

## The Planet.

Business Office ..... 53  
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 S. STEPHENSON - Proprietor.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1905.

## THE THAMES JURISDICTION.

The acting Minister of Public Works has promised Mr. Clements, the member for West Kent, that he will endeavor to procure the services of an ice breaker for the Thames River near Chatham in order to prevent damages by spring flood.

The Hon. Mr. Hyman thus acknowledges that the high jinks characterizing this river are a proper subject for consideration at Ottawa.

It may now be hoped that this interest will extend yet further inland, compassing at length the great breakwater question in London West.

It is quite as reasonable for the Ottawa Government to assist the people of this valley in preventing the flooding of their property by a dyke, as it is to use preventive measures against the flooding of any other section of the Thames.

Mr. Hyman sets a precedent for his interference in these flood questions when he pledges the Dominion Government to break the ice on the river about Chatham. We feel sure that he will not be disposed to make fish of one part of the river and fowl of another. If one part of it is the jurisdiction of his department so is all.

Mr. Hyman probably recognizes that the duty he pledges himself to discharge rests upon a charter which, though ancient, has never been relinquished. The Thames was duly assigned as a navigable waterway, between London and Lake St. Clair, and as such came under the supervision of the Ottawa Government. If it was never opened to commerce it was not for lack of feasibility. It is still as navigable for loong reaches as the Trent River, on the survey of which for navigation purposes Mr. Hyman's department in spending a quarter of a million.

It was the building of the Great Western Railway and the L. & P. S. R. which prevented a commercial boat service on the Thames. Boats are run on the river, however, and these are under the jurisdiction of the Dominion. If machinery is to be inspected or tonnage registered, it is a Dominion official who sees to it. There is a Dominion liability clearly established regarding the river, while the Provincial liability is said to be limited to the control of the fisheries, lately handed over to the Province by a decision of the Privy Council in England.

The Hon. Mr. Hyman is clearly within his rights in giving the pledge he did to Mr. Clements. But if that pledge is good, as regards the lower waters of the river where there is danger of flooding, it is also good as regards London and beyond eastward wherever such danger exists. It is probably a fortunate thing for this city after all, as regards the great breakwater issue, that it is represented at Ottawa by a member, who can so quickly see his way clear to the assistance of the Thames residents in the perils of flood-time, and has the power in his hands of making good his convictions.

It is a good augury for London West that the Hon. Mr. Hyman has accepted Governmental responsibility for the River Thames.—London Free Press.

## WHERE REFORM WILL BEGIN.

From many sources we learn that the election in Ottawa was decided by the numbered ballot. The people were anxious for a change. Splendid candidates were put forward by the Conservatives. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced that he desired to see the Ross Government sustained. When we remember that the provincial ballot is numbered this intimation of the Premier, whether intended as such or not, assumes the character of a threat. He asks the thousands of Government employees to vote for the Ross candidates, and the civil service knows that every man's vote can be traced and discovered. There are plenty of electors who are not to be influenced by these considerations; yet if three or four hundred are deterred from voting as their conscience directs, the machine is triumphant.

Undoubtedly the numbered ballot is at the very basis of the machine system. Where votes have been bought it enables the party in power to turn up the record and see that the goods have been delivered. The number reveals to the ruling politicians how every elector in the province has voted. This is not only a weapon for intimidation, but it is a clue to the machine in its operations. In close constituencies the agents of the Government are usually given a schedule showing how every elector who has previously voted is accustomed to mark his ballot. Then the

## The Surest Remedy is

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It never fails to cure a SIMPLE COLD, HEAVY COLD, and all BRONCHIAL TROUBLES.  
 Large Bottles \$1.00. Medium Size 50c.  
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machine knows whose ballot to spoil, or to steal, and where to spend money with advantage to the party. Other schemes, such as stuffing the lists, and keeping electors away from the polls on various pretexts, are made possible by the numbered ballot. Indeed, it is the key to many a constituency when placed in the hands of an unscrupulous machine. It is true that no Government of clean men would violate its sacred trust by exposing the ballots, or or their story, as the late Government constantly did to election organizers. Yet even though a Government keep faith with the public in this respect, the absolute secrecy of the ballot is not assured, and the freedom of the electorate is not guaranteed while the number remains on the ballot.

Doubtless some Liberals who, for political expediency, have supported the numbered ballot, will be ready now, for the same reason, to contend that the ballot ought to be made secret, because the weapon they have forged might be used against them. With their inconsistency we have nothing to do. The duty of the hour is not only to smash the machine, but to make it impossible for anyone to reconstruct it. Into the hands of the people the full, unhampered control of the Government must be freely passed. So the numbered ballot will go and the secret ballot, such as a Conservative Government gave the Dominion, and the Conservatives have pledged themselves to give Ontario, will be inaugurated. When every elector is free to vote as he likes, we shall have made a solid advance towards the permanent purification of our politics.—Mail and Empire.

## ELECTION RASCALITY.

The Winnipeg Telegram is getting after the election crooks in the West in great style. The Telegram says:

"Sworn evidence was given by Mr. Aoyotte, returning officer for Provencher, that he received the lists from Ottawa without any names struck off, and then handed them over to R. E. A. Leech in Winnipeg, from whom he later received them back with red lines marked through certain names."

This man Leech has been to Mr. Sifton what Vance was to Stratton in Ontario. He was Liberal organizer for the Province of Manitoba during the last Dominion elections. He had no right whatever to touch the voters' lists; yet he was put in possession of them and marked out the names of Conservatives as he saw fit. Either the Ontario dodge of throwing up hands, admitting irregularities and stepping down, has not been learned in Manitoba, or else the prosecution of the cases is more persistent in Manitoba than in Ontario.

It is perfectly clear now, the Telegram goes on to say, why counsel for Mr. Aoyotte advised him to refuse to tell from whom he received the lists in a marked condition. It was an attempt to avoid the exposure of the systematic manner in which the fraud had been worked from the headquarters of the Liberal organization. When Mr. Aoyotte had been committed to jail for refusing to answer, and when the judge of the Court of King's Bench had decided that the question should be answered, it was evident that the truth must come out. Yesterday's revelations were the result.

It is thus shown how the province of Manitoba was carried for Laurier. The Conservative candidates were simply robbed by the disfranchisement of their supporters. The Manitoba Government has done the correct thing in deciding to act in defence of public rights. It has ordered some arrests and instituted

investigations into all cases of complaint—in fact, made the cause a public one, and voted money to press the charges in the interests of justice. Rascality in elections must be stopped. Presumably it will be claimed that Mr. Sifton had nothing to do with the man Leech, and will, like Mr. Ross, disclaim responsibility, but the people will hold him and the Laurier Government responsible and punish them as the late Ontario Government was punished. The great mass of the people are honest, and it is only necessary to prove to them that wrong has been done and punishment will follow.

## JAPAN'S LONG-LIVED DYNASTY.

Guelph Mercury.  
 We talk eloquently of the stability of the British throne. England has had ten dynasties and one protectorate during a third of the period that Japan has had one dynasty.

## ITS CURIOSITY SATISFIED.

Hamilton Spectator.  
 How is it that the Toronto Globe is not now shouting for information in respect of the resignation of Mr. Blair?

## THE \$50,000 GIRL.

Galt Reporter.  
 That Hamilton man who advertises for a wife with \$50,000 has simply thrown away the price of the ad. Girls with a trifle of dowry like that are not likely to be scanning the want columns. They're more likely dodging dukes and other men distinguished for having titles, but no ready cash.

## SOLDIERS' PAY.

Belleville Intelligencer.  
 If the little Jap soldier can whip five Russians, he is only earning his pay, which is 60 cents a month, against 12 cents a month paid to the czar's fighting men. The German French soldier is paid \$1.74 and England pays her soldiers \$7.14. In peace times the United States soldier is paid \$13 a month, with 20 per cent. increase for war service.

## NO PUNISHMENT FOR PEEPING TOMS.

Detroit News.  
 A "peeping Tom" who has habitually annoyed residents of a certain locality was captured by the veteran ball player, Sam Thompson, and turned over for the action of the court. Justice Whelan turned the fellow loose, saying: "While the man's act is despicable there is no law governing the case. A civil action for trespass, should be made."

## FOR A SIMPLE BURIAL.

Haverhill Gazette.  
 Rev. Charles Wagner has been talking a deal about the simple life, but Rev. Father McLaughlin, of Adams, is advocating the simple burial. The great evil among his parishioners is not that they are living beyond their means, but that they are dying too extravagantly. Accordingly he has placed a limit on floral offerings at funerals, on the number of hacks to be used, etc., so that a poor man can actually afford to die without consigning his friends and relatives to a bankruptcy court, and the Adams situation does not exist exclusively in that town either.

## FOR CLEAN MONEY.

Montreal Star.  
 Canada is going to spend some money providing itself with a mint, so that it can coin its own gold and silver, and give itself a new feeling of national pride. Why shouldn't it now, spend some more money on providing itself with clean bank bills, so that it might take another form of national pride in being clean and sanitary? It would cost something to establish a system by which neither the banks nor the nation would ever re-issue a bill; but it costs something to keep the streets clean, and to live decently in other ways.

## OFFENSIVE AND INOFFENSIVE PARTISANS.

Montreal Gazette.  
 Much is being said in Ontario newspapers about the dismissal of provincial officials when the new administration is inaugurated. There are some Ontario officials who by their conduct have created the impression that they are partisans before they are public servants, and whose going would improve things all round. The mass of the provincial employees, however, as is generally the case, have given their first attention to their public duties. To dismiss these would be a mistake from the point of view of public policy, and no help from that of the mere party worker. It will doubtless be found that most of them will stay.

## DUTY OF THE PARTIES.

Toronto News, (Ind.)  
 The two political parties in Canada, instead of uniting to force separate schools on the new provinces, ought to unite against any attempt to limit their control over education. Such a union would accord with their party traditions. The Conservative party in this province for a long time agitated against the extension of the separate school system, if not against its maintenance in any form. The Liberal party in Ontario is the party of provincial rights; the defence of provincial rights is the most brilliant chapter in the volume that was closed last week. The Liberal party in the Dominion is on record against the forcing of separate schools on Manitoba, and the Conservative party drifted rather than stored into the opposite course, a course which ended in shipwreck.

Neglect a cough and contract consumption.

## Shiloh's Consumption Cure

The Lung Tonic  
 cures consumption, but don't leave it too long. Try it now. Your money back if it doesn't benefit you.

Prices: S. C. Wells & Co., 301  
 25c. 50c. \$1. LaRoe, N. Y., Toronto, Can.

## MR. ROSS NO LONGER HONORABLE.

Ottawa Fronts.  
 It is to be hoped now that the daily press will not be so pig headed as to go on referring to George W. Ross, M. L. A., as the "Hon." G. W. Ross. The rule is clear as laid down on page 434 of Magurn's Parliamentary Guide, that "Executive Councilors of the Provinces to be styled 'Honorable' only when in office, and the title not to be continued afterwards." Here it is laid down in two distinct ways, founded on the Duke of Buckingham's despatch and accepted by the Canadian authorities. Still, take the case of James Young, of Galt, who was a provincial minister for a few months a score of years ago, and we find the press referring to him yet as the "Hon." Jas. Young. The same mistake is made with regard to ex-Speakers of Legislatures. Even an ex-speaker of the House of Commons is not entitled to anything but plain mister, and for that reason the practice has grown up in Canada of calling the ex-speakers to the privy council so as to give them the title of "Honorable" for life. It is really too bad that the press should persist in mis-calling public men like Mr. Greenway, of Manitoba, and Mr. Ross, of Ontario.

## What Sulphur Does

## FOR THE HUMAN BODY IN HEALTH AND DISEASE.

The mention of sulphur will recall to many of us the early days when our mothers and grandmothers gave us our daily dose of sulphur and molasses every spring and fall.

It was the universal spring and fall "blood purifier," tonic and cure-all, and mind you this old-fashioned remedy was not without merit.

The idea was good, but the remedy was crude and unpalatable, and a large quantity had to be taken to get any effect.

Nowadays we get all the beneficial effects of sulphur in a palatable, concentrated form, so that a single grain is far more effective than a tablespoonful of the crude sulphur.

In recent years, research and experiment have proven that the best sulphur for medicinal use is that contained in Stuart's Calcium Sulphide, and sold in drug stores under the name of Stuart's Calcium Wafers. They are small chocolate coated pellets and contain the active medicinal principle of sulphur in a highly concentrated, effective form.

Few people are aware of the value of this form of sulphur in restoring and maintaining bodily vigor and health, sulphur acts directly on the liver, and excretory organs and purifies and enriches the blood by the prompt elimination of waste material.

Our grandmothers knew this when they dosed us with sulphur and molasses every spring and fall, but the crudity and impurity of ordinary flowers of sulphur were often worse than the disease, and cannot compare with the modern concentrated preparations of sulphur, of which Stuart's Calcium Wafers is undoubtedly the best and most widely used.

They are the natural antidote for liver and kidney troubles and cure constipation and purify the blood in a way that often surprises patient and physician alike.

Dr. R. M. Wilkins while experimenting with sulphur remedies soon found that the sulphur from Calcium was superior to any other form. He says "For liver, kidney and blood troubles especially when resulting from constipation or malaria, I have been surprised at the results obtained from Stuart's Calcium Wafers. In patients suffering from boils and pimples and even deep-seated carbuncles, I have repeatedly seen them dry up and disappear in four or five days, leaving the skin clear and smooth. Although Stuart's Calcium Wafers is a proprietary article, and sold by druggists, and for that reason tabooed by many physicians, yet I know of nothing so safe and reliable for constipation, liver and kidney troubles, and especially in all forms of skin disease as this remedy."

At any rate people who are tired of pills, cathartics and so-called blood "purifiers" will find in Stuart's Calcium Wafers, a far safer, more palatable and effective preparation.

Restoring Faded Ink.  
 Faded ink on old documents, papers, parchments, etc., may be restored as to render the writing perfectly legible. The process consists in moistening the paper with water and then passing over the lines a brush which has been wetted with a solution of sulphide of ammonia. The writing will immediately appear quite dark in color, and this color in the case of parchment will be preserved. On paper, however, the color will gradually fade again, but on a fresh application of the sulphide of ammonia it will reappear. Writing executed in ordinary ink which has been rendered illegible by age may be restored by carefully moistening it with an infusion of galls or a solution of ferrocyanide of potassium slightly acidulated with hydrochloric acid. Care must be taken to apply the liquid so as to prevent the ink from spreading.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, etc.

## Humor and Philosophy

By DUNCAN M. SMITH

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## GETTING THE WORST OF IT.

This is a world of pain and wrath  
 And everything but money.  
 For disappointments line our path  
 As thick as flies in honey.  
 Around the corner, like an ant,  
 Is some misfortune lurking;  
 We drop a nickel in the slot  
 And find it isn't working.

And that's the way it is through life;  
 In spite of all our dreaming  
 And cogitating with our wife  
 And sitting up and scheming.  
 Our plans like country eggs are laid  
 Just where the soil seems fertile,  
 But at the finish I'm afraid  
 They vanish or turn turtle.

The careful plans by which we try  
 To gather in much treasure  
 Turn out about six inches shy  
 And hardly out to measure.  
 Knocks patter on our heads like rain,  
 We wonder for a minute  
 If there is no such word as gain,  
 And we are never in it.

But everything does not fall through,  
 For it is this way, brothers,  
 We take the good things as our due  
 And grumble at the others.  
 The favors that come down the pike,  
 We never see them double;  
 It's sort of natural to like  
 To linger o'er the trouble.

## What Could He Say?

When the governor of North Carolina said to the governor of South Carolina, "Governor, it is a long time between irrigation congresses," history does not record what the governor of South Carolina said in reply.

He may have made some off-hand remark about the weather or have turned the conversation into the dry old tariff channel for all that we know from the records. One man's guess as to what he said is as good as another's. All that a curious person can do is to put himself in the place of the governor of South Carolina and think what he would have said. It doesn't seem like much of a problem, still we can imagine the predicament of the governor of South Carolina if he happened to be out of change and was not on friendly terms with the bartender.

## Oh, the Change!

When election is o'er, and we know the fate  
 Of the man who ran as a candidate,  
 No longer he welcomes you then from afar  
 And comes with the deadly campaign cigar  
 For a grasp of your hand, to inquire once again  
 For the health of the children and Mary Jane.  
 Now when he meets you, perhaps he stops,  
 But he's lost all interest in your crops  
 And the size of your hogs and the price of hay.  
 But he makes an excuse to get away.  
 As the days pass on in a steady flow  
 More distant and haughty these gentlemen grow.  
 And when the snow begins to fly  
 They never speak as they pass by.

## Made the Best Terms.

"So he married the girl who nursed him through his sickness."  
 "Yes; when he saw her bill he thought it was best to capitulate."

## An Easy One.

"Is the lady we were talking to married or single?"  
 "You can guess. She has worn the same hat for three seasons."

## A Great Joker.

"The railroad came along and cut their little town in two."  
 "It must be a regular village cut-up."

## What He Missed.

John—He is thirty years old and never kissed a girl.  
 Mary—Talk about a wasted youth!

## PERT PARAGRAPHS.

If it is the first drink that causes all the trouble, a wise man will cut it out and start in on the second.

When a man acquires money he at once becomes a very discriminating judge of a cigar.

When a lawyer can't find trouble for other people he begins at once to have troubles of his own.

Some men cannot convince themselves that chairs were made for any other purpose than to sit in.

Man breaks a horse, and the horse in turn frequently breaks a man.

Perhaps the heathen would be more anxious to attend college if they knew about hazing.

When a man is holding a long line of wheat it goes against the grain to see prices falling.

Strangely enough the straight jacket is an excellent fit for the crook.

It is a good thing for the peace of mind of the umpire that he is not a mind reader.

Nine times in ten,  
 headaches come from  
 bad stomach or bad  
 liver.

Ten times in ten

## Abbey's Effervescent Salt

cures headaches by  
 making bad stomach  
 and liver good.

AT ALL DRUGGISTS, 25c and 50c a bottle



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