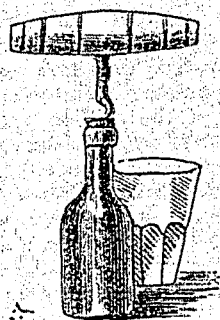


## ZEKE TRIMBLE ON THE INSOLVENCY LAWS.

DEAR OLD DI,—



HAIR is much diskushun now respectin' thee hard times. Hevin studied awlie thee abel finanshul renews which hev lately apeerd into the daly noos papers, and into thee *traded review*, i am now prepared to deel with this grate question. I hev a intimate friend who hez suffered greevously frum thee workin' of thee Insolvent Act. He hez bin put thro four times in five years, and hez now bekum quite welthy. So far as i kin see, his general helth hez not suffered much; and he hez often told me, that ef it was not fur thee avarishousness of thee Assynees, hee woud now bee still more welthy than he is. He complanes much of mental anguish occasioned by thee loss which hez frends thee dri goods men have suffered; but he says he hopes they will reekover, and bee happy into thee next world, whare he hopes to meat most of them. One grate konsolashun, he says, remanes to him in his aflikschun,—hee allus managed his estate so as to pay 5 cents to thee dollar. Sez hee to me 1 day, "Zeke, yu air too ekynomale. Thee way to make money rapid is to spend more than yu airn and then bust up, and thro thee responsebility onto your creditors." Anuther of mi buzzum frends, whose sorros air like in number to thee sands on thee see shoar (tho why thee sands onto thee see shoar shood bee more numyrous than thay air on thee lake shoar hee allus bin to me a mistary), related to me his harrowing tail in the followin manner:—"I kummenced bizness on a kash capital of 45. 6d. It was into the koal bizness. Bi perseverance and activity, and occashunally makin out a glowin staiment, I succeeded in gittin all the money from thee Banks that I wanted, and everybuddy wos ankshus to sell me to enny extent. Feelin that life wos allus a fleetin sho, and that man wantid littel here belo, but thet thee best way wos to git thet small quantity quick, i hired a large hows in Blank terris, furnished with thee modern konvenciences, and kommenced to look around for a good span of horses. These were soon found, and i wos then prepared for enny emergensy. Mi hous expenses exceeded mi inkum slitley, but this did not affect mi general helth. Everybuddy sed what a good fello i wos, and thet i wos'nt like old Hunks, a hordin up mi munny to take thee same to thee next world with me. Things flo'd on smoothly fur sum time, and, ez John Rose hez so pathetikally reemarkd, "figgers air like injy rubber—you kin stretch them any way to soot." I kep makin staiments, and thee Banks kep gittin in deeper and deeper into mi bizness. After bein seven years into bizness, it struck me that i woud make a trial balanse, and see of what mi worldly fortun konsisted. Thee result wos, i found out that mi liabilities amountid to 3 hundred thousand dollars, and mi assets were valued at \$32.73, inkludin thee koal skuttel into mi privet offis. Under these circumstances, i cood not consciensshously continu bizness, so i konkludid to make a voluntary assinment, & i am now dependant solely on thee privet means of mi wife, who has acquired quite a fortin durin the last seven years. And such is thee history of mi life." I may add to this trooly romantic tail, that mi frend is much affected by his misfortuns. Hee only keeps 6 horses now, & restricts hisself to 4 servants & a lady's maid, & 2 bottles of shampagne a day. His general helth is good, & he oftin remarks to mee that this world is full of trials and cares, & that i the misery tharein is kawsed bi the banks givin too big a line of diskount to flashy fellos and kuttin down thee small but honist traider, who means to pay his debts in full. This grate questun hez bin much diskussed into thee Doeminion Parlyment (which, bi the bi, is a grate improvement on thee i horse konsern in Quebeck). From Mr. Abbutt's pint of view, the Insolvent Act is a blessin to thee kuntry. Ef i wos Mr. Abbutt i shood probably argue on thee same side. Thare aint menny fellos down here thet kood make black whiter than John Abbott kin, when he hez a mind to do so. Hee struck ile on thee Bankrupt law, but the kuntry kant stand the Assynees's bills. A seller who oed me \$60 for paper kollers, giv over hez estate to a Assynees when thee law-furst broke out, & i hevent herd enny thing from thee afoursed sum sinse thet time; but i hev left a kodysil into mi will in favor of my infant son, who is now 6 months old, bi which he is to hev thee proceeds when hee kums of age, af thee sed estate is then ready to be skattered. A naybor of mine, who is a deekon into thee church, & hez bin tryin to revive me fur sum yeers past, is allus sayin thet thair is much relaxashun into thee morals of our kuntry. Sez i to him thee uther day, after hee had asked mee fur the 400th time ef i hed experienced a change of hart, sez i: "deekon, i kant possibly accomodate you ontill thee Bankrupt law is repealed." Sez i, "thee tone of morals of the kom-munity is lowered by thee Bankrupt law, and i kant git up steem enuff fur a 'revive' untill thee same is repealed." Thair is sumthing butiful to kontemplate in thee man who struggils up against diffikulties & pays hez detts, & gits rich (fur sich a man allus does); but thee Insolvent Act is a preemium on dishonisty, & a drawback to honist traiders. A naybor of mine, who is into thee kollar biz, woz a sellin 50 pur sent belo what mine kost, & i went & remonstrated with him upon thee folly of his kourse. I sed to him, "Smith," sez i, "ef yoo kontinuu to do so, rooin stares yoo in thee face!" "No," sez he, "I hev failed 3 times alreddy, & mi kreditors wos glad to kompromise at ten cents in the dollar; & i made a pile

out of thee estait a windin it up, & chargin miself thee Assynees fees, which was awl profit." Sez i, "Smith, proceed in yoor path of strickt rectytoode & yoo will bekum attorney-general for Quebeck, or perhaps yoo may reside in the Bordin hous near Kingstun." I left him & resolved to set the deekon after him, to fetch him round and revive him, like!

Yours trooly,

ZEKE TRIMBLE.

## ESSENCE OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD.

## FIRST DAY.

Several clergymen were disfranchised. MR. CARTER objected to the election of L. H. DAVIDSON. As both of these gentlemen are eminent members of the legal profession, the discussion was intensely interesting. An infinity of "points" from the legal gentlemen present, (who are in strong force,) resulted in the striking out of Mr. Davidson's name from the list.

The House of Bishops then sent down two or three names for the Lower House to nibble at, but the Lower House did not bite. The Synod then adjourned.

## SECOND DAY.

Mr. L. H. DAVIDSON's protest was read. A long debate ensued, when somebody having enquired, whether this was in order, some twenty-seven lawyers spoke to the "point," and finally it was decided that the notary who drew up the protest should be examined, and a report prepared on this momentous question.

The House of Bishops sent down a list of names of clergymen, some one of whom they would like to see appointed Metropolitan. But, the Lower House not being acquainted with those clergymen, they could not perceive the joke, and would not elect any of them.

The House then adjourned.

## THIRD DAY.

A great deal of valuable time was lost in voting and motions and points of order, when finally, the Lower House resolved to make a long pull and a strong pull to elect a Bishop. There being a little time to spare before lunch, a few young lawyers occupied the fleeting moments by discussing points of order. And it is a fact worthy of notice that the clerical members, are becoming proficient in parliamentary and ecclesiastical law. No Bishop was elected at this meeting, and Mr. Davidson's protest being read again, the meeting adjourned.

## FOURTH DAY.

MR. DAVIDSON's protest being read, a number of the legal delegates present, objected to the document, on the ground that the notarial fees thereon, should have been 10s. instead of 7s. 6d. Quite an animated discussion ensued, in which several eminent divines took part. Suddenly, some one in the back seats remarked that, "one object of this Synod was to elect a Bishop." The chairman called the meeting to order, and the delegates began voting again. After several hours amusement with the Ballot, it was unanimously resolved, "That no Canadians need apply for the vacant office." And this on the principle that, "it is not politic to encourage native talent." The Upper House is understood to be composed of gentlemen of the old school, who have not yet realised the fact that Canada is no longer a colony. The Lower House acting on the motto, "let us have peace," concurred in the resolution and elected a gentleman from Pluckley, in England. It is not yet certain that he will accept the office. If he does not, lively times are anticipated at the next meeting of the Synod. Mr. Davidson's protest being read, the meeting adjourned.

## ESSENCE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

## FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Read minutes. An animated discussion took place upon the question, "whether a clergyman having a wife and six children, could live on forty pounds a year, and pay any house rent. A vote being taken, it was decided that the thing could not be done, unless the clergyman wrote for the newspapers in addition to performing his pastoral duties. The meeting then adjourned until next day at 2 p.m.

## SECOND DAY.

There being no pressing business before the meeting, the Knox Church organ question was brought up. By some of the members, this celebrated instrument was regarded with horror. Others thought it a very small affair, and wondered how it could make such a noise. A prominent lay member declared that he was fond of music, and had an organ in his private dwelling; saying, that if any member present, doubted the fact, he would be happy to have him visit his family, when his eldest daughter would perform some choice music from *La Grande Duchesse*, in slow time. A gentleman, from the country, asserted that he would prefer to see the banjo or bag-pipes introduced into his church, rather than the organ. This created some amusement and led to the assembly adjourning, *sine die*.