

OPINIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

GEO. W. DOWER'S LETTER.

To the Editor of THE ECHO.

Sir,—In your issue of the 16th instant there appears a communication over the signature of Mr. Geo. W. Dower, of Toronto, in which he charges me, as your correspondent in that city, with several sins of omission and commission in my correspondence which appeared in THE ECHO on January 9th. These charges are to the effect that I did not give all the names of "the many well-known among labor representatives" on the platform for Mr. McMillan (in the Mayoralty contest); that it was not true that Mr. McMillan was the candidate of the Orange Order; that I intentionally and untruthfully put Mr. Fleming's plurality majority at 450 rather than at 350; and that, while well known here, notwithstanding my pen name, I was "only following my usual tactics in stating what was not true" in my report of the recent municipal elections in this city.

To the first charge I plead partially guilty, for I purposely omitted the name of one person other than Messrs. Armstrong, Wright, Dower and Bradley, who was "on the stump" for Mr. McMillan, and I did so through compassion for those I have just named. Mr. S. R. Heakes was on the platform with them for Mr. McMillan. Now this individual was once a labor candidate for Parliament in Toronto, but met defeat. Later on he declared on a public platform in St. Lawrence Hall, that, although in the past he had been a consistent Conservative, he had cast his last vote for that party until it had given the working people a Dominion Factory Act (which that party has not yet done). Later still, when organized labor put Messrs. Jury, Sheppard, March and Roney in nomination at Federal and Provincial elections, the same Heakes was on the platform against these candidates, and no one outdid him in scurrility and in abuse of some of these men and their supporters at that time. For this and like work in support of that party which he had publicly fore sworn in St. Lawrence Hall, he was afterwards appointed one of that Royal Labor Commission—of which Mr. John Armstrong was also a brilliant member—which cost the country so much, and resulted only in bringing forth a mouse, although many deny even a delivery to that extent. Well, as I said, this Mr. Heakes was on the platform for Mr. McMillan, and I at once apologise to Mr. Dower for neglecting to credit him with being in such company on that occasion.

Secondly, I did not say that "Mr. McMillan was the candidate of the Orange Order," although such was, practically, the case. An Orangeman himself, Mr. Dower should know this to be true. Everybody knows, for it was so announced in our city papers, that some time before the nomination day, a meeting of Orangemen was held in the Orange Hall to determine whether Bro. McMillan or Bro. E. F. Clarke (the retiring Mayor) should be the candidate; that a deputation was ordered to wait on Bro. Clark, and that ultimately Bro. McMillan went to the polls while Bro. Clark did not present himself for re-election. If Mr. Dower, being within the circle, denies this, I will stand corrected to that extent in this particular.

Thirdly, as to my crediting Mr. Fleming with 450 plurality majority, I need only point out that my letter, giving the result of the contest, was written on the day after the election, and I gave the figures as published in the morning papers of that day. If the official count by the City Clerk afterwards placed Mr. Fleming's majority as 350, did that render me untruthful? Evidently Mr. Dower was hard-pressed in trying to justify his growling. Mr. Fleming received 8,683 and Mr. McMillan received 4,702 votes. These figures of themselves clearly indicate the choice of the working classes in that contest, and Mr. Dower would be better employed in studying the lesson indicated thereby than in showing his ill-temper under defeat and in abusing and vilifying his friends. Mr. Dower volunteers the statement that Mr. McMillan "is at present, and for a number of years past, a member in good standing of the Order of the K. of L. and a workingman in every sense of the word." Even if true, without the personal consent of Mr. McMillan for so stating, has not Mr. Dower violated his obligation as a member of that body in so announcing? I said nothing against Mr. McMillan personally. As to his being "a workingman in any sense of the word," I beg to be allowed to judge for myself. Since I have known Mr. McMillan, and that is for years, he has been a wholesale fruit dealer—a middleman (or "fruit shark" as Mr. Dower would put it) between the producer and the consumer. What he may have been in early life matters little. No one to-day speaks well of the Evil One on the score of his being in Heaven once. Verbum sap.

Lastly, Mr. Dower charges me as "following my usual tactics in stating what was not true" in my report of the election. As I

have not concealed my identity as your correspondent among those who take an interest in labor matters here—in fact I informed them myself, so that they could furnish me such information as would not come under my personal notice—this charge has only caused a smile to those who know me best. My real personal friends often tell me that I but imitate Mr. Dower, rather than persist in uttering the truth at all times, I would be really popular. I am surprised nevertheless, at this stab from Mr. Dower. For many years have I been his friend, and I had no doubt of his friendship for me. He will not charge me with being deceitful. Can he say as much for himself. I never was nor could I be an honest friend of any one whose "usual tactics" were of an untruthful character. At first I inclined to believe that Mr. Dower had another person in view when writing, but latterly I learn that he knew who your correspondent was. If this be true it but adds one more to the deceitful ones of my acquaintance—that is all.

Realizing that the columns of THE ECHO should not be utilized for petty personal spleen or recrimination on the part of those really interested in the welfare of those who toil for a living, I refrain from saying many truthful though unpalatable things to Mr. Dower anent his letter, and will conclude by asking you, sir, to give me a gentle hint when you think that in my correspondence to THE ECHO I am trying to use it for personal purposes or am forgetful of truthfulness and impartiality in my communication, and I will "shut off" at once. My writing to THE ECHO is not for pleasure, I assure you, except in so far as trying to perform a duty may be so termed. Although writing under a "nom de plume" you are at liberty to reveal my personality to any who really desire to know, for during my whole life I never penned anything either of a public or private character, that I would have cause to blush for or dread its appearance over my proper name. While hoping that for the future I may be spared from personal attacks by friends of Mr. Dower's stamp yet I will be always pleased in being set right as to any errors of fact into which I may inadvertently fall. URM.

Toronto, January 26, 1892.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK

European.

Alfred Carpenter, the well known English physician, is dead.

Lord Salisbury held a conference at the London Foreign office Wednesday with Mr. Lincoln, the United States minister.

The number of deaths attributed to influenza in London during the past week is 506. The general mortality shows a further increase.

The steam trawler Abuon, belonging to Grimsby, is a fortnight overdue and it is believed that she has foundered. She had on board nine men.

Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, who is suffering with an attack of gout in the head and hand, passed a quiet night. He, however, is still in a critical condition.

The death of the Grand Duke Constantine, uncle of the Czar, was a heavy shock to the Czarina, who is just recovering from an attack of influenza.

Mr. Gladstone in his summons to his followers to be present on the re opening of Parliament, says he hopes then to learn the intentions of the Government in regard to local government for Ireland.

The people of Moscow are much more impressed with the gravity of the famine than are the pleasure loving people of St. Petersburg. All classes in Moscow are making great sacrifices to assist the famine districts.

The Conservative and Liberal whips find that on account of the prevalence of influenza it will be some weeks before the full number of members of the House of Commons will assemble.

Mgr. Richard, cardinal archbishop of Paris, who a few days ago received a letter from the Pope in which he was requested to instruct the French clergy to cease all opposition to the Republic and to follow to the utmost the Pope's policy of conciliation, has written a letter to His Holiness declaring that he is unable to communicate to the French bishops the requests contained in the Pope's letter. Cardinal Richard gives as his reason for not obeying the mandate of the Pope that he does not consider it opportune to do so. This reply of Cardinal Richard has made a bad impression at the Vatican, where it is believed that the action of the Cardinal is due to the influence of the Royalists.

American.

The Assembly at Albany, N. Y., on Wednesday passed Mr. Stein's bill allowing representatives of newspapers to witness electrical executions. The vote was unanimous.

Two freight trains collided on the Hudson River railroad, near Hyde Park, Wednesday morning. Several cars were derailed and both tracks blocked. Early passenger trains

and the north-bound fast mail were detained several hours. Nobody was hurt.

At 8.30 o'clock Wednesday morning Fred W. Lentz, aged 58, a patient at St. Mark's hospital, New York, jumped from a third storey window to the sidewalk and was instantly killed.

Frank Brown and his wife, of South Boston, were killed together on Wednesday. Mrs. Brown was milking a cow when an animal standing in a stall near by kicked her, killing her instantly. Brown, missing his wife, went to the barn to learn what was keeping her. As he was in the act of raising the prostrate form of his wife the horse kicked him on the temple, from the effects of which he soon died.

A fire in a row of tenement houses on East Ohio street, Allegheny City, Pa., on Wednesday narrowly escaped resulting in an awful catastrophe. As it was one boy was burned to death and two of the houses were destroyed. Many women and children were out off by the flames and were taken from the windows by the firemen. They were forced to leave their rooms in their night clothes and great suffering was experienced for the intense cold.

Canadian.

It is stated that Mr. R. W. Shannon, of Kingston, has purchased the Ottawa Citizen, and will reach Ottawa to-day to take possession of it. The purchase price is said to have been \$30,000.

The Department of Militia has received notification that the Quebec Cavalry school has received from England an extensive equipment for mounted drill at arms. It consists of the Royal pattern war office lance, practice lances, swords, single sticks, rifles with spring bayonets, masks, gloves, etc.

A sensational incident occurred at the Elliott house, Toronto, on Wednesday night. A respectable young man, the son of a clergyman stationed near St. Catharines, was taken suddenly ill. A physician who called discovered that the fellow had taken a strong opiate, probably laudanum. After five hours' work with him consciousness was restored, and it is thought the sufferer will recover.

Dr. Bourinot, clerk of the House of Commons, appeared before the Civil Service commission in answer to a summons, but refused to be examined on the ground that the organization and working of the Commons was wholly under the control of the Commons itself. Dr. Bourinot produced a letter from Speaker White to the above effect. Until the Commons consent to it, Dr. Bourinot holds that he is debarred from giving any information to the commission.

THE SPORTING WORLD

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Duke of Portland has no 24 horses in training at Heath house.

A company with a capital of \$50,000 is being organized at Newark, N. J., to support a baseball team.

The Star offers several handsome prizes for an open steeplechase across the mountain on February 6th.

An Association football club has been organized in Worcester, Mass. The game is growing rapidly in New England.

It may not be generally known that the late Cardinal Manning was, when at Harrow, captain of the school cricket eleven.

Al Bandle, the noted Ohio trap shot, died Thursday. In a match with Captain Bogardus some years ago he killed 100 pigeons straight.

Ike Weir, the Belfast Spider, is matched to fight Artie Allen, of Manchester, N. H. The battle will take place March 22. Allen will have to be very clever to get away with Weir.

"The best team that ever visited Australia" got a very nasty knock at Melbourne when Combined Australia beat Lord Sheffield's men by 54 runs. The scoring was not particularly heavy, says an English exchange, only 900 runs were made in a match which extended over five days.

At Southampton, Eng., recently, Thomas Rogers, a horse dealer, sought to escape payment of £162 to Vickers Dunfee, a turf commission agent, on the ground that it was a gambling debt. Mr. Justice Charles held that Dunfee bet with others and paid out the money, therefore, was entitled to recover.

At Cambridge, Eng., on January 15 a remarkable skating feat was accomplished by James E. Aveling, of March, who tried for the gold speed badge, and to win which he had to do one mile with three turns in three minutes thirty seconds. This performance has never been achieved, but Mr. Aveling got within three-fifths of a second of the time.

A. G. Hales, of Sydney, N. S. W., has arranged at San Francisco with a number of commissions to match Australian pugilists with those of America, and states he is authorized on behalf of Joe Goddard to challenge Jim Corbett, if Charles Mitchell re-

fuses the match. Bill Murphy, ex-light-weight champion, is desirous of a match with Dixon. Martin Costello, "the Buffalo," was defeated in Sydney, December 14, by Dan Creedon in eight rounds.

Anthony Greene, of Sacramento, the owner of the Japanese strain of game cocks that proved such terrible fighters in the recent \$5,000 main, left a deposit with the Police Gazette yesterday to arrange a main against any owner or breeder of game fowls in America, to show twenty-one birds, between 4 pounds 6 ounces and 6 pounds 8 ounces, against any American birds, A. B. Suit preferred, for \$5,000 aside, 1 1/2-inch heels to be used, to meet half way between California and New York, or will allow \$500 expenses to fight on the Pacific coast.

The iron workers of Ottawa who went on strike three weeks ago for a shorter day have declared the strike off, and such of them as could find places have gone back to work without any change of hours.

The foundrymen of Hamilton, Ont., are making preparations to commence work again in a few weeks. They say they are determined not to pay the rate of wages in vogue last year. The moulders also appear as determined in the stand they have taken.

There are 6,000 men on strike at Bilbao, Spain, and there has been much rioting there. The strikers stoned the foot-guards, who were obliged to fire in self-defence. Many persons have been arrested. Large reinforcements of cavalry and infantry are on their way to preserve order in the disturbed city.

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