

The Planet

S. STEPHENSON - Proprietor.

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MONDAY, JUNE 16.

THE OUTRAGE IN NORTH GREY.

North Grey looks like a clear case of highway robbery, says the Toronto Telegram, and the same journal proceeds:

The smoke of Tory protests is not always sure evidence that the fire of Liberal sin is burning.

There have been protests where there was no sin.

It cannot be argued that there has been no sin in North Grey.

The Conservatives declare that Mr. Boyd were spoiled between the close of the poll at No. 9 St. Vincent and the opening of the re-count.

The best that the Liberals can claim is that they were spoiled by the voters, and properly deducted from the Conservative candidate's total.

Against this claim is the fact that a Liberal deputy returning officer and a Liberal scrutineer counted these four ballots for Mr. Boyd. Humanly speaking it is impossible that a Liberal deputy returning officer and a Liberal scrutineer would have counted spoiled ballots for the Tory candidate.

Against this claim also must be considered the words of the judge of the Liberal candidate's own choosing. "I am clearly of opinion that the ballots have been tampered with since the day of election."

The theory of Liberal innocence rests on the utterly impossible assumption that a Liberal deputy returning officer and a Liberal scrutineer at No. 9 St. Vincent counted four spoiled ballots for the Conservative candidate.

That theory is untenable. There seems to be no escape from the proved conclusion that Liberal management of the North Grey election allowed four Conservative votes to be stolen.

The sin which steals four votes may develop into the system which steals four hundred votes. Ontario is making progress in more ways than one. The Liberals no less than the Conservatives have an interest in this all important question of protecting the ballots of men who will neither stay at home nor sell their votes. The interests of the Liberal party are not limited to the retention of North Grey or to preserving the worthless life of a discredited Government.

Political crime has extinguished Liberalism in West Elgin and North Waterloo. The indirect consequences of these atrocities were injurious to the Ontario Government throughout the Province, but the direct consequences were represented in great majorities for Conservative candidates in two constituencies which had been safely Liberal.

The Ontario Government is the only possible receiver of direct advantage from the ballots stolen in North Grey. The Liberal party will have to live after the Ontario Government is dead. Genuine Liberals must rouse themselves to the truth that a party cannot retain either life or virtue and be responsible for the proceedings which have disgraced Liberalism in North Grey.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH.

Church circles in Toronto have been stirred up somewhat by the delivery of Canon Welch of St. James' Cathedral, who preached the Synod sermon of the Toronto diocese, on Tuesday evening last, comments the St. Thomas Times. It is considered that Canon Welch's remarks were designed to offset the references of Rev. Henry Kittson, of Ottawa, who brought upon himself very strong adverse criticism by calling Methodists religious parasites. It may be that Rev. Henry Kittson was anxious for notoriety in referring thus to the great denomination founded by John Wesley. But Wesley began his career as a member of the Church of England, and maintained his connection with the State

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Church all his life, always declining to offer his resignation. He invariably replied to his critics of the Church that he was not departing from its doctrines in his efforts to stir up among the people a greater reverence for God and better moral conditions among the people.

But Mr. Kittson receives no sympathy from those of his own denomination. Canon Welch, without mentioning a name, took directly opposite ground to that of his Ottawa brother, and intimated that one reason why the making more progress was because of the rigidity with which the methods of a century ago were followed to-day when conditions of life had materially changed, and more flexibility was demanded. In England he said, the old formalism was giving place to more elastic methods. The adoption of the name "Church of England in Canada," he looked upon as a hapless one. "It stamps us emphatically," he said, "not the church of the people of this land, as we have adopted the name of the church whose life-blood flows in our veins, instead of taking a name that at least does not suggest that we are not native of the soil, we have only too faithfully adopted and perpetuated methods, many of which have been none too successful even in England."

Canon Welch based his sermon on Paul's words, "I am become all things to all men that I may by all means save some;" but he said the church had read it: "I am the same thing to all men, whatever their condition, circumstances or disposition; the same in Canada with its new problems as in England with all its deference to the past." "That which has been in the past," he said, "was the despairing conclusion of the hopeless pessimist in the pages of Holy Writ, he declared."

In the Canon's text there is indicated a broad mindedness which would cover all humanity. Denominationalism may be useful, in that it encourages a spirit of emulation in good things, but the church universal must be founded on Holy Writ. The world is becoming better educated and with the greater enlightenment, conditions have changed. What a Godly man of education could do to the minds of the multitude cannot be done to-day.

Dogmatism cannot be successful in this age. A broad charity is needed. As Canon Welch remarked: "The church or system is not the end, but the means to the highest end that man can conceive—the glory of God and the salvation of man."

A significant incident in this connection may be noted. Rev. J. C. Farthing, of Woodstock, was a visitor to the Methodist conference there last week, and in offering fraternal greeting, apologized, in behalf of the Anglican Church at large, for the utterances at Ottawa of one of its own denomination in which Methodist had been called proselytes. Mr. Farthing repeated the remark and said that the one who had given it utterance had spoken for nobody but himself.

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Mr. Kittson declares that he was misrepresented. To a representative of the Montreal Witness he said:

"As a newspaper man, you will understand how a paragraph can be wrested from the context and an over-emphasis is given to it for the purpose of producing a mild sensation. I had no intention of conveying the meaning which was attributed to me. I used a certain word in a certain sense; that word was made to convey something offensive. Well, it was not my fault, but the fault of the man who wrote the report. Of course, these things happen, and there is perhaps no help for it. You understand the desire for emphasis—a desire so strong that there will not, very often, be ordinary precaution taken to give the whole position or argument."

I was made to say what I would have been patent I had no thought of saying had the whole context been given. However, the matter is over, and we need not greatly trouble ourselves about it. Misrepresentation is no uncommon thing."

THE JUGGERNAUT OF SCIENCE.

It is sad, but true, that almost every advance in the progressive evolution of scientific discovery inflicts on poor humanity some serious injury to person and property, points out the St. Catharines Star. Every new labor-saving machine, utilized by capital to reduce expenses and lower prices in order to get the better of rivals in business, while lessening the cost of production, and so far benefiting consumers, throws a number of operators out of employment and pauperizes them and their families. Electricity, which of late has made such great strides in its applicability to a variety of mechanical and chemical processes, has proved a very juggernaut in its frightful destruction of human life, and in the devastation of churches, warehouses and residences, by the fire fiend. It seems almost impossible in large cities, where speed of progression is demanded by the patrons of electric tramways, to prevent the sad loss of life occasioned thereby. Day after day we read of terrible mutilation and death in the United States perhaps more than elsewhere in any part of the world. The speed is so great usually that the motormen are unable to check the momentum of the train until a fatal collision occurs, and another case of accidental death is recorded by a coroner's jury. Then the number of fatalities the unfortunate linemen meet with is shocking. Scarce a day passes without the death of some poor fellow killed by a "live wire," improperly insulated, or from a short circuit of electric current arising from carelessness, or from misadventure, due to stormy weather, by which wires containing a deadly voltage come in contact with telephones or telegraph wires comparatively harmless when not in contact with the electric light or street car wires. It is only a few days ago since a horse was killed in this city by a wire hanging from the circuit wire, and conveying a powerful current; the death of the horse probably being instrumental in saving the lives of the inmates of the carriage. Even turning on the ordinary incandescent electric light bulb is sometimes fraught with fatal results, when the current passing through it happens as it sometimes does, to be of lethal intensity. The inhalation of gas from coal stoves, due to dampers in the pipe, or from defective fittings of the constituent

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parts of the stove, is credited with a good many fatalities, and now and then an unfortunate granger meets his death from blowing out a gas jet in his bed-room when visiting a city, not knowing the danger which he incurs by so doing. One advantage gas possesses over the electric light current arises from the fact that the odor of gas is so powerful that it betrays the existence of a leak in the pipes, or gas fittings, before the air becomes dangerously tainted. Whereas, electricity gives no warning; when it strikes it strikes to kill. Gas may be compared to the rattlesnake which warns before it attacks its victim; what the rattle is to the snake so the smell is to the gas. But the electric current on the lighting circuit can be likened to the deadly cobra di capella. It strikes without any warning, and its stroke is sure death. The gas that escapes through leaks in the pipes only hurts the pockets of the shareholders, not the health or lives of the citizens. London possesses more gas pipes throughout its area than any city in the world, and it may be supposed the percentage of loss from leakage must be greater than elsewhere, and yet the rate of mortality in London is wonderfully low in spite of its slums, its "bums," its vice, crime, and pauperism. But still the world moves on, inventions increase, and in the end it may be hoped that all things will work together for good in the aggregate, though individuals may, and indeed must, faint and falter and fall by the way.

"Let us then be up and doing, With a heart for any fate, Still achieving, still pursuing, Learn to labor and to wait."

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