

## The Planet

S. STEPHENSON, Promoter.

## THE LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE.

Some of our readers have got the impression that because the Planet does not like the methods of the Lord's Day Alliance it favors a wide open Sabbath. This journal has said nothing to justify such an opinion and the very contrary is the case. It is a strong supporter of a quiet and decorous Sabbath. It believes a properly observed day of rest necessary to the moral and physical well-being of the people. It took that view before the Lord's Day Alliance was ever heard of and will probably be here to maintain it after that body has died of disgust at its own prejudiced coercionist methods.

The Planet is a strong believer in public opinion. The Lord's Day Alliance, judging by its career, is not. We believe in appealing to the intelligence and sound sense of the people to retain their day of rest, as far as practicable with modern progress, in their own interest. The Lord's Day Alliance thinks it better to secure legislation and coerce the people at large to its own views. A small majority want to forcibly dictate their opinions to the nation. If you do, any cause founded on righteousness need not fear standing out boldly before the province on its merits. We do not say there should be no law regulating the observance of the Sabbath, but when there is a good law we must certainly protest against any provincial clique being encouraged to run to the legislature and have a fresh clause enacted every time some prominent Lord's Day Alliance light has a new bilious attack.

As far as Chatham is concerned we don't suppose a branch of the organization here will do either good or harm. Our citizens who have joined the organization are too fair-minded and intelligent to waste their time defending a Sabbath the sacredness of which is not being attacked. We regret, however, to see so much energy for good go to the Lord's Day Alliance when it might be devoted to some more deserving cause, such as the Children's Aid Society. There, for instance, is a work that no one can make any mistake about supporting. Too much cannot be said or done for it and there can be no two opinions of its merits. And, finally, it requires all the assistance it can get.

## GOING BACK TO "GOD'S COUNTRY."

It seems that the Planet was not the only journal unfavorably impressed by Rev. Morgan Wood's slangy style of lecture. It will be remembered he appeared in Chatham a couple of years ago, and there was some difference of opinion about the reverend lecturer's merits. The same thing appears to have occurred in Stratford. The Beacon of a recent date says:

Rev. Morgan Wood, of Toronto, who lectured here a year ago and left anything but a pleasing impression, has accepted a call to Plymouth church, Cleveland, and will go back to what he is pleased to call "God's Country." He is reported by the Leader as saying:

"In Canada everybody goes to church. They go because it is the thing to do. They must go to maintain a reputation for respectability. I do not think the people in general are any better over there than here, but it is the custom. But my preference is for the States, and it is the ambition of all young men in Canada, I believe, to cross the line some time. Opportunities there are very few."

This gross label on Canada is worthy

## =Spring=

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of a man of Morgan Wood's calibre. Canada and his church can spare him. When will Toronto learn that she can gain nothing spiritually or intellectually by importing sensation-mongering preachers from across the line?

## THAT PREFERENTIAL FAKE.

This preferential trade nonsense is enough to make any reasonable, long-suffering, reading public weary. Preferential trade appears to us to be about as beneficial to Great Britain as a fifth wheel to an ox-wagon. An English manufacturer sells his goods at so much and it is an absolute matter of indifference to him what duty any other country charges on them. He does not pay it. For instance, we will say the duty on Sheffield knives is 50 per cent. Sir Wilfrid Laurier goes to England for another Cobden medal and incidentally buys \$10 worth of Sheffield knives. When he brings them back he pays \$5 in duty. With a preferential duty to the extent of 25 per cent. Sir Wilfrid would only pay \$2.50. But what possible difference can it make to the English manufacturer whether the duty is \$2.50 or \$5. He gets the same price for his goods and you cannot buy Sheffield goods anywhere but in Sheffield. Preferential duty may benefit Canadians who are fond of purchasing English goods, but to argue that it is a concession to the mother land, that it shows how ultra-loyal the Laurier Government is, and all that sort of nonsense, is enough to make any body but a hide-bound political voting machine sick.

## DECLINE IN DEATHS.

February was an exceptionally healthy month in Ontario, as the monthly report of the Provincial Board of Health shows. It is as follows:—

	Feb. 1909	Feb. 1908
Total deaths.....	1,956	2,538
Scarlatina.....	14	32
Diphtheria.....	39	35
Measles.....	5	2
Whooping cough.....	3	2
Typhoid.....	14	16
Tuberculosis.....	182	215

The French press is making a good deal of fuss about Great Britain sending Cronje to St. Helena. If they had him and he was not guilty of any offence they would probably consign him to Devil's Island.

The Windsor Record is figuring on the nationality of the editor of the Planet. It seems to be in some doubt, but goes far enough to venture the opinion that he is not a Dutchman, and may be a Cockney. The libelous insinuation about expressing too frank an opinion of a brother presents this great family journal from saying what it thinks the editor of the Record is.

At a meeting of the British Empire League held at Ottawa, Sir Charles Tupper, in a speech, referred as follows to the speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, delivered the day before in the Commons: "No person who listened to the most brilliant and eloquent address that we in the House of Commons of Canada listened to last night can fail to appreciate the tremendous impulse that the South African war has given to this great vital question of the unity of the Empire. That address was cheered not only by the ordinary supporters of the Prime Minister of Canada, but it was cheered with equal enthusiasm by I might also say, all in the House of Commons."

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## ALLEGED HUMOR.

"Yes, and it was because of serious contemplation that I concluded never to marry."

"Do you think I'm a simpleton, sir?" thundered a fiery Scotch laird to his new footman. "Ye see, sir," replied the canny Scot, "I'm no' lang here, an' I dinna ken yet."

"Who was that man with his throat all tied up—that fellow who looked as if he were just about to come down with pneumonia?"

"Oh, he was one of the fellows who were going around, a couple of months ago, longing for a good old-fashioned winter."

"Have you ever read the article on how to tell a bad egg?" "No, I haven't; but my advice would be, if you have anything important to tell a bad egg, why break it gently."—Tit-Bits.

"His comedy lacks motive." "Well, lack of motive goes to remove the presumption of criminal intent."—Detroit Journal.

When a woman falls down on the street and a man rushing to help her up asks her: "Did you hurt you?" why does she always glare at him as if he had insulted her?—Somerville Journal.

Family Doctor—You must let the baby have one cow's milk to drink every day. "Very well, if you say so, doctor," said the perplexed young mother. "But I really don't see how he is going to hold it all."—Tit-Bits.

Singleton—Have you ever experienced the supreme joy that comes from finding in your pocket a dollar that you didn't know you had? Benedict—No; but my wife has upon several occasions.—Chicago News.

"Would you say honest politics 'is' or 'are'?" "It's, of course. Honest politics is always singular."—Indianapolis Journal.

"Bill, go out and chop about ten tons of ice from the violet bed, and sweep that snow from the ten-acre field. There's a Northern prospector coming on the next train to investigate this here balmy climate!"—Atlanta Constitution.

If the European nations maintain their present attitude in the East, China is going to feel pretty well cut up and about it.—New York Press.

Newsworld complacently—Oh, of course all women have sharp tongues. "Every rose has its thorn," you know. Oletimer (dryly)—And have you noticed yet how a rose will fade, but a thorn won't?—Puck.

Bill—How about that Sound steamer? Jill—I guess she's all right. There's a rumor ashore that she's afloat. "That's good; I heard there was a rumor afloat that she was ashore."—Yonkers Statesman.

Askins—What kind of alarm clock have you? Cyrie—My wife's elbow.

Tacoma Ledger—"When my typewriter girl went away, what do you think?" "Well, what?" "She left a note for the new girl, telling her I was mighty shaky on the use of 'shall' and 'will.'"—Chicago Record.

## A Necessary Luxury.

"Had my telephone taken out last week," said the man who is known in a certain section of Piety Hill as "such a good neighbor." "Just ordered it back again. Got mad and cut my nose off to spite my face. Deep-voiced 'man with an official tone called me up and said he wanted to test the instrument. 'All right,' I called back, 'go ahead.' 'Please stand to the right of the transmitter and talk,' he directed, and I did. 'Now talk to the left,' and I did. 'Now kindly talk directly into the transmitter,' and I did. 'Now stand on your head and talk, and he rung off before I had time to paralyze him with a few sentences."

"A man never reasons when he's as wrathful as I was. I ordered that 'phone out of there inside of an hour or I'd remove it with an ax. At 1 o'clock a. m. the next day, the thermometer fourteen below, my neighbor's wife bombarded the front door and excitedly asked me to call a doctor at once. Her husband was very ill. My telephone was gone; there was no other in the vicinity. I dressed hurriedly and went chasing after a doctor. I went on a dog trot and was breathing through icicles on my mustache before I had gone half a block. Two doctors were out on professional work. The third took me in and revived me. He took me home in his carriage, but I frosted one ear, four toes and a spot as big as a dime on each cheek. Now they can't get a telephone in quick enough. Meantime, I'll give one hundred dollars for reliable information as to who that deep voiced rascal is."

## Cannibal Expressed.

In his "Land of the Pigmies," Captain Guy Browne says: "A white man once kindly tried to explain to some member of an African tribe, the Mowungli, the wonders of the steam engine and the steamship. He drew diagrams on the sand, and the audience listened and looked with apparently intense interest. At last he asked his hearers whether they understood. 'Yes,' they replied, they thought they did. There was a deep silence for some time, and then a voice in the centre of the crowd expressed the unspoken sentiment of the whole assembly in one emphatic word, uttered in a tone of the deepest conviction. 'Liar!' Embarrassing for the lecturer."

## His Love, Drew Cold.

Gus de Smith—My engagement with Miss Nellie Chaffie is off. Hostetter McGinnis—Well, did she break it off or were you the cruel one? Gus—Neither of us broke it off. Hostetter—In the name of heaven, who did break it off? Gus—Her rich uncle. He died and didn't leave her any of his money.

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## Ejecting Their Duty.



Uncle to Elsie, who has been out to look for eggs—Have you found any, dear?

Elsie—No, not one; the hens are all standing about doing nothing.—Judy

## Elephantine Feet.

A story is being told, which may or may not be true, about a rising young politician who has unusually large feet. His mother is a lovable old woman, but very deaf. She lives in a small house in Torquay, and is always delighted by a visit from her son. When the British fleet, which was anchored in Torquay, fired a salute, the old lady was observed to start, fix her cap and smooth down her apron. Then she said, with a sweet smile: "George is coming; I hear his footsteps on the stairs."

## They Are Such Good Business Men.

"I don't know any class of business men who obstruct so little on you," said Mr. Thinkbody. "When you let them alone they take no interest in you whatever, but if they let you a loan their interest is enormous." (Of whom could he have been speaking?)

## Diplomacy.

Short—Were you at the races yesterday? Long—No. Short—Then you are the very man I'm looking for. Long—Why so? Short—I want to borrow \$5.

## Love of One's Neighbor.

Miss Gaylord—I hear there are to be several novelties at Miss Catchem's wedding.

Miss Altair—One very pretty and practical one would be to take up a contribution for the bridegroom.

## Brought Up by Hand.

Mrs. Goodheart (indignantly)—Here is a horrid woman in an industrial school who used to handcuff the children.

Mr. Goodheart (sarcastically)—I have not observed that you cuff Tommy by machinery.

## GENTLEMEN, ARE YOU BALD?

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## SEED PEAS.

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