights. One house took 100,000 bushels in the past few days. Large mills report direct bids at rather better than \$4. for straight, in wood, middle freights.

Milled—Wheat scarce, and very firm at \$10.50 a ton, car lots, middle freight. Shorts in demand at \$12.50 to \$13, middle freight.

Oatmeal—Firm. Car lots of rolled oats, in bags, on track, Toronto, are quoted at \$2.25 to \$2.35 per barrel.

Peas—Firm, but quiet, owing to small offerings. No. 2 white are quoted today at 53-1/2c north and west, and 55c, east.

Rye—Demand fair, with values firm. Car lots are quoted today at 46-1/2c, high freights, at 48c. east.

Buckwheat—Firm. Demand increasing. Car lots west are quoted today at 33c, and east at 34c.

Car lots outside were quoted as follows: Fancy bright, 42 to 45c; No. 1, 38 to 40c; No. 2, 35 to 38c; No. 3 extra, 32 to 35c. East and feed, 28c north and west, and 28c east.

Corn—Firm. Canadian yellow, track, Chatham, is quoted at 28c. No. 2 yellow, American, offers, track, Toronto, at 36c.

Oats—Demand good, with tone strong. White, north and west, 27c; and No. 2, mixed at 26-1/2c; white oats, east, 28c.

DETROIT MARKETS.

Jan. 31.—Apples.—\$2.25 to \$2.75 per bushel. Early, 85 to 90c.
Butter.—Choice dairy, fresh receipts, 14 to 15c; common, 11 to 13c; low grades, 9 to 10c; fresh roll butter, 12 to 14c; cream, 18 to 20c.
Cabbages.—For car lots, at Detroit, \$3.50 to \$5 per ton.
Cheese.—Michigan full cream, 10-1/2c per lb.
Dried apples.—Dried, 5 to 5-1/2c per lb.; evaporated, 8 to 10c.
Dress program.—Heavy, \$4.25 light \$4.50 per hundred.
Dressed calves.—4 to 9c per lb.
Eggs.—New laid, 17 to 18c; fresh receipts, 16 to 17c; storage stock 13-1/2 to 14-1/2c per doz.
Early Vegetables.—Florida tomatoes, per basket; cauliflower, \$1.75 to \$2 per doz.; hothouse cucumbers, \$2.25 per doz.; radishes, 20 to 30c; lettuce, 15c. per lb.
Feed.—Lard, \$13 per ton; coarse middlings, \$13; fine middlings \$14; cracked corn, \$13 per ton in jobbing lots; corn and oats chop, \$11.
Flour.—Michigan, patents, \$5.25 per bushel; straight, \$4.75; clear, \$4.50; low grade, \$3.75; Minnesota, patents, \$5.25; rye, \$3.25; buckwheat, \$3.75; all jobbing lots, 10 to 12c.
Hickory nuts.—New shellbark, 85c to \$1.15 per bushel.
Hides.—No. 1, green, 7-1/2c cents per lb.; cured, 8c; No. 2 green, 6c; cured, 8-1/2c; No. 1, calf, green, 8c; No. 2 calf, green, 7-1/2c; sheepskins, 7c to \$1.25 each, as to wool.
Honey.—Fancy, white, 30 to 12c per lb.; extracted, 4-1/2c. per lb.
Onions.—\$2.00 to \$2.25 per bushel; 70c per bushel.
Poultry.—Live chickens 610 61-1/2c; fowls, 2 to 3-1/2c; ducks, 6 to 7c; geese, 6 to 7c; turkeys, 8 to 9c; dressed springs, 51-4 to 6c; ducks, 710 8c; geese, 7 to 8c; turkeys 10 to 12c.
Potatoes.—Car lots, 50c per bushel; small

Eggs, 18c.

Potatoes, per bag, 55c.

TORONTO STREET MARKET.

Wheat, white, per bush., 83 to 85.

Wheat, red, 80 to 91.

Wheat, goose, 82-1/2.

Barley, 35 to 36c.

Oats, 31 to 32c.

Peas, 50 to 60c.

Rye, 40c.