

The Planet

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THE NAMES.

Messrs. Reaume and Sutherland would have stood in a much stronger position before the country if they had refrained from stating that they were approached to support the Government, unless they were prepared to give the names of the parties who approached them, or submit charges which it was possible to meet. — Stratford Examiner.

Mr. Gamey gave the names and the details. It is to be hoped our contemporary is satisfied with the strength of Mr. Gamey's position before the country. The Liberal press is quite generally demanding that Dr. Reaume and Mr. Sutherland shall give the names of the Government agents who sought to bribe them. But the Government is making no such demand in the Legislature. The ministers know.

There doesn't seem to be any wild rush on the part of the Rossites to accept Dr. Reaume's offer to name the man who tried to bribe him with the Speakership.

PORTRAITS OF MAYORS.

A movement begun by The Chatham Planet to have the portraits of the mayors of that city collected to adorn the council chamber reminds us in that that very creditable idea was in process of execution by the Stratford City Council prior to the fire which destroyed the old City Hall building and which destroyed with it a good beginning which had been made toward the collection of a series of pictures of Stratford's mayors. We trust that the good work will be taken up again by the City Council. Nothing could be more fitting than such a collection encircling the handsome Council Chamber. It would certainly add much to the attractiveness and historical association of the chamber were the walls adorned with the pictures of Stratford's chief magistrates since incorporation as a town. We believe that many of the ex-mayors, if asked by resolution of the Council, would willingly supply their pictures, suitably framed, for the purpose, not for any motives of vanity but for their local historical value. Let the Council take the matter up.—Stratford Herald.

IN THE HOUSE.

In the Legislature Mr. Ross made a cheeky demand when he sought to have the House secure Mr. Gamey's papers. That gentleman wishing to show the documents to his solicitor, had them publicly handed to him by Mr. Whitney and then it was that Mr. Ross tried to stop the transfer, the Globe giving this report of the incident: "Mr. Ross—There is a motion before the chair and it is a motion of privilege, and it is somewhat embarrassing to move another resolution in the House, yet I move that the papers be impounded and put in the possession of the speaker of the House, in order that they may be put to any purpose required. Mr. Whitney—Do I understand my hon. friend to make such a motion? Mr. Ross—If my hon. friend objects I will not press the motion. It is a proper motion to make except that there is a question before the chair."

It will be noticed that Mr. Ross made a very quick backdown when he was asked if he wished to divide the House on the subject. As a matter of fact, as contended by Mr. Foy, Mr. Gamey is the man who has the right to these papers in order to help establish his case, when he appears as a witness in support of his charges.

THE GAMEY CHARGES.

St. John, N. B., Sun.

The shocking statement made by Mr. Gamey on the floor of the Ontario Legislature has caused a great sensation. This particular exposure was a great surprise, because no one supposed that Mr. Gamey was engaged in the praiseworthy duty of bringing to justice a group of public criminals. But there is no sign of popular surprise over the crime itself. It has been generally understood that such things were going on. For the last seven years the reputation of the Liberal party management in Ontario has been growing worse and worse. Of late no Conservative candidate could go into a contest in that province with any certainty that the election would not be stolen by the Federal or Provincial Government party, even though he should get a majority of votes. Every Conservative leader has known that if he had a supporter in Parliament who could be influenced by a cash bribe, or by any less vulgar but equally corrupt payment, that member would move over to the Government side. This is the reign of terror that has been introduced into Ontario. Unfortunately it is not confined to that Province. The penalty paid by the Ontario Government is the general belief that Mr. Gamey is telling the truth.

PROOF SPELLS DESTRUCTION.

Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal). As for Mr. Gamey's extraordinary narrative, it has plot enough for a

historical novel. It begins in the lunch room at Allandale junction on Aug. 7, and ends in the office of the Crossin Piano Manufacturing Company on the evening of Tuesday last, March 10, with three young men from Gore Bay lying concealed behind three pianos, armed with sharpened pencils and shorthand note books. Until the whole story told by Mr. Gamey, with the proofs submitted by him in the shape of money, letters, telegrams and other documents, including the notes of the three young stenographers from Gore Bay, are gone into by a committee of the Ontario Legislature or a judicial body, and all the necessary witnesses examined and cross-examined under oath, it is only just that judgment upon Mr. Stratton should be suspended in the public mind. It is permissible, however, to say that the whole matter has a decidedly ugly look. If Mr. Gamey's story, when it is judicially investigated, can be proved to be founded in fact, the result will be, so far as Mr. Stratton is concerned, a very serious one, and justly so; while to the Ross Government the substantiation of Mr. Gamey's tale will simply spell destruction.

PURGE THE PARTY.

St. Thomas Journal (Lib.)

The Journal has been urged to cease its opposition to the transfer of the Branton license, on the ground that our course will injure the Liberal party. We don't believe it. The men who are most active in working for the transfer are the very ones, who like carrion, have fattened on the prostrate carcasses of the Liberal party of Elgin county for three years past. It was thought by some that when they were gorged they would have the body, and the work of resuscitation would begin. But there appears to be no intention to loose their talons, which are apparently sunk as deep as ever. They will not be frightened away by subdued threats, nor can they be coaxed to leave as long as there is a pound of flesh left. Nothing but guns will make them move—guns loaded with ball cartridge and accurately aimed. No better service can be rendered to the Liberal party than to drive away the carrion politicians who are picking its bones and then stand it up in the semblance of power that distinguished it before the advent of the political riff-raff of London, whose actions have dragged the name of West Elgin in the mud.

A HOG'S MOUTH.

The Way It Enables the Animal to Eat Hickory Nuts.

"People often wonder how it is that a hog can get all the kernel out of a hickory nut, or any other kind of nut for that matter, without swallowing any of the shell," said a man from the country, "but as a matter of fact there is nothing mysterious about the process. Mind you, hogs don't swallow any of these harder substances. They get rid of them, and then it is just as easy for them to get rid of the shell of a nut as it is for a man or a squirrel. You might think because a hog crushes the nut into small fragments that he would necessarily swallow a good portion of the hull. But he doesn't do any such thing."

"It is a conceded fact among men who know anything about the subject that the horse is the most perfectly constructed animal in the world, considering the purposes for which the horse is used and its method and habits in life. But I want to put in a good word for the hog when it comes to the thing of cracking and eating nuts without getting any of the harder substances into the stomach. The horse has very fine teeth. The back teeth particularly are finely constructed with a view of enabling the horse to crush its food well before passing it into the stomach. These heavy grinders, heavily set in the horse's jaw, are looked upon as marvels. So they are."

"But what's the matter with the teeth of the hog? What's the matter with that marvelous process by which they separate the kernel of the nut from the hull? It has occurred to me that this is no small achievement, and nature is at least entitled to some sort of tribute for her skill in making this result possible. In the first place the hog's tongue is more sensitive than would be supposed, and it can easily detect the harder from the softer substances. By some sort of process the hog is able to work the bits of a hickory nut hull over to the sides of its mouth, the tongue being used for the purpose, and here they are thrown out at the corners. Probably you have noticed that the corners of a hog's mouth are somewhat different from the corners of the mouths of other animals. The lines of the mouth do not end so pointedly, and hence it is a much easier thing for the hog to work the harder substances which he does not care to swallow out through these little openings."

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CONFESSIONS OF A CARICATURIST.

Max Beerbohm Reveals Some of the Secrets of His Calling.

I asked Mr. Max Beerbohm to tell me some of his methods, writes Mr. Raymond Bithwayt in "Casell's Magazine." "My first rule is to have the whole thing as absolutely simple as I can," was the reply, "the more you elaborate a caricature the feebler is the result. It is the casual attitude, the unstudied expression that best conveys the whole man. It is these things that I seek to reproduce in my caricatures. Look at this Kitchener. Do you note the across at his face? That is the straight line of his eyes ruled right main thing about Kitchener. That line indicates the man of action. Then look at Chamberlain. The flat back to his head and the way it curves up from the back. That is where Mr. Chamberlain exists for me—that and the long sharp nose."

"Are people often offended with your idea of them?"
"No," he replied. "Very rarely. They say they are too ridiculous." I asked him if he minded being caricatured himself. He laughed. "Why, of course, I hate it. I am very sensitive about it myself. I always think it is such bad taste, and it never seems to be like me."

We continued with the portfolio of sketches.
"There's Hall Caine," said he. "Well, of course, what appeals to me in him is the earnest intentness of his eye and his hair. However, that is only an accessory, for if he cut it he would still look practically the same."
I took up an impression of Kipling.
"And what was it appealed to you most in Kipling?"
"The back of his neck, the thick, back, the pointed beard, receding forehead, the regular, pushing face, like a battering ram of the man who means to succeed."

"I'm sorry, his extraordinary distinction of appearance. Sir William Vernon Harcourt—well, the smallness of his head as contrasted with his very big body. He took the smallest hat on the Treasury Bench, though, of course, he was far and away the biggest man there."
"Are you fond of caricaturing?"
"Yes, I am very fond of it. It is a recreation to me. To sit down to write is a business requiring thought and conscience. Caricaturing, on the other hand, is pure natural instinct without any trouble at all."

Sunlight Soap will not injure your blankets or harden them. It will make them soft, white and fleecy.

A Great Feast.
There has never been prepared at any feast a bigger bowl of punch than that which was brewed by the Right Hon. Edward Russell when he was captain general and commander in chief of the forces in the Mediterranean seas. It was made in a fountain in a garden in the middle of four walks, all covered overhead with lemon and orange trees. In every walk there was a table the whole length of it, and on every table was a cold collation. In the huge fountains were the following ingredients: Four hogheads of brandy, eight hogheads of water, 25,000 lemons, twenty gallons of lime juice, 1,800 pounds of fine Lisbon sugar, five pounds of grated nutmegs, 800 toasted biscuits and a pipe of dry mountain Malaga.

Over the fountain was placed a great canopy, while in the midst of this lake of liquor there sailed a little sailor boy who filled the cups and replenished the glasses of all those who had a desire to drink. More than 4,000 men put in an appearance at this feast—London Tit-Bits.

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Russia's First Newspaper.

The Russian press has just celebrated the 200th anniversary of its existence. The first Russian newspaper was the Moscow Wiedomosti, or, to give it full title, "the newspaper of military and other noteworthy matters which occur in the dominion of Moscow and the neighboring countries."

The Czar issued a ukase authorizing the foundation of the paper in the middle of December, 1702; the first number appeared on Jan. 15, 1703, and 1,000 copies were printed. The paper was practically the creation of Peter the Great, who occasionally contributed to it.

The number dated Aug. 15, 1703, contains the earliest news about the new buildings of St. Petersburg.

The second oldest paper in Russia is The German St. Petersburg Zeitung, of which the first number appeared in January, 1727.

For the current year licenses are in existence for the publication of 1,076 newspapers. Of these 868 are in Russian, 109 in Polish, 47 in German, 8 in French, 3 in English, and the rest in various provincial dialects.

Nearly all of these papers are of very recent date. Three-fifths of them are not ten years old. In St. Petersburg 40 have not reached their fifth year. The mortality among Russian newspapers is very high.

Actor in Terrible Marine Disaster.

Staff-Captain Hawkins-Smith, who has just gone on the retired list, was one of the principal actors in the terrible drama of H.M.S. Victoria, says a London exchange. When the Victoria turned over and sank after the Camperdown had struck her, Staff-Captain Hawkins-Smith was with the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Geo. Tryon, on the top of the chart-house. The Staff-Captain was drawn into the awful vortex, and it was only by wonderful courage and presence of mind that he saved his life. When he rose he was so utterly exhausted that he must have perished if he had not found an ear and a small spar which he placed under each arm. These supports enabled him to keep afloat in the turmoil caused by the foundered battleships. It was to Staff-Captain Hawkins-Smith that Sir George Tryon spoke a few of the last words he ever uttered. Seeing that all was lost, the Admiral turned and said, "I think she is going," and the Staff-Captain answered, "Yes, sir, I think she is." That was about ten minutes before the collision.

The Early Bird.

The report from Washington County, Me., of a bird's nest with eggs in incubation, the first week in January, is pretty good evidence of the presence of the Canada Jay rather further south than usual. The nesting in this instance seems to have been about six to ten weeks earlier than usual, though December and January instances are not rare enough to be surprising. Newly hatched young of the Canada Jay have been seen on March 8, and that is about their ordinary season. The Canada Jay is variously known as wiskajou Whiskey Jack, moose bird, robber bird. It is a pretty hardy bird to nest and bring forth its young in such winters as Maine has.

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Notice of Dissolution of Partnership.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore subsisting between us, the undersigned, as implement agents in the city of Chatham, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. All debts owing to the said partnership are to be paid to Frank E. Gerber, at city of Chatham, aforesaid, and all claims against the said partnership are to be presented to the said Frank E. Gerber, by whom the same will be settled.

Dated at Chatham this 8th day of October, 1902.

FRANK E. GERBER,
HENRY E. GERBER.

Witness:
WARD STANWORTH.

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