

## The Planet

R. STEPHENSON, Proprietor

## GOOD WAGES

The Toronto Mail makes these remarks about Mr. Pritchett:

The affidavit of Mr. Pritchett, one of the members of the machine that Mr. Macnash was asked to sign, indicates that the employers of the ballot-switchers pay good wages.

A hundred dollars a month for simply living in Detroit and not giving the thing away was a very good income.

Even when the salary was reduced to fifty dollars a month it was not bad, considering the duties that had to be performed.

Here is a man who miscounted votes in order to elect the Ontario government candidate; he was a part of the Ontario government machine.

Who paid him for his work in the first place?

Who paid him his regular monthly salary to keep away?

Does anybody suppose that some charitable institution finds the funds?

Does anybody doubt that the machine employed to cheat the electors, and bribed to keep mum, receives its sustenance from the men who profit by its work?

## THE LOTTERY OF THE LAW.

A judgment of the court of appeal the other day is a good illustration of the muddled state of the law, or else of the muddled state of the judges of this province who administer it.

Here is about as peculiar a case as anyone could find to show how utterly rotten "the State of Denmark is."

Some seven or eight years ago there lived on Bear Creek, near Wallaceburg, a farmer named Brown. One day Brown's buildings were burned. He claimed the fire was caused by sparks from a large owned by Capt. McCrae, and sued McCrae for damages. The suit was successful, and Brown got \$500.

Time passed and the same property with other buildings came into possession of one Peacock. Recently his place was burned, and he laid the fire to a large, the property this time of Capt. Cooper. Peacock sued Cooper for damages the same way as his predecessor had done McCrae. But Brown was non-suited and the court of appeal sustained the non-suit.

There were two cases exactly alike decided in totally different ways. If one man got British justice another didn't. We don't know which was the victim of bad law, or worse still, judicial ignorance and incompetence, but apparently one must have been. These cases are simply referred to to show the lottery which law amounts to in Ontario. That the statutes ought to be made clearer and more comprehensive we think all will agree. But there ought also to be a public and general protest against the bench being loaded up with men whose only fitness for judicial work is that they were hangers-on of either one party or the other. The late Conservative administration was perhaps the worst offender in lowering the standard of the Canadian bench by appointing men of very mediocre calibre, but the present Government has not improved any on the work of its predecessors.

A peculiarity of these Wallaceburg cases is, that J. S. Fraser, of that town, was counsel for the plaintiff in one and for the defendant in the other, and, with the aid no doubt of the causes which we have outlined above, performed the remarkable feat of winning under similar conditions both ways.

The ladies of the Red Cross are shortly to give another entertainment and we propose to insist on our good friend the Banner doing it justly. We mention the matter, thus early so as to leave it no expense for not properly reporting the affair.

John A. Auld, M. L. A., is recognized as one of the leading debaters in the Ontario Parliament. He is indefatigable in his exertions, and following the footsteps of his predecessor, he makes himself acquainted with all the details of the questions under discussion.—Leamington Post.

All of which makes it more deplorable that such an otherwise excellent representative should so lower himself as to vote to shield the Government from an exposure of its dealings with the infamous machine which has put and kept it where it is.

It is interesting to note in view of the frequent objections raised to the use of the French language in official affairs in the Dominion that, as a survival of the Norman conquest, the royal sanction of the laws passed by the British parliament is still given in French. The formula for the royal sanction of financial laws or appropriations is as follows: La Reine remercie ses bons sujets, accepte leur benevolence, et ainsi le veut. For laws of general interest the form is, La Reine le veut. For local laws it is, Soit fait comme il est desire. For a petition it is, Soit droit fait comme il est desire. And the royal sanction is refused in the following words: La Reine s'avisera.

## "Better Be Wise Than Rich."

Wise people are also rich when they know a perfect remedy for all annoying diseases of the blood, kidneys, liver and bowels. It is Hood's Sarsaparilla, which is perfect in its action. It so regulates the entire system as to bring vigorous health. It never disappoints.

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Poor Health—"Had poor health for years, pains in shoulders, back and hips, with constant headache, nervousness and no appetite. Used Hood's Sarsaparilla, gained strength and can work hard all day; eat heartily and sleep well. I took it because it helped my husband." Mrs. Elizabeth J. Giffels, Moose Lake, Minn.

Makes Weak Strong—"I would give \$5 a bottle for Hood's Sarsaparilla if I could not get it for less. It is the best spring medicine. It makes the weak strong." ALBERT A. JAGROW, Douglastown, N. Y.

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Independence, the non-political paper published at Brandon, summarizes the recent speech of the Minister of the Interior there in this way: "It is true that when in Opposition we denounced protection and the National Policy; but when in office we discovered that those principles were supported by influential moneyed classes; and consequently, as Manitoba only sends seven members of Parliament out of 213, we decided to swallow our principles and support those very abominations we were sent to Parliament to reform, because we find it pays us better."

The government has very properly decided that the law must take its course in the case of Burglar Williams who killed a Toronto grocer during a struggle which occurred in the process of robbing his store. This burglar's companion was fatally shot by a policeman while trying to escape. Now the law will exact another life. Williams' execution ought to have an excellent effect on the criminal classes. It is not thoroughly realized among them that if a life is taken accidentally during the commission of a felony, the law says that that is murder the same as if the deed were wilfully done, and the punishment therefore, is death.

## MANY SIGNS.

A flock of wild ducks was seen on Sunday, and on Monday the crows were numerous. The price of fresh eggs is down to 11 cents, and the daily papers are taken up with descriptions of marvellous conglomerations of chifflon, flowers, tulle, feathers, Paris models of pink and black, reseda green, and the pastel shades. The indications point to carpet beating and luncheons of soda biscuits and pickles.

## GET RID OF THE MEN WHO PROFIT BY THE CRIMES OF THE MACHINE.

The Mail.

Mr. Whitney is doing his best to clean up our politics, to suppress the

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briber and the ballot-stuffer, and to enable the people to rule. His bill goes a long way in these directions, and the government dare not oppose it. But, after all, the efficient care is the destruction of the machine. That cannot be accomplished save by the removal of the props which support it. The ministers for whom the machine worked, the ministers who created it, must pass out. The passage of a new law does not settle the question. The law is a deterrent, and not a punishment. Men who get the old law at naught if allowed to go scot free may be just as ready to defeat the objects of the new legislation.

## WANTED 'EM TO GO SOFT ON THE MEN.

Albany Journal.

The choir was singing a scripture sentence, and the leader (a lady), not being pleased with the ladies' rendering of the "amen," admonished them thus: "Now the soprano and alto must start much stronger on the A, and let the sound gradually die away and become softer, and finish particularly soft upon the men."

## "SHE NODDIT TO ME."

The following, which appeared some time ago in the Bon Accord, a weekly comic journal, published in Aberdeen, attracted the notice of the Queen, and Her Majesty wrote expressing a desire to be furnished with the name of the author:

I'm but an auld body

Living up in Deeside,

In a twaroom'd bit hoosie,

Wi' a toofa' beside.

Wi' my coo and my grumphy,

I'm as happy 's a bee,

But I'm far prouder

Since she noddit to me!

I'm nae sae far past wi'—

I'm nae trig and ha'e

Can plant twa tree twawies,

An' look after my kail;

An' when our Queen passes

I'm oot to see

Gin by luck she might notice

An' noddit to me!

But I've been unlucky,

And the binnies were aye doon,

Thi' last week the time

O' her veskit cam' roon'.

I waded my bit apron

As brash's I could dae;

An' the Queen lauch'd fu' kindly

An' noddit to me!

My son sleeps in Egypt—

It's nae use to fret

An' yet when I think o't

I'm sair like to greet.

She's a mither, ye see—

And maybe she kent o'

When she noddit to me.

MATTHEW WILSON, Q. C.

The Canada Law Journal has a very fine cut of Matthew Wilson, Q. C., as he appeared in gown and wig before the Imperial Privy Council. The costume is unknown in Canadian practice except in British Columbia, but though odd, it is not unbecoming.

Mr. Wilson, the companion of the cut in the Law Journal is the following sketch:

Matthew Wilson, Q. C., whose portrait appears on the opposite page, is a leading member of the bar of Western Ontario. He was born in the county of Kent on August 28th, 1854, being the son of the late Robert Wilson, a native of Dublin, Ireland, and of Anglo-Saxon origin.

He received his education in Chatham, White and Toronto, and having chosen to follow the legal profession, he served his time in one of the great firms of former days—Harrison, Osler & Moss—two of whose members after wards became chief justices and two others now sit as judges in the court of appeal.

Mr. Wilson, following the example of the senior member of the firm under which he studied, gave special attention to the province, and in drainage cases he may safely be said to be facile princeps.

Mr. Wilson was called to the bar in 1879, made a Q. C. in 1889, and is now at the head of the firm of Wilson, Kerr & Pike, Chatham, Ont. In 1894 he was elected president of the Western Bar Association, which position he still holds.

He takes an interest in legal literature, some of his articles finding their way into some of the American legal periodicals as well as into the lay press of this country. His energy has not been confined to his chosen profession. He has long been an advocate and liberal supporter of higher education in all its branches, and he has for years been a member of the council of Huron Divinity College, and a senator of the Western University of London. An Anglican in religion, he is a foremost advocate in the church and its councils, being a delegate from the Synod of Huron to the first General Synod of Canada, and afterwards made a member of the Supreme Court of that body.

As a lawyer and as a citizen Mr. Wilson enjoys the confidence and esteem of the profession and the public. He is a ready and graceful speaker, a keen debater, and has the art of putting a great deal of matter into a few words. Although an active Conservative and a convincing platform speaker, he has never been induced to become a candidate for any political office or position.

A good resolution is one of the few things that is stronger at its birth than at any other time.

TOBACCO HABIT CURED IN A WEEK.  
Dr. Price's Tobacco Cure often does it. Jon Swears of Chatham, Ont., chewed and smoked for 40 years; his eyesight was becoming impaired and nerves shaky. One box of Dr. Price's Tobacco Cure cured him. Guaranteed \$1.00 a box.

For sale by G. H. Gunn & Co., druggists, Chatham, Ont.

## HOW THEY FOUGHT

Private Beers, of Windsor, Tells About the Canadians.

Some Smoked While Others Chewed  
Hard Tack: While the Bullets Whizzed.

Windsor, March 31.—J. M. Beers, of the customs office, did not mind it when Charles Beers, one of the Windsor boys with the Canadian contingent in South Africa. The letter was written from Klip Drift, Orange Free State, on Feb. 23. After telling of the rapid march to Belmont to where Cronje was surrounded, Mr. Beers describes the attack on Cronje at Paardeberg. At first, he writes, "the boys berg" rather serious as the bullets whistled over our heads, but later on when we got on the firing line, and got under cover of the little bushes and in the trees, we could not see and had to fire at random. We were all mixed up with the Black Watch, Seaforth and Gordon Highlanders and other regiments. Some big pieces of hard tack, while the next minute you would be hit by a bullet. Along about 3 o'clock the Cornwallis' colonel came up and said we were all to fix bayonets and charge, which we did, as the enemy's fire was something terrific. I shall never forget it. You will have heard, by this time, of our loss. Poor Walter White (Windsor) was shot through the head, Paddon (Windsor), poor fellow, was shot four times, twice through the body, and in the right elbow and left wrist, but is doing nicely and will pull through. Marantette (Windsor) was shot through the right arm, breaking the bone. All the other Windsor boys escaped, but I myself had a very narrow escape, being shot through the helmet. Out of our section there were five wounded and one killed. The company had three killed and fourteen wounded. The casualties of the regiment were over 80, and the British loss for the day was placed at 800. I forgot to say that Lieut. Mason, of our company was shot, a bullet going through one shoulder and coming out at the other."

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