

ROUSED PUBLIC OPINION

Long Indictment of the Ottawa Frauds.

A British Journal on the Humiliating Revelations.

Indorsement by Leading Toronto Preachers.

"Aristocratic Stealing" and How it Has Been Condoned.

The Canadian Gazette, of London, Eng., a journal which hitherto has had strong feelings towards the present Ottawa Government, thus refers to recent developments at Ottawa:

"That whatever be the outcome of the inquiry so far as concerns Sir Hector Langevin personally, there can no longer be any question as to the hopelessly corrupt administration of the department over which he has presided continuously since the accession of Sir John Macdonald to power in 1879, and for which he, and he alone, is responsible to the Canadian Parliament. The tale of political unscrupulousness which has been slowly dragged to light at Ottawa during the past few weeks has done more than any other event in the whole history of Canada to make the Dominion a by-word among civilized nations. With the iniquities of such trained critics as Sir Charles Dilke and Dr. Bryce had spread the comforting assurance that in Canada at least there was little to which the political moralist could take serious exception. Those whose business it is to go beneath the surface of Canadian affairs have better, but even they never dream that the cancer of corruption had so often been to the public life of the country. Nineteen years ago a great Canadian party was ignominiously turned from office and kept in the cold shade of Opposition for half a decade because its Ministerial leaders allowed those interested in a Government to fill the party treasury with campaign funds. To the Governor-General of that day the transaction was nothing less than an 'atrocious crime.' Now all we now describe as a long series of such frauds upon the public purse—frauds not perhaps involving a like gigantic amount, but extending over a much longer period, percolating through the official high and low, from permanent to casual clerks. In some cases we have the confession by civil servants that they and their wives received from the treasury or would-be contractors private gifts such as might well dazzle the eyes of a millionaire. In another instance a political friend is shown to have been permitted to make a 25 per cent. charge on all contracts upon a certain public building; while in the evidence of last week, we learn, on the admission of those incriminated, of railway subsidies appropriated to private use and of huge sums paid to party funds by contractors who were named as 'friends' of the department. As the result of these and similar admissions, suspicion has followed suspicion, and in the department concerned, and there are probably more to come. The whole tale is a most gruesome one.

The Church is becoming aroused to the condition of affairs at Ottawa, and the necessity for a change. In Toronto yesterday, several of the leading preachers spoke strongly in regard to the revelations. Rev. Dr. Galbraith (Methodist) speaking on 'National and Political Sin,' said that during the past few weeks we have had to bow our heads in shame because of the terrible disclosures of corruption and political rottenness in high place, both at Ottawa and in Quebec. Rev. W. A. Hunter (Presbyterian) denounced in strong language the corruption shown to exist by the revelations recently made at Ottawa. Canada had been scandalized and disgraced by these revelations, and it behooved all honest men to look into the history of the fraudulent and corrupt to find a remedy therefor. One great remedy was to 'turn the rascals out,' but in addition to that changed conditions were necessary. In the school, in the home, at the ballot box, the work of purification should go on. The country needed a great revival of religion—two revivals, one beginning at the Atlantic and coming west, the other beginning at the Pacific and coming east. Together they should roll over the land, cleanse the air of the moral miasma which now filled it, and purify the atmosphere of corruption from one end of the country to the other.

Rev. J. E. Starr (Methodist) had for his subject 'Aristocratic Stealing.' At the very top notch of our government and country. Of the existence of the fraud known as boodling there had been abundant evidence lately brought to light. There never had been in the history of our nation such an exposition of rottenness and corruption in the body politic as that brought forth at the present time. And the deeper the probe of inquiry was forced the more corrupt were the disclosures brought forth. More than \$1,000,000 had been taken from the public purse, and thousands of dollars had been used in corrupting officials. The matter was made even worse by the fact that the money plundered had been paid in taxes by people who suffered heavily by the burdens laid upon them, who have been forced to the oppression of the taxes for years. The money was the price of blood, and it was an outrage that men should be allowed to live on their ill-gotten wealth, driving in carriages and enjoying holiday trips, while the taxpayers were made to suffer. The boy who would steal a loaf of bread to keep his mother from starving would be sent to prison, and the man who would furnish him with a false key to enter a store would be punished as an accessory. The aristocratic thieves who plundered the treasury, and those who furnished the keys whereby the schemes were carried out, should be treated except by resignation, but should be punished like those practicing the more awkward forms of stealing. And the bribers who tempt officials to violate their oaths should be sent to keep their company.

Rev. W. F. Wilson (Methodist) said that every honest man should speak out in this crisis. The revelations already made certainly stamped our politics as at a very

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TERSE TELEGRAMS.

Wired From Every Quarter of the Globe.

Martinique Reports 310 Dead—Explosion on a Steamer and Loss of Life—A Lady Nipped for a Joke—An Engineer and Fireman Killed in a Collision.

CANADIAN.

The waterworks bylaw was carried at Sandwich Monday by a majority of 96, only 12 voting against it.

A man named Thomas Martin had his arm badly injured by a sign at Robinson's circus on Friday at Quebec.

Col. Smith, deputy sergeant-at-arms, has returned to Ottawa from Quebec, whither he went again to find "Uncle" Thomas Greaney. His search was unsuccessful.

The steamship Capotaia collided with the end of the Louis docks, Quebec, and received severe damage. She will be delayed about a week. The cost of repairs will be about \$8,000.

On Friday the 10-year-old son of Thomas Houton, of Shawville, near Smith's Falls, fell from a trestle on Jones' Island and alighted head first on a rock and smashed his skull.

Robert Hall, of Toronto, was beaten and robbed at Orillia, on Sunday morning. Three men are under arrest charged with complicity in the affair. One of them, Wm. Vase, has confessed.

The Dominion Line steamship Oregon, from Montreal, Aug. 12, with a shipment of 457 cattle and 110 sheep, arrived at Liverpool Saturday, Aug. 22,