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POLITICAL PARADOXES.

The result of the election in Manitoba must have been a surprise to many earnest and well-meaning people in all parts of the Dominion. It was said by the Opposition that the Government had made up their minds to treat the inhabitants of that province with great harshness—that they had determined to force separate schools upon the Manitobans at the point of the bayonet, if it could not be done in any other way. The Government, it was contended, had sold themselves to the Roman Catholic hierarcy of Quebec and were bound to do the bidding of the bishops no matter what the effect of their servility might be on the unfortunate Manitobans. By speeches from the platform, by editorials in the newspapers, by sermons, by addresses and by resolutions, the Protestant electors in all the provinces were exhorted to take the part of the people whose dearest rights were threatened by a band of unscrupulous Tory politicians. Naturally a sympathy in favor of the Manitoba majority was worked up, and "Hands off Manitoba" became the Opposition cry in all the provinces where Protestants were in the ascendant.

Well, the elections came off and it turns out that this persecuted and wronged province returned a large majority in favor of the government which threatened to deprive it of its autonomy and to force upon it a school system which it had rejected and which it hated. And, singularly enough, the people of the province which in menacing tones demanded that justice be done to the Roman Catholic minority of Manitoba and that their separate schools be restored to them, returned a sweeping majority of their representatives to oppose the government which had been represented as composed of their humble servants—their willing tools. We are not surprised that people are amazed at these results and cannot for their lives comprehend how it was that Manitoba returned a majority to support the Government that intended to coerce it, and that the province of Quebec returned a majority to turn out of office the men who were carrying out its wishes with respect to the Manitoba school question. We give up in despair the attempt to explain this political puzzle—to account for these bewildering paradoxes. The best that we can do is to reproduce for our readers what one of the parties concerned, the Manitobans, have to say about this singular state of affairs. The Winnipeg Free Press, which has all along been very moderate but with pronounced Conservative leanings, in its issue of the 27th says:

A Toronto dispatch says that the Liberals of that city express much disappointment "at the showing of Manitoba." They are good enough not to feel surprise or regret at Mr. Macdonald's victory in Winnipeg, but they think the other constituencies ought to have done differently. We have no intention to fight the battle over again; it was long enough, and when the end came there were very few of us who did not heave a sigh of relief to be well quit of it. But it is well that our very anxious friends in Ontario and elsewhere outside the Province should receive a gentle hint that any lavish display of wonder and compassion on our account is just so much waste emotion. Those good friends may be disappointed, as they say, but there is no reason why they should be. Manitoba has voted Conservative for a good many elections past, not because it is Conservative according to the old division of parties, but because a majority of its electors have been persuaded that the general policy of Conservative governments has nad more to commend it to this Province and the Territories than anything that has been offered by the other side. This may have been a mistake in judgment, but it was the prevailing belief. It was the prevailing belief up to and during the contest that has just closed. A strong endeavor was made to obscure the material issues by introducing a series of cries over the School Question. These were successful in distracting attention in one or two constituencies, but on the whole we kept our heads and voted, as we thought, in the manner best calculated to promote the interests of the Northwest.

Our friends who are so deeply concerned profess surprise that we did not respond to their efforts to save us from "coercion." The fact is we got to the bottom of the School Question some time ago, and understood it. We saw that we were required by the judgment of the Privy Council to redress a grievance under which the minority in this Province were declared to be suffering, and being law abiding citizens we were not disposed to rebel against a manifest duty. We were inclined, also, to resent the use that was being made of the question by the party managers, whom we suspected of a much more burning desire to turn it to party account than to arrive at a peaceable and a satisfactory settlement. The cry that came up from the East, "Hands off Manitoba," did not appeal to our sympathy or gratitude, for the reason that Manitoba is quite capable of taking care of itself. If an injustice were inflicted upon us by the Federal authorities we know how to resist it, and it no more than justice were done we hoped to possess the grace to submit with becoming readiness. This will probably explain with sufficient fulness why we did not respond to the excited appeals of those very dear friends.

We have expressed our opinion of the school question by returning five of the seven Conservative candidates; at this writing there is a doubt as to one, and it is possible that there may be six of the seven. This result was not brought about without the clearest understanding and the most deliberate consideration.

The Nor-'Wester, the acknowledged organ of the Winnipeg Conservatives which has fought the battles of its party ably and pluckily, in its issue of the same date under the heading of "The Misguided Tory," says:

It is safe to say that there is no individual in Manitoba to-day so supremely unhappy over the results of the election on Tuesday last as the honest, conscientious Tory who voted for Mr. Laurier's government on the supposition that he was voting against the coercion of Manitoba on the school question, and against the re-establishment of separate schools in this province, or any approach to them. He now realizes that he has made an awful mistake, and has assisted in placing in power the French Catholic element which is pledged to remedial legislation to a greater degree than was proposed by the party which he turned his back upon. The Remedial Bill introduced by the government of Sir Charles Tupper was defeated by the obstruction of the Liberal party, whose objection to it was that it did not give to the Catholics provincial money for their separate schools, and that it did not make compulsory the attendance of Roman Catholic children at Roman Catholic schools regardless of their wishes. It will be consistent, of course, for Mr. Laurier now to embody in his remedial bill these provisions, and he cannot hope to satisfy his large following in Quebec unless he carries out to the letter all these points, either in his negotiations with Mr. Greenway, or in the remedial legislation which he introduces, the absence of which in Sir Charles Tupper's remedial bill he objected to and criticized. We all have this school question very much at heart and no doubt all want it settled on such lines as will promote the best interests of the province, but it would be less than human if the straight supporters of Sir Charles Tupper's government did not experience a little satisfaction at the writhings and contortions which the renegade Tory is now exhibiting as he takes the unpalatable medicine which he has administered to himself.

The Winnipeg Tribune, the anti-coercion organ of the Grits, whose violence, unfairness and untruthfulness may have contributed materially to the defeat of its party in the Province, is, as may be supposed, not particularly well pleased with the result of the election so far as Manitoba is concerned. It gives vent to its irritation by saying:

Had the Tupper government been sustained at the polls last Tuesday, Manitoba would have had separate schools thrust upon her, no matter how she might have sought to protect. Indeed, it would serve her people right if Mr. Laurier were to introduce a measure providing for separate schools in this province. What are the Eastern political authorities to take from the verdict in Manitoba, if it is not that the people here are indifferent and care so little about the protection of their national schools, that they even voted for candidates pledged to support remedial legislation. In view of the result of the polling throughout the province, the people would have little cause to complain if Mr. Laurier were to force separate schools upon us. If Manitoba by her voice asks for separate schools, why should she not have them. The issue was made so clear during the campaign that a wayfarer, though a fool, could not err therein. It was pointed out upon every platform that a vote for the government candidate meant a vote for separate schools, while a vote for the Liberal candidate meant a vote for national schools.

As we have seen Mr. Laurier is pledged to restore separate schools to Manitoba—to pass a whole-hearted remedial law which will be more favorable to the minority than was the one which the Grit obstructionists strangled.

We may see, one of these days, why it was that so many Quebec Conservatives turned against the party which they had supported so long and which was carrying out the policy, both as regards the schools and trade, that they approve. Had politics anything to do with the change, or were their heads turned by the prospect of having for Premier a man of their own race and their own religion?

10 cts. Cures Constipation and Liver Ills.—Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are the most perfect made, and cure like magic, Sick Headache, Constipation, Biliousness, Indigestion and all Liver Ills. 10 cents a vial—40 doses.
Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

THE NEW POLICY.

There are a great many surmises just now as to what is to be the policy of the Liberal Government. What is it to do in the matter of public works? Is it to pursue a timid, cheese-paring policy or will it give the country the works it needs for its development freely and with an enlightened liberality?

How about trade? Will it attempt to perform its promises relative to the introduction of free trade, and the elimination of the protective element from the tariff? Will it paralyze trade by keeping business men in a state of uncertainty as to what its next move will be or how long the state of things then existing will last? Or will it, ignoring what Liberals have been growling about and promising and professing, leave the tariff pretty much as it is?

What action will it take in the Manitoba school question? Will Mr. Laurier find himself compelled to perform the promises which he has made his Quebec supporters, and attempt to restore to the Manitoba minority the separate schools of which they have been deprived by the Greenway Government? Are these questions to be answered at once or will Mr. Laurier and his colleagues initiate a policy of shilly-shally and evasion, saying very little that is definite and doing as little in the way of change as they possibly can?

The Toronto Globe in its issue of the 24th gives expression to the "good resolutions" which the Grits have been making on their accession to power. Here are some of them on the topics we have named. It will be observed that the Globe has already become wonderfully cautious. As to public works, it says:

With a debt swollen to $253,000,000, with a debt charge of $12,500,000, with an annual expenditure of more than $88,000,000, he (Sir Charles Tupper) proposed to plunge the strained and burdened nation into a reckless expenditure upon new projects, promised under circumstances which precluded a fair inquiry into their merits, and with the design of bribing the constituencies into giving him and his colleagues a new lease of power. Worse than extravagance was involved in this scheme, for we have had a long and bitter experience of the manner in which enterprises inaugurated in this way can be made to serve the ends of corruption. The scheme has been defeated; the nation has destroyed the network of corruption in which the administration of its affairs had become involved; it has attained its freedom. That is a great achievement; yet it is only the first step, though a long step, in the path in which we hope it will be led to honor and prosperity.

With regard to the tariff the utterances of the Globe are exceedingly careful. It is evidently afraid of alarming the business men of its own party. It says:

The tariff must be revised with careful regard to the conditions of industry which have grown up under the present policy, yet with a thoroughness which will remove every practical grievance. The Liberal party is not led by doctrinaires who will set to work to disturb business for the sake of establishing theories.

With regard to the Manitoba school question the Globe is gushing enough, and indefinite enough to please Mr. Laurier himself:

The Manitoba school question remains to be settled. Strange as the result of the elections in that province may be, it does not appear to us that it complicates the question or throws any doubt upon the wisdom of the policy advocated by the Liberal party. It is wise, however the issue may have been clouded in Manitoba, to keep the question out of Federal politics, and leave the Federal government and parliament freedom to do their duty in the sphere assigned to them by the constitution. It is wise to investigate, to conciliate, to endeavor to restore harmony between the majority and the minority in Manitoba, and to arrive at a settlement that will be just to all and will promote instead of hindering the work of education in the Western province.

A PERMANENT STRUCTURE.

Here is the text of the petition to the mayor and council with reference to the construction of a permanent stone and steel bridge over the arm, at or near Point Ellice. The petition is to be found at the store of E. A. Morris, the tobacconist, where it is receiving numerous signatures:

"*To His Worship the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen*:

"GENTLEMEN:—Whereas on the 26th of May, 1896, a span of the Point Ellice bridge collapsed and in consequence all direct traffic between Victoria and Esquimalt has been stopped;

"And whereas it is desirable that any new bridge that may be constructed shall be built with a view of providing not only for present needs but for future contingencies and should be a substantial stone and steel structure, to the expense of constructing which the provincial government and tramway company should be requested to contribute.

"Your petitioners therefore pray that your honorable body will at once introduce a by-law (under section 69, Municipal Clauses act, 1896) and submit the same to the electors of the city for authority to raise a sufficient sum to pay the proportion of the cost of the stone and steel bridge before mentioned which must be borne by the city ratepayers, or in the event of the refusal of the provincial government and the tramway company to assist in the work, then to raise a sum sufficient to defray the whole cost of such bridge."

Sure to Win.

The people recognize and appreciate real merit. That is why Hood's Sarsaparilla has the largest sales in the world. Merit in medicine means the power to cure. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures—absolutely, permanently cures. It is the One True Blood Purifier. Its superior merit is an established fact, and merit wins.

Hood's Pills are easy to take, easy to operate. Cure indigestion, headache.

BUT A LITTLE THING.

YET IT MAY INFLATE UNTIL IT BECOMES A PANNIER.

The New and the Unique In Style—Pretty and Graceful Princess Gowns—The Louis XV and XVI Fashions and the Marie Antoinette Shapes.

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Some poet says, "What would the world be without variety?" He must have had woman in his mind when he made that remark, for they would certainly die if fashions did not change—that is to say, some of them would. To avert this wholesale mortality invention is taxed to give them always something new to think of, to long for or to shop for. The newest things I find are almost all old, or at least they are old styles revived and modernized until half the women believe them never to have been seen before. There are Louis XV and Louis XVI shapes in basques and coats, and there are Louis XIII bodices now put forward with a delicious assurance. These last have very long pointed fronts, with some fancy trimming over the hips. This is once in awhile found to be in form of a little puff. Will it inflate until it becomes a pannier? I wonder. Some of these have long points in front and have the hips rounded up high, with a tiny postilion in the back, or maybe the back will be pressed into flat plaits. There is no fluting or ruffles to these. Some of them have a sort of flap of silk or satin of contrasting color richly embroidered or braided or perhaps only of plain brocade or velvet. They are very handsome in whatever kind of material. They outline and emphasize the slenderness of the waist and lines of the hips.

For this purpose, however, there never was anything that could compare with the princess dress, and there have been an unusual number of these seen this season. They never go entirely out of fashion, and every succeeding year sees some of the prettiest and most graceful of gowns cut in the long sweeping and curved lines of the princess form. There was a home gown made of old rose mohair in full princess shape. It was made to touch the floor all around, and around the bottom there was a three inch band of velvet in the same tint as the dress material, but several shades darker. There were some rich cream lace ornaments set down the front of the waist, and a narrow opening showing a little cream colored Spanish lace. Two small revers of the velvet, a narrow collar and plaited velvet cuffs formed all the trimming save a row of buttons on the upper part of the sleeves. All buttons are now set on the upper part of the sleeves instead of the underside. The gown closed invisibly on the shoulder and down the left side under the arm. The sleeves were small gigots, and the whole gown was truly elegant. It was intended for home wear, but by the addition of a sober cape and bonnet or hat it could be worn in the street or carriage.

This calls to mind another princess dress, this one for outdoor, for garden parties or for visiting, where an elaborate gown would be desirable. It was of taffeta in a new shade of blue, which has a suspicion of robin's egg and another suspicion of peacock, and these two blended in some way, not understood by me, with a sky and forgetmenot shade. Altogether this makes an exquisite blue, and it seems to harmonize with almost everything. This dress in question was in princess shape from the waist down, and was cut so full that it fell in heavy lines and folds. It trailed about three inches in the back. It opened in front, and fastened at the waist with four sets of galloon and gilt buttons. The panel in front was of white net, studded with little gilt beads. This lace was laid over maize colored taffeta. The lower parts of the sleeves were of the same net, studded with the beads, and the whole upper part of the waist was done in the same way—that is, puffed with the beaded net over the silk.

There was a lace medici collar, and this came to a square of embroidered satin, which finished the upper part of the neck. There was a flat band of the same across the shoulders, edged with a frill of lace. This stood out over an upper puff of the blue, and a reasonably small puff it was too. At the bust line where the blue of the gown and the lace of the yoke met there were two folded pieces of cream satin, beautifully embroidered in gold. The same arrangement was set across the back, and thus it formed a bertha. I should have mentioned that the yoke portion came down very low over the shoulders, showing the slope distinctly.

The belted in blouse is still a favorite for slim young figures, and it has the merit of being very pretty. A very beautiful dinner or reception dress was of changeable mauve taffeta with a rich design of wistaria vines and blossoms hand painted upon it. The painting was done on the side breadths and reached a little toward the back in trailing vines. The bodice was cut pompadour shape around the neck and trimmed with bows and bands of pompadour ribbon. The sleeves and waist were of accordion plaited iridescent muslin. There was a belt of violet velvet and a row of tiny loops of the same down the center of the front of the waist, ending under a rosette of the same. The blouse effect was not very pronounced, but still was quite enough so to be very graceful.

There was another very elegant blouse gown, much more elegant than the other, though not so showy. This had a plain skirt, not too full, of maize taffeta, overlaid with tabs of Russian embroidery, which is lacelike in appearance. This embroidery covered the whole skirt and the blouse waist. The sleeves were medium sized elbow puffs and were of white and dull red and black brocade, edged with a frill of plaited black silk mull. The neck was finished in the same way, with the addition of a Louis XVI cravat.

The Louis XV and the XVI were offered, so to speak, on a silver salver to women all last year, and they took them gingerly. Now fashion takes hold of the woman with a firm hand saying, "You must swallow them, and if you don't, I shall be obliged to use force." So, the distinguishing features of both these Louis costumes really lead, the hats and bonnets excepted, for there is considerable choice allowed in that respect. Still the Marie Antoinette shapes are the most fashionable. The straw flats, bent downward and side rolled, with their loads of trimming and flowers, are seen everywhere. The only concession has been in leaving off the strings, which proved unbecoming, and therefore unwelcome. I saw a flat brimmed straw today in dark green, trimmed with a full front drapery of old rose tulle, held by two gilt buckles. A small spray of osprey in old rose stood up on the left side. On the top and right side there was a high pagodalike bunch of mullein flowers, with their woolly, whitish green leaves.

To return to our Louis. I wish to mention a very stylish model costume, patterned after one of those made fashionable in remembrance. The skirt was of purple and white figured challie, and was plain and not very full. The basque was of purple velvet, with full ruffled back. The front was cut away for a smooth cream satin vest. This was bordered down by two jabots of rich lace, and there were pointed revers embroidered with gold. The medici collar was also gold embroidered. There were diamond shaped gilt buttons on each side the waist and smaller ones set on the slashed portions of the basque. The sleeves were coat shape, with frilled and pointed wrists, and the upper part was a small puff of the velvet. The whole gown was very attractive.

I note with satisfaction the revival of the use of black. There are beautiful silks, satins, moires and velvets, besides brocades. These in princess or Louis XVI styles are really superb when given the right trimming and finish. Black and white stripes are also much liked. Some are cut so that the stripes form chevron points wherever it is possible to bring them. These, with great black feather fans, make a most elegant costume. Lace and velvet are their natural complements.

Sleeves are positively growing smaller, and some of the compromises between the large and the tight are almost ridiculous.

HENRIETTE ROUSSEAU.

THE WOMAN'S VIEW.

The Methodist general conference honors both itself and its women members in passing by so large a majority the amendment to the constitution authorizing women to be admitted as delegates. The amendment will now again go to the separate conferences to be voted on, when it will be undoubtedly passed for good and all. The measure seems to have made progress very slowly, but it is now certain that women will be admitted without question to the next general conference four years hence. The Methodist constitution will find that it can stand it, and that, moreover, it will agree with it. The slowness was rendered necessary by the fact that among Methodist preachers there are a few shallow, frothy, vain and quarrelsome individuals who are afraid that women will outshine them if once the sex comes in competition with them.

Dr. Mary A. Dight, one of the most thoroughly educated physicians in this country, is practicing medicine in New Orleans. She has awakened such interest in the south in the study of medicine by women that the trustees of Tulane university have declared their willingness to open a medical department for women students, provided money can be raised to equip it. Undoubtedly this will be done. The women of the south will work with their accustomed enthusiasm till the thing is accomplished. Dr. Dight is indeed to be congratulated on the success of her effort.

E. A. C.

THE O'NEILL HEIRS.

Victoria People Who Lay Claim to a Vast Estate in Ireland.

A Hundred and Eighty Millions With a Whole County Thrown In.

A hundred and eighty million dollars seems a sum far beyond even the dreams of the very wealthy, to say nothing of the ordinary every-day person. Yet here in Victoria, living in a modest little house on Herald street, are a family that do not dream, but look forward with quiet confidence to possessing not only this enormous sum but a whole Irish county thrown in.

Mr. A. P. Freimuth, who came here a short time ago and now plays the solo cornet in the Fifth Regiment band and wields the baton as leader of the Victoria theatre orchestra, is the husband of one of the claimants to the estate of the O'Neills of Antrim. Mrs. W. E. Ward, of Los Angeles, Mrs. Freimuth's mother, is at present visiting her daughter, and in the fall is going over to Ireland on behalf of the American heirs to claim the estate. From the two ladies the history of the quest was learned. The estate they say has been in chancery for something like fifty years for want of an heir. Mrs. Ward's father, John Falls O'Neill, was a younger son of old Hugh O'Neill, the last to hold the estate. Being a younger son John Falls O'Neill went to the United States to seek his fortune, and after remaining for some time in St. Louis got the gold fever in 1849 and joined the stream of those who came to the Pacific Coast. He was a captain in the Black Hawk war, and now lies buried at Quincy, Plunas County. Now his descendants are looking eastward to a store of gold that far exceeds the expectations that drew the old "Forty-niner" to the West. Capt. O'Neill leaves five children alive, Richard O'Neill, of Bakersfield, California; Charles Terrence O'Neill, of Los Angeles; Mrs. Mary F. Bell, of Oroville, Col.; Mrs. Theresa C. Wheeler, of Oakland, and Mrs. W. E. Ward, of Los Angeles. There are three grandchildren also—Mrs. Freimuth, who is Mrs. Ward's daughter; Mrs. Tom Woods of The Dalles, Oregon, and F. H. Van Norden of the same place, children of Mrs. Lizzie O'Neill Van Norden, now deceased.

"We are the only direct heirs," said Mrs. Ward. We can trace our ancestry right back to the "Red Hand" as the first of our line was called. We have had lawyers working on the case for years in England, and now they tell us that all we have to do is to come over and claim our own. I have the family seal and the old documents to prove we really are the heirs to the estate, and I will take them over with me to England this fall with my brother, Charles Terrence O'Neill, who is coming up here soon to go with me."

There are other O'Neill's who would like to have a share of the millions, but Mrs. Ward says they cannot prove their descent and it is only her brothers and sisters, her daughter, niece and nephew who will come into the estate. There is a romantic story of how the first O'Neill came by his property and his name of the "Red Hand." In the good old fashioned way of sovereigns Henry II conferred a great tract of land in County Antrim on the one of two suitors who would get there first. Of these the Red O'Neill was one. The time of the contest was fixed; good King Henry acted as starter, the course being from Windsor Castle to the land in question, the condition being that the man who first laid hand on the land should take the prize.

Away sped O'Neill and his rival for the Emerald Isle and crossed the Irish sea heedless of anything but of the land greed that even in the present day has actuated the wild rush of the "boomer." Arrived at Lough Neagh, O'Neill's rival secured the first boat, but O'Neill was soon after him in a second. The rival was almost across to the strand which marked the limit of the promised land and prepared to spring ashore.

O'Neill, to prevent the fair demesne being snatched from him, drew his sword, sliced off his left hand deftly and with a mighty effort threw the bloody hand ashore just before his rival sprang from his boat. The O'Neill's hand first touching land made him owner of the magnificent property for which the heirs are now striving.

THE TERMINAL CITY.

VANCOUVER, July 2.—(Special)—The C.P.R. trains are delayed through the high water between Port Hammond and Port Haney. The Columbia river is as high as it was in 1894, while the Fraser is nearing the high water mark of that year.

William Wells was killed in Chilliwack by a kick from a horse yesterday. Mr. Wells was a young farmer who arrived but recently from Ontario.

Frank McLeod, a barber, has been arrested for alleged rape on a girl of 14.

The City of Topeka sailed for Alaska yesterday with a large number of passengers, nearly a dozen of whom embarked here.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

MOST PERFECT MADE.

A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.

40 YEARS THE STANDARD.