

# TRUTH.

OLD SERIES—17TH YEAR.

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NEW SERIES—VOL. V. NO. 217

## TO LITERARY PEOPLE

And Others Who have Anything Nice in

## SHORT STORIES.

### "TRUTH"

Wants Them. Read the Following:

In order to make TRUTH still more interesting, we have decided to offer one lady or gentleman's SOLID GOLD HUNTING CASE GENUINE ELGIN WATCH, worth at retail, about \$100, every week until further notice, for the BEST SHORT, ORIGINAL OR SELECTED STORY, for publication in TRUTH. The following are the conditions of competition:

1st. The story need not be the work of the sender, but may be selected from any books or periodical by any author.

2nd. It must not exceed in length six (6) columns of TRUTH. A little variation in length either way, will not be considered an obstacle to its acceptance.

3rd. Every accepted story will be published in TRUTH in its turn, and the gold watch awarded upon publication.

4th. Every competitor must send in his contribution either printed or plainly written on one side of the paper only, giving author's name and source from which the story is taken, as well as his own name and address in full, attached to the story.

5th. With each story must be sent one dollar for six months' subscription to TRUTH.

Those who are already subscribers will have their term extended a half year for the dollar sent.

6th. The first story will appear in TRUTH for November fifteenth, and weekly thereafter.

The publisher reserves the right to publish at any time any story, original or selected, which may fail to obtain a prize. The sum of \$3.00 will be paid for such story when used.

So far the number of stories received is disappointingly small. We will keep the offer open, however, for a little longer, in the hopes that they may increase.

Address all communications and contributions to  
Editor TRUTH  
33 & 35 Adelaide St., West,  
Toronto, Can.

## WHAT TRUTH SAYS.

There does not seem to have been very much enthusiasm over the placing of the George Brown statue in the Queen's Park. Only a comparatively few of the faithful were present, and though no doubt the ceremony was in a measure impressive it could hardly be called inspiring. Canadians don't seem to take kindly to statues some way or other. Whether this be to

their credit or not it might be difficult to say. Certainly if any man in Canada was ever entitled to be embalmed in bronze in this way, George Brown was the man. At the same time the community can't be got to "enthuse" much over such a way of embalming a man's memory.

Somebody with a big head for figures has been making the following calculations with reference to the ballots cast in the recent presidential election. The ballot is a piece of paper four inches wide and ten and a half long. One hundred and fifty of them weigh a pound. Two hundred and fifty laid one on the other measure about an inch in thickness. They cost 90 cents a thousand. All the ballots cast in the election if placed end to end would reach from Cape Flattery the extreme northwestern promontory of Washington Territory to Kansas City, with a good deal to spare. As to the ballots printed they were hugely in advance of those actually cast. The total number of ballots offered to the American people was 260,000,000, the weight of which was 1,716,000 lbs. The paper and printing cost \$234,000. Pasted end to end they would encircle the Globe with a great deal to spare.

The Skye crofters, whose grievances have attracted so much attention of late, have, it seems, given in their submission. They made some show of resistance, poor fellows, but the presence of an armed force was too much for them, and unconditional surrender was the consequence. It is not likely that they will get any redress for their wrongs—not in the meantime at any rate. The British Government, what with its Franchise Bill, its Redistribution Scheme, its Egyptian Expedition, and South African Agitation, no doubt thinks it has its hands full enough without putting itself much about to remedy the grievances of a comparative handful of Scotch peasants. Emigration without a doubt is the best remedy for such cases. Let the landlords be left in full possession of their rocky cliffs. There is plenty of good soil in the new world for all the Skye crofters and other hard pressed people, who like to come and take possession. Why should anyone work for the bare living over and above what the rapacity of landlords permits, when there are thousands of broad acres both in Canada and the United States pleading for cultivation?

What must a newspaper man feel like who has been called a "quidnunc" by an excited brother journalist? Yet such has been the lamentable outcome of two newspaper men in the neighborhood of St. Thomas. We quote the exact words: "Again we feel called upon to promulgate another of the malicious actions of the quidnunc who pushes the quill of the——" We shall not say. TRUTH does not interfere in local quarrels.

It would be interesting to know what the people of Knox Church, Hamilton, think, "too strictly orthodox." It appears that there has been a separation between them and their pastor, Dr. James, because of that. The Doctor, so they think, is too strictly orthodox, that is, we suppose, preaches too unflinchingly what he believes to be the word of God. It is a pity, of course, but when a spirit of unrest and dissatisfaction has got abroad in a congregation it is much the best way no doubt of ending all difficulty by doing as Doctor James did—resigning. But it is a terrible thing for a minister not to be liberal enough. Other preachers should be warned by the fate of Dr. James and by all means seek to avoid the grave charges of over-orthodoxy and illiberality. If not they may find themselves in their old days forced to look about for another situation.

Paper in these days of mechanical skill is put to a vast variety of uses. We have paper tubs, and pails and chairs and bedsteads, and indeed, if we are so inclined, we can get almost any article of household furniture made of paper. Then there are paper car wheels in some respects the most wonderful of all—as hard and it is said as durable as iron or steel. One of the latest uses to which this almost universally applicable material is put is for making pillow shams and counterpanes. Large sized manilla paper is used two sheets being held together by small tacks, at intervals, of three or four inches, gummed so as to stick the sheets together where the tacks lie. The tacks strengthen the paper. Beautiful designs are printed on the upper surface, and they are then ready for use. If they become wrinkled all that is necessary is the application of a hot flat iron. Nothing seems to be wasted. Even refuse is found available for some useful or beautiful purpose.

The Roman Catholic "flock" in the village of Thornhill evidently has a shepherd with a sharp eye for his tithes. Lucre, in this good man's opinion is evidently not so "filthy" a thing but that it may be earnestly striven for. Altogether the case as reported by the daily papers seems to be quite extraordinary. It appears that one of the parishioners was behind hand with his tithes, and in order to bring him to a proper frame of mind on the subject, his pew was boarded up in order that, being deprived of the ordinance, his eyes might be opened to the error of his ways, and his pockets to the passage of the dollars. Quite another result followed however. Another parishioner, a gentleman 76 years of age, took the dispossessed one into his pew. Whereupon by order of the priest his pew was also boarded up. On the Sunday, finding himself unrighteously dealt with in this matter, the old gentleman wrenched off the boards and took possession of his pew. The reverend father, enraged at

this presumption, left the altar and grappling with the old gentleman shoved him out of the door with violence enough to break his right thigh. Altogether it seems to have been a most extraordinary exhibition for a place of worship during the Sunday services, and deserves both legal and ecclesiastical investigation.

Another rich gold strike, it is said, has been made in British Columbia on one of the affluents of the Skeena river. The finds already made are spoken of as very rich, and a great rush is expected next spring. It may, of course, turn out to be all that is expected, though there are ten chances to one that it will not. In such cases, however, all the "sells" and disappointments of the past will not deter men. They will try their luck in spite of everything.

What a rapid advance electric lighting is making in these days. Not streets only and large public buildings are now lighted in this way, but even business places and private houses. The time may come when every town and city in the country will be sufficiently lighted both indoors and out by some great artificial light suspended in its midst.

The great struggle is at last over, and the Democrats are really in the White House. It has been a long wait for them, but the lane, long as it has been, has reached the proverbial turning. Both the principal candidates passed through a fiery furnace heated sevenfold. Unfortunately it cannot be said for either of them that he has come through the ordeal without so much as the smell of the fire on him. But at any rate the fight is over, and Cleveland is President of the United States. If he pursues the same line of conduct in the White House that has won him such golden opinions as Governor of the State of New York, then the coming term of his occupancy may be regarded as full of high promise for the Republic. It is earnestly to be hoped that he will follow the advice of his best friends, and make no "removals" but first cause. On the tariff question, the Democratic party has of course not committed itself in favor of Free Trade. There are good grounds, however, for expecting that the United States under Democratic rule will shake itself free from the meddler's shackles of protection, and declare for higher liberty and progress in the way of Tariff for Revenue only.

Complaints against the bakers for keeping up the price of bread in spite of the low price of flour, are not confined to Canada by any means. Bakers are execrated all over the States on the same account. One indignant householder writing to a Chicago paper says he understands better now why Pharaoh hanged the chief baker instead of restoring him as he did the butler. We confess the same thing.