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Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL 22, 1908.

IT WAS DR. PUGSEY

Another chapter in the story of the Liberal convention that did not convene is now available. The president of the Liberal organization for this province publishes an advertisement this morning in which responsibility for the postponement is placed upon the ample but heavily-laden shoulders of Hon. Mr. Pugsley. Those Liberal journals which have grown so critical of the party's organization are thus invited to criticize Dr. Pugsley as the adviser of the organization's president. Dr. Pugsley wired from Ottawa that the Liberal members from New Brunswick desired a postponement. That apparently settled it. The Liberal party in the province seems not to have been consulted at all. Dr. Pugsley's telegram was followed promptly by the announcement that the convention was off.

This explanation is merely an elaboration of that given out at first. It serves to show that the president did what Dr. Pugsley required of him, which would suggest that he represents Dr. Pugsley rather than the party at large. It is difficult to see how this improves the situation in the slightest.

The province is still asked to believe that the New Brunswick Liberal members could not miss one or two days of the session even for the purpose of attending the convention which had been extensively advertised, for which preparations were being made, and which had for its purpose the harmonizing and strengthening of the party in New Brunswick in view of the Federal campaign. The value thus set, by somebody, upon the constant attendance of the New Brunswick Liberals at Ottawa is by no means convincing. The public will stick to its original conclusion—that the postponement was due to other causes, primarily the conviction of the Liberal leaders that it would be unsafe to call the Liberals of the province together until some of the present causes of friction, discontent and depression have been removed.

Dr. Pugsley's chances of gaining a reputation as a harmonizer will not be improved by the knowledge that it was he who ordered the convention called and that he also ordered it postponed. It is another blunder added to his record. It was the worst kind of political tactics to postpone the meeting. And disgusted party men all over the province are realizing that bungling management in matters of this kind is what they must expect. The Sun's assertion that the party is badly disorganized will not be any more pleasing to the party as it becomes clearer that any reorganization which is to produce good results must begin at the top. The Globe remarked that the president of the Liberal organization needed competent advisers. He replies that Dr. Pugsley is his adviser-in-chief. Dr. Pugsley and the Sun advised Mr. Emmerson. Their advice is costly to those who take it or who permit it to be imposed upon them.

A LIBERAL CRITIC

Criticism which will carry much weight in Liberal circles throughout Canada because it comes from an exponent of the old-time Liberal doctrine, is printed by the Toronto Weekly Sun. The Sun opposes the Conservatives and nearly all of the policies for which they stand. It lauds the existence of what it regards as convincing evidence that there must soon be a change of government. And it adds: "Nevertheless the duty of every uncorrupted Liberal in Canada is to defeat the recreant Liberals now in power and leave the future to take care of itself. In these days some deny an over-riding Providence in the old sense, but must allow that, as Matthew Arnold put it, there is at least 'a stream of tendency that makes for righteousness.' Things do not permit themselves to be mismanaged very long, and out of the existing welter of corruption some way of escape must shortly present itself."

The Sun believes that the effect of the recent revelations at Ottawa upon supporters of the government "can hardly be exaggerated." The civil service commission report, it says, "in plain and unequivocal language declares the militia department to be an outrageous scandal, and the marine department nothing short of a sink of iniquity. Other departments are roughly handled, though the most impure of all, the interior, escaped investigation, the commission having no authority to enquire into its operations in the west." In this assertion about the interior department the Sun intimates that Mr. Oliver is not responsible, but that his predecessor is. Upon the question of ministerial responsibility for the evils disclosed, the Sun speaks in the most positive terms:

"Why, it is asked, did not ministers ascertain all this for themselves? Did anybody ever hear of a railway or a bank being allowed to fall into such a deplorable condition even by the most incapable of directors? Does not the report furnish overwhelming corroboration of all the opposition has alleged concerning the demoralization of the public service and the rascality of officials and middlemen standing close to certain ministers; and why did not the government discover it and apply this remedy before this? These are some of the questions put to Sir Wilfrid by Liberals who expect to run again, and no satisfactory reply is vouchsafed."

"Sir Frederick Borden's department has fallen under the control of an unique set of imbeciles as could be got together by diligent labor in this or any other land. The average military man in service at Ottawa could not earn his salt outside; he knows absolutely nothing of ordinary business affairs, and takes no interest in anything beyond his own glorification at the public expense through the creation of new titles for himself, the manipulation of subordinates, and the application of all the paint and padding, furs and feathers that go to make him a gorgeous and absurd figure at Rideau Hall. The commission says that while we drill no more than 40,000 men in the year, that being the entire force, and then only after a fashion, we are supporting a headquarters staff large enough for a real army of 100,000."

The Sun is displeased with Mr. Borden, Col. Hughes and others whom it styles ineffective critics. As to parliamentary conditions generally, the Sun says: "This is where Sir Wilfrid has come lamentably short—he has permitted colleague after colleague to make their fortunes while in office, and whether the opposition brings home every charge or not, the question, Where did they get it? is answered by the public at large in only one way—they stole it. Naturally, members of parliament have followed the evil example of ministers. There probably never was a house in our parliamentary annals in which so many of the people's representatives were interested, directly or indirectly, in graft under various forms and disguises—offices, prospective senatorships, dredging and other contracts, coal properties, protective duties, bounties, rake-offs, subsidies, land deals, timber limits, town sites, fishery concessions, and what not."

The Sun argues that the country's duty—the duty of true Liberals—is to punish the present government, because it has permitted the conditions referred to to exist, to flourish and to become more aggravated year after year. From a journal professing to speak for Liberals of the old school, the Sun's indictment is a terrific one. And the Sun is quite right in maintaining that party loyalty will not prevent thousands of Liberals everywhere from repudiating the government because of the evidence recently spread before the people of the Dominion. No party hatred, no profession of principles can obscure the facts and render fair-minded men blind to their significance. In the hearts of the better element of both parties the interests of Canada are held infinitely more important than mere party success.

HOW IT WORKS OUT

The value of our pulpwood now, as compared with what the country would gain if the manufacturing were done here instead of in the United States, is tersely set forth in the following paragraph: "The returns of the Department of Trade and Commerce show that in the past four years the United States has drawn from Canada two millions and a quarter cords of pulpwood, for which Canada received about nine million dollars. The value of the finished product manufactured from the Canadian raw materials and received by the Americans, was one hundred million dollars. An export duty on the Canadian raw material might have yielded that hundred millions to Canadian capital and labor."

Discussing Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion about the favoring Canadian paper and pulp in the tariff if we will bind ourselves not to place an export duty on pulpwood, the Winnipeg Telegram bids Canada be aware of the Greeks bearing gifts. The Ottawa Journal adds:

"This seems to be the general view in Canada. Our western contemporary fears if negotiations are entered into on the basis of Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion, the skilled negotiators at Washington will get away with the better half of the bargain. Once Canada binds herself not to interfere with the free export of pulpwood, the owners of the great American mills will be assured a new lease of manufacturing activity and prosperity—largely at Canada's expense. The only serious opposition manifested in Canada to the imposition of an export duty on pulpwood is shown by the firms who act as agents of United States concerns who draw their raw material from this country, and a few members of parliament, chiefly representing Quebec constituents along the international border, who are dominated by purely local interests. The pulpwood limits in these constituencies are very accessible, and the owners are able to get rather more than the average market price for their logs. This is, of course, occasioned by the reduced cost of haulage to the American buyer. The ordinary Quebecers also wish to get the southern market price, plus something like the difference in transportation charges. But Quebec is not all Canada. There are pulpwood forests in Ontario, New Brunswick, the far north and the Northwest, and the interests of these provinces are entitled to consideration. Wherever there is pulpwood in Canada water power is usually not far off. If water power is not available there is ample fuel at hand to generate steam and start the various processes by which the raw material is turned eventually into the finished manufactured product. There is no justification for failure to take the fullest possible advantage of these facilities."

THE SCHOOLS

Judging from past experience, St. John will not make its public buildings safe unless its aldermen and officials are compelled to act by public indignation. The requisite indignation should be aroused by the report of the committee which recently inspected the buildings in question. In addition to the principal report of the committee, published in this newspaper some days ago, the inspectors dealt with each school in detail. On another page this morning is printed the committee's remarks in regard to the Bentley street school. This building is condemned for many reasons. The sole point in its favor which was discovered by the visitors is that there is a fire alarm box near at hand. This statement is suggestive.

Examination of the reports on this and other schools, will astonish the average citizen. Why defects and dangers so obvious should have been permitted to continue is a mystery. Again and again, these matters have been considered; but nothing seems to have been done. To talk of building new and expensive schools while neglecting to render the existing buildings safe, is sheer folly.

THE SESSION

In reviewing the session of Parliament up to adjournment the Ottawa Journal (Ind.), selects the report of the civil service commission as the event which above all others has seized the attention of the country at large. The Journal sees signs that the government is preparing to select scape goats to carry away some of the responsibility placed upon the ruling party by the report, but it doubts the success of any such expedient. "The government," it says, "seems to be preparing a soft bed to fall upon, but somebody may move the bed."

The civil service commissioners, of course, had powers and opportunities which the opposition critics lacked. The report shows that the opposition's charges about existing conditions were well founded, and makes clear the need for further drastic investigation in place of the half-way inquiry proposed by the government. The Journal says, in part:

"Working in the public accounts committee upon conditions which the greatest difficulty the opposition has contrived during the past few years to let in the light upon many dark places in the administration of the department. The civil service commissioners were enabled to probe more deeply. Their commission gave them powers of personal scrutiny of the work of the departments which have not been exercisable under the parliamentary system of enquiry. The result is a document which substantiates most weightily the conclusions which in however sketchy a fashion have been reached through opposition labor in the public accounts committee. The commissioners' report of maladministration in the Marine Department is damning, and the government has been so far from successful in disguising the infirmities of the popular imagination as to appoint a second commission of enquiry. So far as it has gone, the government's action is commendable. Under ordinary circumstances, however, it would have been supposed that the government would have engaged under the second commission the same three men who had conducted the first, who from the amount of knowledge they already possessed would have been able to arrive most quickly at a final judgment in relation of responsibility for evil doing in the department. It is to be remarked, too, that the commission to Mr. Justice Casale calls for enquiry only into the specific charges against the Marine Department, whereas the people would be justified in demanding a similar enquiry into the affairs of all the larger spending departments. And, finally, Sir Wilfrid Laurier's declaration that the government is not to be held responsible for maladministration in a department if the government may be shown to have exercised due diligence in enquiry and in the removal of 'inconveniences' seems to suggest the scent of escape."

The Journal ridicules Mr. Aylesworth's attempt to transfer the blame from the shoulders of his colleagues to those of certain Tory office holders whom he does not name. "The civil service commissioners," it says, "remark that the system which caused the reported waste of public money was that the officers of the department, acting upon orders from above, dealt only with friends of the government, beneficiaries of that precious document, the patronage list. It is surely absurd, then, to argue

that the extravagance, or worse, in the Marine Department is all to be traceable to unnamed officials. The existence of the patronage list, which the commissioners have demonstrated, is in itself an evidence of direct ministerial responsibility for any diversion of public moneys that may have happened under the system."

ST. JOHN AND THE TRANS-ATLANTIC SERVICE

An interview with Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, which appears on another page, will serve to remind St. John of one of the before-election pledges of Hon. Mr. Pugsley. Sir Thomas calls attention to the unnecessary delay caused by sending the mail steamers from St. John to Halifax, instead of permitting them to go direct from St. John to Liverpool. "The Empress," Sir Thomas said before sailing yesterday afternoon, "will be at Halifax until 5 or 6 o'clock tomorrow evening, while if the mails had left Montreal last night and been shipped here the steamer would have gained nearly a day."

The Minister of Public Works, unless he has changed his mind, should now be working hard to terminate the absurd arrangement of which Sir Thomas complains, and of which St. John has long complained. The Halifax call has no reasonable excuse. It represents a concession to Nova Scotia sentiment which is unsupported by any reason of business or transportation. At the time he was seeking election for this constituency, before he entered the cabinet, Dr. Pugsley dwelt at length upon this matter in one of his public speeches here. He said plainly that the Halifax call was wholly unnecessary and that it involved serious and irritating delay. Regarded as a matter of business—and it should be regarded in no other way—the view of Dr. Pugsley and Sir Thomas Shaughnessy is sound.

DREDGING

Impulsive defenders of government methods of awarding dredging contracts involving vast expenditures have scarcely done the subject justice either as regards the Minister of Public Works on the one hand or the contractors on the other. The country, it is clear, is bound to hear much about dredging in the near future. The question develops new and pleasing aspects daily. It is quite possible that the public may learn why the dredging business sometime ago began to exercise a fascination upon all sorts and conditions of men who enjoyed a pull. The lure of the Yukon gold fields was not stronger among those who guessed the possibilities of dredging under favorable political auspices. The Toronto Mail and Empire brings out some of the beauties of the subject in this fashion:

"Strange, indeed, are discoveries that have been made by Parliament on this subject. The first notable fact to come out was that which made it plain that the dredging for the Government is carried on largely by politicians or relatives of politicians. 'It seems that the day the Laurier administration was formed there was a great rush into the dredging business. Old campaigners, ex-members, sons, brothers, and sons-in-law of prominent politicians hastened to provide themselves with dredges and to get in the swim. Jim Connors' son-in-law was one of the fortunate men. Jim McMullen's son followed. The brother of John Grant, M.P., the son of Robert Stewart, M.P., Dr. Spohn, a former member, and an official of the Ross Government; Mr. Bowman, a brother of Charles Bowman, M.P.P., and Mr. A. G. Mackay, the leader of the Ontario Opposition, also equipped themselves with dredging plants and proceeded to get business from Ottawa."

The Mail and Empire strongly commends Mr. Bennett for protesting against the letting of huge dredging contracts without tender. It adds: "As much cannot be said of the attitude of the new Minister of Public Works towards the question. That politician insisted upon

following the wrong course, and even went so far as to justify the queer transactions that have been revealed with reference to the dredging operations."

The Toronto Journal points out that originally the work was given out without tender, but Mr. Bennett's protests rendered it necessary in most cases to go through the form of asking for tenders. Mr. Bennett, says the Mail, "now charges that the tenders of supposed rival contractors are not so competitive as they ought to be. As a matter of fact, there were in one case two tenders for one job, and both were in envelopes belonging to Leader Mackay. He also avers that the contract is not given to the lowest tenderer. In the example cited Mr. Mackay made the highest offer, and got the work. Over and above this, the charge of looseness in the inspection of the dredging is made. On one contract the man who was supposed to look after the interests of the government by counting the scow loads, and seeing that they were not skimmed, was actually in the employ of the owner of the dredge!"

"When it is remembered that the dredging is carried on under company names by politicians, and that the amounts paid have been \$2,000,000 to one company, \$1,300,000 to Jim Connors' son-in-law and \$350,000 to Leader Mackay, it stands to reason that the work is large, and that it ought to be properly looked after. For this reason Mr. Pugsley is to be blamed for giving out orders for the season without honest tenders. A minister of the Crown ought to profit by the facts exposed in the public enquiries. Mr. Pugsley declines to do this, a circumstance which indicates that the Public Works Department experiences no improvement as a consequence of his presence there."

THE LICENSES

The liquor license commissioners heard evidence on Saturday which should serve to make it easy for them to reduce the number of licenses in case the Supreme Court decides that the number heretofore granted has been greater than the law permits. As a matter of fact, however the law is interpreted, there have been too many licenses. There will be a sustained agitation to reduce the number, to raise the license fee, and to remove the screens from the windows of places where liquor is sold. With these reforms the city is likely to stick to the license system for a while at least. Without them there will be increasing demand for prohibitory legislation.

It was a simple matter for the Temperance Federation to prove that the license law is continually violated by the sale of intoxicants during prohibited hours. This was a matter of common knowledge. It was known, moreover, that many of the violators sell under conditions which directly encourage poverty, suffering, and crime. In recent years the commissioners have not sought to enforce the law strictly. There was an informal understanding that the old government did not desire too active interference with the liquor trade, and the commissioners and the inspector have made no very frantic efforts to make the city "dry" after bar hours. The average saloon-keeper in St. John closes his place at the proper hour and keeps it closed; yet for some reason or other these law-abiding dealers have submitted without active protest to long continued selling after hours by many of the men dealt with in the evidence heard on Saturday. A law which is so "enforced" that it stops one man from selling and permits another to do an all-night business is bound to get somebody into trouble. The trouble began on Saturday. It will mean that the liquor business will be carried on under changed conditions hereafter.

The commissioners seem not to have complied with that provision of the law which says a record of the convictions shall be sent to the Provincial Secretary and shall be ready for inspection by any citizen who is interested. That record should always be available. In reducing the number of licenses it will be of no little use. The men whose record shows that they have persistently broken the law are the men who should lose their licenses. If this view does not prevail the men who do obey the law may well ask what incentive there is to do so. It is clearly injurious and improper to fill Union street and the north side of King square with bar-rooms. The practice injures property, impairs the reputation of these localities from the residential standpoint, and tends to establish a disreputable centre exerting an evil influence upon the life of the city.

It is the custom in some quarters to speak in a whisper of matters of this sort. That is an error. The men who violate the license law are not entitled to silken consideration. They have made all the trouble for themselves and for the saloon men who close their doors on time. Violation of the law and the sale of liquor to drunken men or men who are neglecting their families are the practices which have led to an increasing demand for advanced temperance legislation. The facts

are not to be dodged. They must be dealt with. And they must be dealt with from the standpoint of the public interest. There is no politics in enforcing the law. There was politics, of a sort, in failing to enforce it.

THE CITY AND THE MONEY

"Each of the heads of departments should clearly understand that the expenditures during the year for his department must be kept within his appropriations, as the city will have no more revenue at its disposal."

This paragraph occurs in a report submitted to the Mayor of Cambridge (Mass.), by an expert employed to advise the city how it could live within its income. On one pretext or another the aldermen keep on increasing the debt, too often because the money they say it is necessary to spend is not properly spent. Mr. Chase, whose report is quoted, insists that every expenditure should be scrutinized and that full value for every dollar should be exacted. Some of the expert's comment applies well to the civic situation in St. John at present. For example, he says that only a mayor with great determination, with no regard for his political future, can bring about reductions and diminish the total expenditure sufficiently to keep within the tax limit; and further he must be supported by a body of active, reputable and representative citizens, such as Boston has in its Finance Commission, New York in its Bureau of Municipal Research, and Chicago in its City Club. He advocates complete, intelligent publicity in all city affairs.

He recommends that the city auditor's department be placed on a revenue accounting basis, instead of a cash accounting basis; the introduction of comparative statements of monthly expenditures, revenue appropriations being wholly separated from non-revenue (capital) appropriations. He urges prompt, frequent and intelligible statements of municipal transactions and conditions arranged comparatively by the chief accounting officer of the city.

In the city treasurer's department he recommends daily statements between offices and monthly verifications of the treasurer's cash balances by the auditor. He recommends a purchasing agent who should buy for all departments, his department to verify against the auditor's accounts. Under the St. John charter the Mayor really has little real power, but a resource, influential and public-spirited man in the office would have much influence over his board chairmen, and moreover, would not hesitate when occasion arose to appeal to the public and give his reasons for opposing any proposed line of action to which he objected on public grounds. Such a man would prevent much waste and nonsense. But a Mayor who either has no influence with the aldermen or who "stands in" with the machine is useless to the taxpayers.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Italy menaces the Sultan. The Un-speakable Turk will not change his ways because of black looks. And Italy will not shoot. It will end in talk.

A correspondent of the London Times who writes of Toronto mentions that rent and food prices are very high and are still rising. This is true of too many Canadian cities, St. John among them.

The Russian bear has thrust a paw into Persian territory, professing to punish lawless rovers. There is a tendency to scrutinize such Russian activities closely. London and Berlin will look into it. Persia is helpless. Also it has jealous guardians.

In case St. John does get the Dominion exhibition grant, the question of buildings will become suddenly formidable. Mention of the subject serves to remind one that the drill shed matter, which is associated with our exhibition buildings, is still unsettled.

Presumably the reason the leaders postponed the Liberal convention is that they were afraid to hold it. The party, of course, has no voice in the matter. But sooner or later the party will begin to dictate to some of its leaders. Success sometimes enables a leader to dictate to his followers. Failure kills off political dictators in short order.

Britain is already improving upon the Dreadnought type of fighting ship. The keel of H. M. S. Vanguard was laid at Barrow this month. The ship is of the Dreadnought type, improved and strengthened, and is the seventh in number of her kind. It will be of fully 20,000 tons displacement, will develop 25,000 horse power with turbine engines, and will carry, it is said, 13.5-inch guns. The other naval powers cannot catch the British stride in the matter of sea power.

The New York Sun demands that if Congress decides to remove the bulk of the ill-fated Maine from its resting-place in the mud of Havana harbor, advantage should be taken of the occasion to set finally at rest the question how the explosion which destroyed the vessel was caused. It is the Sun's contention that the declaration of war against Spain ten years ago was largely the result of the popular belief that the Maine was destroyed by a submarine mine exploded for the purpose by Spanish conspirators.—Toronto Globe.

The American commission which investigated on the spot reported that the Maine was sunk by a mine. It would be curious

indeed if evidence to reverse that decision should now be discovered. But for the Maine, war might have been averted. Had it been, the United States would not have entered upon its policy of expansion and terrific expenditure for military purposes.

The constant agitation for a bigger army and navy in the absence of any visible danger is beginning to get on the nerves of some of the American publicists. One of them says of Mr. Roosevelt's demand for four more battleships:

"Somehow this plea for a great navy to be built up in haste for the preservation of the world's peace or for national defense does not seem to ring quite true. It is hardly consistent or logical in proceeding from its major premise, and its appeal is rather to the spirit of national pride and glory, not to any aggressive policy, than to the sentiment of content with our own affairs and the intention to care only for their safety. There is a perturbing undertone to it for which there seems to be no sufficient occasion. No reason is really given for the immediate need of four new battleships."

Evidence taken at Ottawa shows that for \$10 a year Mr. J. K. Mackenzie, of Sark, got a lease for twenty-one years of fishing rights in the Athabasca and Little Slave lakes, Athabasca being some 250 miles long. Mr. A. McNeen got an exclusive lease of one hundred miles of the shore of James Bay for the same rental. Mr. Markey, of Montreal, also holds extensive fishing rights in western waters on a small rental. None of the men named are commercial fishermen, though some seem to have sold out their interests to men who were. Whatever the granting of great rights for small sums the whole government was responsible.—Montreal Gazette.

These men were not commercial fishermen in the ordinary sense of the term. They dropped their hooks into the waters at Ottawa, and they knew what bait to use.

Correct

(Montreal Gazette.)
The New Brunswick Liberal convention called for this week has been abandoned and the St. John Sun says the party in the province is demoralized. Whatever the result of the late provincial elections was, it is plain it was not a Liberal success.

How Much Longer?

(Charlottetown Guardian.)
The tenure of the Civil Service Commission falls with especial weight upon Sir Frederick Borden because he has had continuous control of the Militia Department since 1896. We do not think it probable that he will be much longer continued at its head.

The Empty Tomb

(G. Lucy May, in the Commonwealth, London.)
The tomb is empty! For its guarded mouth strong faces flash; the retinue of God still worships, lingering, where God has passed.
But He is gone! Why bring thy spices here? What room for service here? The thin, tired face
That long hours stretched its strong appeal to Heaven,
And drew this heart in anguish—its eye here;
That broken body, and those pierced hands
That lifted others' burdens—were not here.
Have raised Creation's burden—are not here. He is not here! What dost thou, wilt thou, here,
Before an empty tomb?

"The Lord is Risen!" Turn from thine empty tomb
And find Him, in the fulness of life's way,
Keep trust in quiet unwearied, Ay, to thee
In some lone garden drooping rose-tree
Of wasted spaces He shall come, and speed
Thy sickened feet on the levelled road
Of life's all-careless days the Cross
As mine thou standest—stricken with the pain
That smote Him and still smiles, or pierced by sword
Of thine own sinning—thou shalt hear "I
Be not afraid," and sudden know His voice
And touch His hand, in joy, tears,
Shall touch His hand; and oft in up
Where thou and the beloved meet
On mystic Cup and broken Bread
And share the risen life.

The tomb is empty, but the world
Walks on in busy ways; tell such
—Who need not—by the resurrection
With shining face and gladder
know
The Lord is risen indeed—still
Walking the troubled seas—still
Still strong to save from sin
And tell thy tale. Some one, at
And
The message of thine eyes and shining
And, turning, tell the world to sing
Of those years of Calvary and empty tomb
To find the risen Christ!

O Lost Canadian Singer.

(To the memory of W. H. Drummond, died April 6, 1907.)
(By Dr. J. D. Logan, in Toronto World.)
O lost Canadian Singer of winsome lays,
How farthest thou along the Byronic ways—
Art thou companioned as we are?
And sorrowing?
This April day the carolling
Of songsters on the tree,
But no new note from thee
To us shall come.
For lo! the time is genial Spring
When the birds of life begin to sing
His joyous notes and his praise
Of earth glowing lovelier with the April
days.
But thine own lips are dumb!
O gentle heart, we wonder if thou farest
happily
With Homer and the Attic strain,
Or Milton and the tragic train
Or with those warblers of sweet verse
Whose tongue is as the loveliest notes
That ever rose from bird-like throats,
Short, plaintive lays of kind humanity?

How'er thou farest, we grieve this April day,
When Death called to thee and thou wast
away.
Yet if thou hearest our low lament,
Thou smilest, poet, and art content:
No graven pillar, no freestone coronel,
But thine own music, sweet and magical,
Shall be, as now, thy best memorial
And lasting monument.

O lost Canadian Singer, Canadian hearts are
true;
They hail thee o'er the void—Bonnie nuit,
Auld!

The Editor of the Toronto Globe to

Geo. E. Foster.
(Toronto News.)
O promise me that you will not let me
Will meet when other people are not high
And have an argument with sticks and
stones
And thereby try to break each other's bones.
Thinking how better far to smash the jaw
Than with a libel suit to seek the Law,
Hard words are vain, as you can plainly
see.
O promise me, O promise me.

O promise me to leave your gun at home,
When to the merry trysting-place you roam,
Cause shooting might put one of us in bed,
And give the press a big six-gun record.
Nothing more savage than a word
brick.
"Twill be enough to make us both look sick,
All talk is useless, we must both agree,
O promise me, O promise me."