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JIMUEL BRIGGS, D.D.

Dulness in Legacy—The Constitution Stifled—Irish Disloyalty—Nationality and Politics—The Municipal Elections—Aldermanic Candidates, &c., &c.

*Editor Colocosh Irradiator.*

I expected are this to have been sent for to proceed to Lennox and assist Cartwright in his canvass.

Would I had been. Cartwright's Finance Minister and shekels will be lavishly expended to secure his return.

He controls the Dominion coffers and of course won't allow himself to be beaten for want of cash.

By the way—conundrum—Why is Cartwright like a physician prescribing for a miserable complaint? Because he has charge of the *coffers* (coughers) and finds the *whoopers* (Hoopers) difficult to manage.

Don't you see—whoopers—persons afflicted with whooping-cough—and Hooper Cartwright's antagonist.

That conundrum is not to be sneezed at, though it may require a season of profound meditation to enable you to realize its beauties.

Though I haven't yet got instructions to proceed to Lennox, I am nevertheless living in hope and a fourth-class hackney on credit, and Church street.

I wish the times would change. Perhaps they will soon. The Ottawa *Times* hasempora mutantur:

"Beauty draws us with a single hair,"

As sing the poet—which is, I take it, opinion. When papers veer like weather-cocks in air, 'Tis body which controls the line of Cotton,

How's that for an elegant [and piquant political epigram?

The prevailing hope is the composition and chances of re-election of the Ministry.

The Irish don't at all like the manner in which they have been treated, nor consider Blake and Scott as representatives of their interests.

I had a talk with J. D. Merrick about it yesterday.

"What do you think of the new Ministry?" said I.

"I'm not at all satisfied with them. It's disgraceful the way we have been ignored. When I think of it, it raises my ire.

"Ah, that is because you are *Irish*, (Irish,) I responded.

"Jesum," said he. It's not a fair deal at all. The two men they put forward as our representatives, are both in the irresponsible positions of Ministers without portfolios or departments, and neither of them Irishmen."

"Blake has never regarded himself or been looked upon by others as a representative Irishman, and as for the other he is Scott by name and Scott by descent and by disposition. It's a shame an' an injustice, sir. They should have taken Anglin into the Ministry now."

"Yes," said I, "he would very appropriately have filled the position of Minister of Fisheries, as he's always Anglin."

"Instead of which," said Merrick, "they gave it to an *Anglo*-Saxon. 'Twas ever thus.

"It's too bad after the way in which we have stuck to the Party to have Scotchmen put into nearly every office of importance, and the only honour permitted to Irishmen, that of being the lackeys of forlorn hopes in Tory constituencies.

"It may be a compliment to the national character for bravery, but it's a good deal like making a man a Minister without portfolio, more honour than profit."

The Irish are not going to allow themselves to be used as a ladder on which the Grits can climb to power, and then kick them over on attaining the summit of their desires.

There is another class who are not represented in the Ministry, though nobody appears to feel much sympathy for them, namely, the English.

Englishmen don't amount to much in the politics of Canada, anyhow. It is just as well—they are mostly Tories.

Those that were so, on coming here, become more so; and those who were Liberal in the old country, vote the Grit ticket with audacity for about a dozen years, when they mostly begin to discover that Goldwin Smith's Liberalism is a different article from the Grit Liberalism.

But whichever side they belong to they don't seem to be successful in attaining leading positions.

They don't hang together like the Scotch and Irish—either in business, politics, or anything else.

A Scotchman will travel half a mile out of his way to spend his money at the store of a brither Scot. An Irishman would probably go the length of a block to give his patronage to a fellow countryman; whereas an Englishman wouldn't cross the street to deal with another if he could get equally well served without doing so.

And its just the same in politics. Irishmen and Scotchmen vote their ticket regardless of Party considerations, where their national sympathies are concerned, but an Englishman sticks to his Party like the Spirit of Terror to a defunct Ethiopian, under all circumstances.

If an Englishman is a candidate in an election, he won't draw a dozen votes from his countrymen, while the Irish, or Scotchmen will be sure to give a fellow countryman a good vote, and Englishmen will do the same for him, namely, the English.

Englishmen don't amount to much in the matter of numbers, we shall not be missed, though we may be a natural Canadian of mixed breed without enough Scotch or Irish blood in your veins to represent either of those nationalities.

It is just the same in civic matters too. The unfortunate Englishman is usually counted out, notwithstanding, which, I notice there is an undoubted *Britton* running for St. Lawrence Ward.

Canvassing for the municipal elections has set in with warm hands. Already quite a number of aspirants are in the field.

Now is the winter for our discontent made glorious summer by the innumerable invitations to bibulate with these Aldermanic. They will do it and it ain't good manners to lacerate their feelings by a refusal.

I am bound to preserve my reputation for politeness even at the expense of my digestion and the Candidates.

I drink to all their successes which brings it round to a pretty even thing in the long run, as one drink offsets another.

Oates, one of the leading York Pioneers, is running for St. James' Ward.

I don't know if he is in favour of making the citizens pay up their taxes in November or not. Will he introduce a measure to that effect?

A friend of his was out canvassing for him the other day and asked another citizen if he would vote for Oates.

"What are his qualifications?" asked the man.

"First class," said the canvasser. "He's an old citizen, a good business man, one of the York Pioneers, came here in 1817! You ought to give him your vote, he's one of the early settlers."

"Not much; I won't," replied the other. "Don't catch me voting for no such man—not likely. It's a fraud and a swindle, this idea of making a man pay 2½ per cent a month because it ain't convenient for him to pay his taxes in November."

"But what's that got to do with Mr. Oates?"

"Didn't you say just now he was one of these early settlers. Darn your early settlers. Janwary's quite soon enough for a fellow to pay his taxes. No, I'll be goin' the 2½ per cent. shave he can't have my vote."

"You don't understand, Oates settled in the country at an early date."

"Oh, that's a horse of another colour. Well, I'll think about it."

"Thanks. *How shall I woo thee?*"

"Hot with mince pie."

"And you, Jimuel?"

"Scarce. Well try and give Oates a lift if you can."

"Don't know about that. Every hour that keeps him from will tell you that *oats* are high enough already."

I took an oat of it!

JIMUEL BRIGGS, D. B.,
Graduate of Cobocosh University.

Toronto, Nov. 21st.

### Wealthy Highwaymen.

In the case of McLean and W. H. Hinesman, who were sentenced at Bannock, Beaverhead county, Montana, to ten years imprisonment in the Territorial Penitentiary for robbing Wells, Fargo & Co.'s treasure box of some seventeen thousand dollars in gold in 1871; while they were keepers of the Red Butte Station, a judgment was also rendered against them for Wells, Fargo & Co., for $18,700, which it is supposed their property will very nearly cover. It appears that after the robbery of the coach these hardened criminals kept on at the Red Butte station, and with their plunder purchased cattle, raised stock, and were considered thrifty and honest farmers, with luck on their side, who never went into a speculation or a trade which did not turn out in their favour, and which was considered the secret of their success among their neighbors. But, thrifty and cunning as they played their hands, they were too greedy to cover up their tracks, and failed to make a equal division with the stock tender, George Rugg, whom they used as a tool, and who secured the treasure box, hid it, and let McLean and Hinesman in with the booty. But the latter were took the lion's share and gave Rugg plenty of jawbone and very little money; whereupon he waxed hot, and although he stood a choking twice, with a rope around over a beam and a couple of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s employes on the other end of it, and would not reveal the secret until "ingratitude, more strong" than tightening cords, finally betrayed him. They will be it and it ain't good manners to lacerate their feelings by a refusal.

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Young Liberal-Conservative, and an adventurer when I started in about an old fossil. (Cheers.) Family Compact tried to keep out they couldn't. He knew I think and think, and voted with Tory; and unless he did vote way, I would not think him a man. One day I made the—perhaps it was a mistake—Hon. Francis Hincks a better financial statesman. (Cheers and laughter.) ask in my mind as to believe that of this country, for the establish good banking system, a good sound tariff, and a safe fiscal country was in safer hands Mr. Cartwright. But from this ardent soldier fled away could not support a Government such a Radical fellow in it as Sir and now you see the company gone into. (Laughter.) Francis Hincks came into the that gentleman drew away it would have pleased me very had only a man of the same Party the position; but my idea has altered country first, Party afterwards. I am as strong a party man as I am, believing then as I do now, considering a great benefit obtaining the financial genius of Hincks—for it amounted to great Party and even forgot Mr. What was the consequence? of Sir Francis succeeded, and being convicted with our finances a position of which any country real. There was another thought the disagreeable gentleman it was this, disguise it as you will, man can last long unless the different sections of the country are in it—you cannot concentrate section. It happened that Mr. Cartwright, and myself were same place. Mr. Cartwright knew said not all be in the Cabinet, and stocked at Radicals, he joined Hincks—and the latter stealers, (laughter.) He has now gained the to the only member for King-Cabinet. I have seen many in base conduct, ingratitude, and they, but never in my life have I man who has behaved so badly, so from such sordid motives as Mr. (Cheers.) All that I desire is, Government which has got him will stand it him. I will tell you what of the Opposition is. You will they will conduct matters differentlate Opposition. They will, subordinate Party to Country. You find us opposing any measure rests of the country for the sake of You will find us supporting that when they deserve it, as if our brothers; but I don't believe too often called upon to give support. I don't believe our ence will be taxed, because I think measures, like angel's visits, will far between; but if they are few tween, they will be the more well we will support them according, as I am concerned, that will be that of being the leader of forlorn hopes in Tory constituencies.

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