

The Law Regarding Newspapers.

1. Any person who takes a paper regularly from the post office, whether in his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay up all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and then collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. In suits for subscriptions, the suit may be instituted in the place where the paper is published, although the subscriber may reside hundreds of miles away.

4. The courts have decided that refusing newspapers or periodicals from the post office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, while unpaid, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.

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SHORT & REYNOLDS,

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FEBRUAR 1891.

WHAT UNRESTRICTED RECIPROCITY MEANS.

At the great banquet of the New York Chamber of Commerce, on Tuesday last, among other notables there were present ex-President Grover Cleveland, Gen. W. T. Sherman, Chauncey M. Depew, Carl Schurz and Gen. Schofield. The speech of the evening was by Mr. Depew, on "Reciprocity." Here is a paragraph from his address:—

"The solution of our dangerous problems and the solvent of our future prosperity lie largely in the direction of commercial reciprocity among the nations of all America. An imaginary line, four thousand miles in length, divides the United States from Canada. For all the purposes of trade, tariff and taxation, Canada is independent of Great Britain. She has an area larger than that of the whole United States. She possesses incalculable resources, which, under favoring circumstances, could be developed. She has already a population larger than the State of New York. She needs our commodities and we need hers in about equal measure, and they could be exchanged to the infinite advantage of both countries. The Protectionist, who believes that tariffs should be levied on the principle of protection; the revenue reformer, who believes they should be exacted only for revenue; the free trader, who thinks they should not be imposed at all, could all agree upon the principle that whatever tariff laws existed in the United States should be adopted by the Canadian Parliament and become applicable alike along all the coasts of this Republic and Canada as against the rest of the world. But between themselves there should be the largest reciprocity and closest commercial relations. The unifying processes of mutual prosperity produced by commercial union would lead in a few years to political federation which would carry the American flag from the Falls of Niagara to the North Pole."

Mr. Erastus Wiman, the intimate friend and political confederate of Sir Richard Cartwright, in a recent article in the *North American Review*, expresses himself in the following terms, which, it will be noticed, are on the same line of thought:—

"But aside from the immediate and material advantages that would follow from a change of policy in Canada, there would be results far more significant. Far instance, Canada, by the success of the Liberal party, will demand the right to be recognized in making treaties which concerns her interests. This is a rather startling claim for a colony, but it will be enforced if the people so decide. Again unrestricted reciprocity with the United States implies that American goods are not only to be admitted free of duty, but for the purpose of revenue, and to prevent Canada from being the back door for smugglers into the United States, the duty on foreign goods will be maintained at the present rates, which are practically equal to those that prevail in the United States, and which can readily be made to conform to them. Thus there is proposed a discrimination in favor of American manufactures, which are to be admitted free, while British goods are practically

prohibited from entering into competition by the exaction of a duty.

Is it possible to conceive of a movement more significant in British North America than the attempt at fiscal freedom from British control? If, as the first step towards independence, the *Anglo-Saxon* were asked to vote upon the proposition to procure for them political freedom, no one act could be proposed which would be more significant in that direction than the one which the Liberal party now practically ask the Canadian people to acquiesce in."

Are the votes and influence of Englishmen to be given in this direction at the approaching election?

THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.

"The time has come," the Walrus said,
"To talk of many things—
—Through the Looking-Glass."

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of the Sons of England Society will be held at Hamilton on the 10th of February. The event will be attended with more than usual importance. Questions of the most vital character will come up for discussion, and it is to be hoped that the delegates will approach them in a proper spirit.

There are, it would seem, two parties within the Society. The one considers that certain terms employed in the Constitution and in the Ritual have a certain definite meaning; the other looks upon the Society as a mutual benefit association and nothing more.

The *Anglo-Saxon* has never sought to conceal its opinion that those who take the first view are in the right.

Clause I. of the Constitution expressly declares that one of the objects of the Society is to bring Englishmen together for "the maintenance of 'British connection.'" Another clause contains the requirement that members of the Order must be Protestant. We are, of course, not able to give quotations from the Ritual of the Society, but we may perhaps be allowed to say that it is impossible for any one familiar with it not to be struck with the pure and glowing patriotism which breathes in every line.

The *Anglo-Saxon* fully appreciates the value of the "mutual benefit" side of the Society. In our opinion the benefit might even be enlarged with advantage. But we do not think the rapid expansion of the Society of late years has been altogether due to the pecuniary advantages which it offers. These are, indeed, no more than are held out by the Foresters, the United Workmen, the Oddfellows, and any member of other similar societies.

Up to the year 1887, the Society, it will be admitted, had made very slight progress. All at once a remarkable expansion of the Order took place; Lodges were formed in almost every part of the Dominion; and in his speech, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Order in 1888, the Grand President observed that he had been struck by the heightened tone of patriotism manifested by those Sons of England with whom he had come in contact. Now, that was the year in which the Jesuits' Incorporation Act was passed by the Quebec Legislature.

If we turn to the records of any of the subsequent years, we find a distinct co-relation between such matters as Romish aggressions in the schools, Mr. MERCIER's demagogic appeal to French Chauvinism, the Jesuits' Estates Bill, and ARCHBISHOP CLEARY's fanatical outbursts, on the one hand, and remarkable increases to the membership of the Sons of England Society, on the other.

Are we to suppose that Englishmen only become alive to the benefits of mutual assurance at times of great political crisis? The two things seem to have no connection. Is it not more reasonable, on the contrary, to argue that Englishmen, feeling that questions vital to civil and religious liberty, and to their hold upon Canada were at stake have looked around them for an association which promised to band them together in effective strength for the maintenance of their liberties?

Nor can we see how any man who has carefully considered the nature of his "obligation" to the Society can affirm that the Sons of England is not a patriotic, and therefore, in certain exigencies, a political society. The very name, "Sons of England," the requirements attached to membership, the expression, "vote and influence" (which, having been used publicly, may perhaps be mentioned here)—all these mean, if words have meaning, that the Society is much more than a mutual benefit society. It is therefore upon the consciences of the delegates to the Grand Lodge, that they shall

consider the very important questions which will come before them with a full remembrance of what they have bound themselves to.

For be it clearly understood, if this Society is not what its Constitution and Ritual affirm it to be, then many thousands of Englishmen have entered it under a wrong impression. The *Anglo-Saxon* has never sought to go beyond the Constitution. But it has insisted on the plain and evident meaning of both Constitution and Ritual, and in consequence has brought upon itself the censure of men who would like to ignore both their obligation and their birthright. For such men the *Anglo-Saxon* has nothing but sorrow. It is very sad that a man may be born an Englishman, or come of good old English stock, and yet have no more idea of what his natural responsibilities are than a Russian. Liberties mean rights, and rights involve duties; and any man who thinks that a lot of Englishmen are going to bond themselves into a patriotic society which is to be patriotic only in a Pickwickian sense, must be surely out of his mind, or strangely ignorant of the traditions and habits of Englishmen.

It is the barest commonplace to state that our political system in Canada is altogether subject to an unwritten, but perfectly well understood, compact between the two great political parties on the one hand and the Church of Rome on the other. Under this arrangement the Liberals (so-called) are allowed to hold the Provincial Governments and the Conservatives (so-called) the Dominion. This arrangement is the more convenient in that it effectually stifles all opposition. The Conservatives in the Provinces have been afraid to resist the encroachments of the Romish Church for fear of injuring Sir John Macdonald, and the Opposition in the House of Commons has renounced its liberalism for a similar reason. Mr. Mowat would suffer.

Now this is the case or it is not. If it is, the time has surely come for the Sons of England and all freedom-loving citizens of Canada to take cognisance of an arrangement which is, however slowly, sapping the strength of the commonwealth.

Whatever action the Grand Lodge in its wisdom may see fit to take, it is most desirable and necessary that it should neither attempt too much nor perform too little. Nor need the policy of the Order (should it adopt one) be proclaimed from the house-tops. The *Anglo-Saxon* can see no utility in unnecessary publicity. Nevertheless, the Society must begin to practically apply the principles contained in its Constitution and Ritual, or it will very soon cease to be a society of Englishmen.

THE NEW EXECUTIVE.

Several names have been suggested in connection with the office of Grand President of the Sons of England Society, which Mr. Swait is about to vacate. The *Anglo-Saxon*, while anxious not to prejudice the election by indicating a preference, earnestly hopes that Grand Lodge will appoint a man capable of filling the position; a man who knows his own mind and is able to lead; a man who will be an Englishman before being a Grit or Tory; a man, finally, who will not violate his obligation to the Society.

For the office of Secretary, the Society could hardly find a better man than Bro. John W. Carter. There have been evidences that the work of the Secretary's office has increased beyond the capacity of the present staff.

The *Anglo-Saxon* has received many complaints from lodge secretaries, that their communications to the Executive have been dealt with only after much delay and in some cases, not at all. We have examined into this matter rather closely, and are satisfied that the fault does not rest with Bro. Carter.

We hope that Grand Lodge, when electing the Executive for 1891, will remember that the Order is no longer confined to Toronto. We think that Manitoba should have a Supreme representative, as also Quebec, and we should like to see one from Eastern or Central Ontario.

The thanks of the Order are due to P. S. G. President Swait, who has discharged the duties of his position to the best of his ability. Nothing more was to have been expected or ought to have been desired. The Grand Lodge is responsible for the character of the Executive, and the latter, during the past year, has been a fairly good simulacrum of the body which it represented. This may be said to be only "faint praise," but even that is better than direct condemnation. President Swait no doubt felt that he had no mandate. Last Grand Lodge, it will be remem-

bered did absolutely nothing, and what could the Executive which it appointed do? The latter was simply in the position of that House of Lords which, according to Gilbert & Sullivan, "throughout the war did nothing in particular, but did it very well." The Executive really did very well under the circumstances, and the *Anglo-Saxon* has nothing but kind things to say about the members of which it was composed. We hope, however, that there will be a new departure.

IN THE MATTER OF A NEWS-PAPER.

The Sons of England Society is rapidly becoming a very important body. It contains within its ranks Members of Parliament, doctors, lawyers, clergymen of various denominations, and workmen of every grade and description. Its Constitution embodies principles which should commend themselves to all Englishmen. In these days of co-operation and association, it is well that Englishmen in Canada should have a point of touch. We have all the same glorious traditions; we speak the same dear mother-tongue; we rejoice in the strength of our race. What matters it that one is Yorkshire, or one Devon, or one Kent; are we not all English? Have we not, also, within our ranks the whole gamut of soldier, sailor, tinker, tailor, apothecary, plow-boy * * * Well, we draw the line at "thief"—have we not, we repeat, all sorts and conditions of men in our Society? So long as a man is of English origin, being a Protestant and a man of repute, we welcome him to our lodge-rooms and to our Society? The dues are moderate; the lodge-rooms comfortable; a man may speak his mind (a privilege dear to all Englishmen); social distinctions are forgotten; all are brethren. Friendships have been formed within the lodge-room that lasted till death. Happy Englishmen, who belong to such a Society.

But we set out to speak more particularly about the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Now, there have been Grand Lodges and—Grand Lodges. One Grand Lodge, we remember, did what it could to suppress the *Anglo-Saxon*. Instead of this it advertised the *Anglo-Saxon*, which, after all, had only published a letter from an irate member of the Order on a certain subject, a letter, moreover, with which the *Anglo-Saxon* in no way agreed, and said so editorially. That was the head and front of our offending.

It must be borne in mind that the *Anglo-Saxon* is not the organ of the Sons of England Society. It is an independent newspaper published in the interest of Englishmen in Canada. Of course, as a Society of Englishmen the Sons of England engages a great deal of our attention. The bulk of our readers are, however, not as yet members of that Order, although the *Anglo-Saxon* has been instrumental in inducing many to join it. In attestation of this fact, we have about a bushel of letters from all parts of the Dominion.

The question as to the advisability of establishing an "organ" for the Society will probably come up for discussion at this meeting of Grand Lodge. It will be by no means for the first time. Year after year the Committee on Printing has considered the matter in all its bearings and has reported in favour of the Society possessing its own organ. The last report reads, it is true, somewhat enigmatically. We give it *in extenso*:

"Your Committee think it very desirable that this Society should have a journal devoted solely to the interest of the Sons of England and Englishmen generally, and that a monthly publication would meet the case for the present. Said journal should have the support of the Executive, but the Committee would recommend that the Executive be not in any way responsible for the financial affairs of said journal."

Now, if the Executive is not to be in any way responsible for the financial conduct of the "organ," who is to be responsible? We also fail to understand how a journal can be devoted "solely" to the Sons of England and Englishmen generally. But, however, you can't have an "organ" without paying for it. The Independent Order of Foresters have an "organ" (which by the way is largely devoted to singing the praises of the Supreme Chief Ranger, but also contains a novel of the late E. P. Roe, in parts, and chess problems by way of relaxation), but a *per capita* tax of 25 cents is inflicted upon all the members, to pay for this luxury. Would the Sons of England care to possess an "organ" of that

description?

In our September number, we published a communication from a brother in Hamilton, who kindly sent us an extract from the *Overseer*, a newspaper interested in the Ancient Order of United Workmen. We agree so entirely with the *Overseer's* statement that we repeat it:—

"Past Supreme Master Workman Graham regrets in his report to the Supreme Lodge at Boston, that the Grand Lodges do not own their own newspapers and publish them as official appendages. What a fine thing that would be for the officers! While they were in power they could publish what they chose and perpetuate their reign by the printed oracle of the administration. How valuable to the independent sentiments advanced in a paper so conducted—to the officials! We are glad that in only one or two States does the Grand Lodge own its A. O. U. W. journal, and hope it will be many a long day before the number will increase. *Independent journalism, if intelligently and honourably conducted is one of the safeguards of this grand old Order.*"

There is also an obstacle in the way of an "organ" for the Sons of England Society in the fact that the *Anglo-Saxon* already covers the field, to a greater or less extent. About one-third of the membership of the Order is on our subscription lists and every day new names are being sent in by the Lodge Secretaries. We have reason to believe that the straight-forward course pursued by the *Anglo-Saxon* in frankly discussing all questions relating to the Order; by the collection of information useful and interesting to its members, and by upholding the principles which the Order avowedly professes, the *Anglo-Saxon* has made itself so necessary to the brethren that they will not allow it to be supplanted. It should also be remembered that the *Anglo-Saxon* is owned and conducted by Englishmen, and that every man connected with its staff is a member of the Order. Nevertheless, if it should be the deliberate desire of the Grand Lodge to establish a newspaper exclusively appertaining to the Society, the *Anglo-Saxon* will, of course, have to accept facts as they are or may be. But the *Anglo-Saxon* altogether, but very respectfully, declines to become the "organ" of the Society. It prefers its independence. It has views somewhat in advance of any to which the Sons of England Society has yet committed itself on the subjects of French nationalism, Romish aggression in political matters, Imperial Federation and Equal Rights.

THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

As we go to press, the newsboys in streets are crying: "All about the 'Dissolution of Parliament—Nominations on the 26th February, and 'Elections on the 5th of March.'" The *Anglo-Saxon* can see only two parties in the field, and of these two it prefers the party of Sir John Macdonald. The Conservatives have always been loyal to "British connection," and although they have taxed British goods, they have never discriminated against the Mother Country in favour of the United States. The Liberal Party's policy, if that Party were in a position to enforce it, would place us at the mercy of the American monopolist and log-roller. The *Anglo-Saxon* would therefore urge all true Englishmen and Sons of England to cast their votes and exercise their influence on behalf of the Conservative Party.

But some of the gentlemen who represented Ontario and Manitoba in the late Parliament might just as well be allowed to stay at home. When the candidates present themselves for nomination on the 26th February, we hope that there are Sons of England in every constituency who will ask them these questions:—

1st. "What will you do if the Government should veto the Manitoba 'School Act' on or before the 11th 'April next?'"

And 2nd. "What will you do if the 'Quebec members make a demand for 'Better Terms' for their Province?'"

We are quite in favour of a Conservative Government. But we want to make sure that that Government will not sell us for French and Roman Catholic support. We should like especially to see a few more Conservatives in Parliament of the stripe of Mr. D'Alton McCarthy. There would be less chance of Sir John Macdonald going wrong.

The winter in the Continent has been a hard one. The larger rivers have been frozen, and much damage has been done. Many deer have been frozen, and show what we should do of temperature, below zero being the of us remember an easterly gale, v at freezing point t

MAYOR BIRKBECK is a model of its whole subject of from the point of suffering taxpayers no reason why the of Ottawa should all its needs. *Anglo-Saxon* en custom in the pas alderman to grab for his ward, in the re-election. To things have been to this point the must direct his a

We have been of the Public A year ended 30th the Government most satisfactory fairs. The press cleverly done, b can scarcely be tory. A surplus \$83.96, and the stated to be only should be any in not apparent.

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