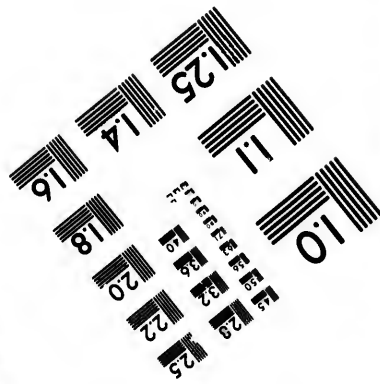
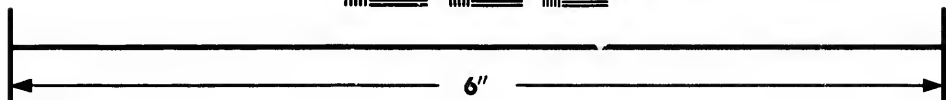
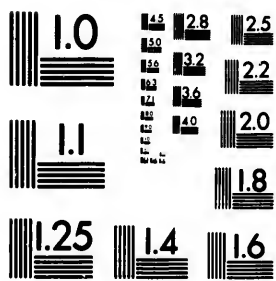


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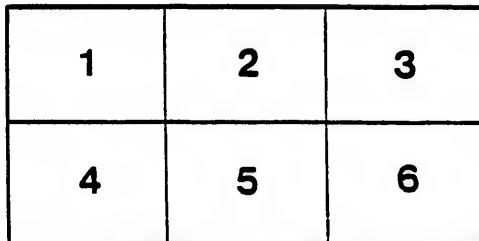
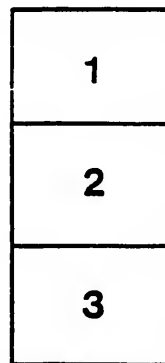
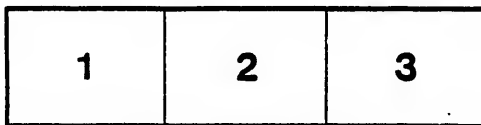
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# West Elgin Election, 1899.

St Thomas Jan 10th 1899

Dear Sir,

Kindly appoint  
the bearer as deputy returning  
officer for Polling sub-  
Division number seven  
in the City of St Thomas  
and oblige.

Yours sincerely

D. Macnish

Sheriff Brown.

R. S. W. Ely

Return

## To the Electors.

It is often complained that political bias runs too strong to hear or heed the truth. But confidence in the innate sense of truth and right which pervades men's better being, when facts are soberly placed before them, prompts the issue of these lines.

To the interested, salaried supporters of the Government—office-holders, office-seekers and hangers-on in various capacities, it is useless to appeal. No surprise need be felt at their clinging to their benefactors, right or wrong.

## Why Necessary.

Something of the nature of this pamphlet seems imperatively necessary in view of the systematic suppression and perversion of facts now being practiced in behalf of the Liberal Candidate.

## The Object.

The chief object of this pamphlet is to place before the Electors a number of the chief documents, letters and papers, connected with the West Elgin Election of January 12th, 1899, together with such brief explanations and recital of facts and circumstances as may be of interest or importance.

The fullest investigation and criticism is challenged and invited.

## A Retrospect.

In the campaign of March 1898, Mr. Macnish appealed to the electors of West Elgin on his "record." His opponents took up the challenge and submitted to the electors that Mr. Macnish, both by his votes and acts had been recreant to the promises he had made, (notably those to the Patron electors) when first seeking election in 1894.

The election was held on March 1, 1898. The conduct of the elections, the sacred trust of safe-guarding and counting the ballots is in the hands of the government and its officials. The returning officers and deputy-returning officers were friends and partisans of Mr. Macnish—many of them honorable and straightforward no doubt, but others, not always strangers either, very much otherwise, as developments have shown. These partisan officials who had charge and counting of the ballots, returned Mr. Macnish as elected by a majority of 11. Crooked work at some of the polling places having been reported by Mr. Macdiarmid's scrutineers, a recount was demanded before the judge. The recount disclosed that there were 17 mutilated ballots in polling division No. 13, St. Thomas. But even outside of these mutilated ballots it was held by the court that Mr. Macdiarmid had a majority of one, instead of Mr. Macnish having a majority of 11.

Protest and scrutiny proceedings were then commenced. The only evidence given at the trial was in the case of John Taylor who voted in the name John Taylor intended for another person, the evidence of the voter being that he was induced so to vote by Dr. J. R. Donahue, an agent of Mr. Macnish, who is referred to in another page in connection with the ballot frauds.

*No corrupt practice has ever been proved or admitted against Mr. Macdiarmid or any agent of his.*

Had Mr. Macdiarmid's ballots not been mutilated or "swiped" in 1898, there would doubtless have been no bye-election in 1899, and West Elgin would have been spared the disgrace which it is now its duty to wipe out.

## Swarms of Strangers.

The bye-election was set for 12th January, 1899,—fixed by Mr. Macnish's suggestion just in time to shut out the new Voters' List in St. Thomas which was ready to be certified. A vast horde of outsiders—known and unknown—over-ran the riding during, and for days and weeks prior to the day of election. Among them, Preston, Smith, Vance, "Capt." Sullivan, Tom Lewis, Cahill, Bole, D. F. McDonald, Pritchett, Croden, Thompson, Bell, Carrell, Hoppin and scores besides.

### Who Some of Them Were.

- W. T. R. Preston**—Special Government manager for the bye-elections—formerly Parliamentary Librarian at Toronto at a salary of \$1800—now inspector of Dominion Immigration agencies in Europe at a salary of \$3000 and expenses.
- Alex. Smith**—Reform Provincial Organizer—entrusted with moneys by the Reform Association (Limited) without being required to give a detailed account thereof (as he swore in the Waterloo trial.)
- James Vance**—Assistant-Grit-Organizer, who rendered signal service to the Hardy-Ross government in North Waterloo and other ridings.
- D. F. McDonald**—Government Forest Ranger in Nipissing—drew \$1,421.61 out of Provincial Treasury last year—(see Public Accounts, page 407)—Entertains government Deputy Ministers at Parliament Buildings with scurrilous remarks upon the electors whose suffrages they were seeking.
- Hoppins**—McDonald's Assistant—Saw Filer in the Summer—Director of Cabinet Ministers campaigning in the Winter.
- J. W. Thompson**—An Employee of Mr. Ross's department of Education. (See Public Account page 132.)
- Capt. Sullivan**—"Prince of Pluggers"—Reported in South Ontario.
- Tom Lewis**—of London—Shares honours with Sullivan reported in North Waterloo.
- J. G. Pritchett**—Ex-Alderman of London—an "educated" D. R. O., who prefers the name of M. B. Johnston, a reputable St. Thomas citizen to his own, laboring for honest government in North Waterloo, till the Conservatives to use Mr. Macnish's complaint, "pursued him with a persistence worthy of a better cause."
- E. D. Croden**—of London—another "educated" D. R. O., who knew better than to permit Mr. Macdiarmid's scrutineers to see the ballots at No. 7, St. Thomas.
- Duncan Bole**—of Sault Ste. Marie—a graduated ballot artist—government Immigration agent, Fishery and Fur inspector with a good salary and every chance of rapid advancement till the wicked days of "persecution" came.
- Martin J. Cahill**—of St. Catharines—another ballot artist, who preferred to be known in West Elgin as Albert E. Montgomery, and who preferred to be tried by the Hardy-Macnish Police Magistrate rather than by a jury of his countrymen.

### Macnish Knew.

Pretence has been made that Mr. Macnish didn't know about those men and what they were doing. Who could believe him ignorant when so many knew. He frequently took dinner at the Duke House where many of gang stayed. He ate with them, walked with them, talked with them. He knew some of them before. Mr. Macnish is a shrewd and wily witness. But read

### What Mr. Macnish Had to Admit he Knew.

“ At St. Thomas I never met Mr. Preston but twice, but at the club I understood that he was here assisting in my election. I know he was not assisting Mr. Macdiarmid. I know he was speaking. I received a telegram from Preston the night of the election. I cannot tell the contents but that words to the effect of “Hug the Machine for me” were on it. I did not know the meaning of these words.

“ I spoke to Mr. Smith the organizer of the Liberal party and Mr. Preston the former organizer. I do not know what Preston was doing here, he was here a week or more—Mr. Smith was the Provincial Organizer and was here looking after the organization.

“ I was introduced to Captain Sullivan during the campaign.—I had no association with Capt. Sullivan except that I was introduced to him—I do not know and have no recollection that I walked on Talbot Street in St. Thomas with him but I would not say that I did not.

“ I saw Mr. McDonald previous to the nomination and had seen him in Toronto—I met him 3 or 4 days before the nomination. I had read that he was taking part in elections through the Country. Vance was with him. I did not repudiate McDonald in any way on nomination day. I knew he was staying at Rodney. I knew him and met him at Rodney on the morning before the election day. I was talking to Mr. Haycock in the Hotel and Mr. McDonald came and shook hands with me. I had heard that he was there assisting with the party and furthering the election. I had no doubt about that fact.

“ At Dutton Mr. Vance was the only one and he had the supervision of Dunwich. I knew Mr. Vance. He was here and is Mr. Smith’s assistant in the office in Toronto. I saw him in Dutton.

“ A man named Carrell was assisting the organization in West Lorne. I do not know where he was from. He was a stranger. Some one introduced him to me. I think it was at Lindeman’s hotel. I knew he was a stranger. I was told he was assisting in the organization in my interest. At every general election we had always managed without outsiders.

“ Mr. Bell was acting at Fingal. I met him once there. I understood that he was moving about in that division and that he remained there until after the election.

“ At Southwold Station a stranger named Thompson I understood was assisting in my election.”

Sworn Examination before Judge Huhges, June 8th, 1899.

### A Warning.

Mr. Macdiarmid’s supporters warned the electors of the debanchery being practised by the imported horde and their local accomplices.



### Denials.

Mr. Macnish and his supporters made very fervent denial of any wrongdoing. Here are Preston's impassioned utterances to the meetings in the Macnish club-rooms and Duncombe opera house.

"They speak of the men who are here as if they were gamblers and blacklegs, "Not a man of them but has come here openly and at his own expense and "only out of love of the cause of good government. When this election is over "our opponents will *not be able to put a finger upon any act of wrong-doing. There "will not be a stain left on West Elgin.*"

Noble words if they had been true! Vile hypocrisy when they were so shamelessly false!

### The Newspaper Helps.

The St. Thomas Journal took up the cry and in staring type called upon its readers to

### "Vote for Macnish and Condemn a Policy of Slander."

Thus was the way kept clear to perform the nefarious work. Electors were deceived and bequiled into security. Warnings passed unheeded. The nefarious infamy was loaded upon West Elgin, and the shame of it has spread over the Dominion and echoed in foreign lands.

Will electors permit themselves to be deceived and disgraced again?

### Names Concealed.

The day before the election the Sheriff was asked for the names of his deputies and refused to give them. Mr. Macnish had several consultations with the Sheriff about the deputies (they both admit so) and practically was allowed to appoint them. Mr. Macdiarmid (with as much right) *could not even know* their names. Why did the Sheriff conceal them? Did Mr. Macnish request him to do so?

### Unknown Deputies.

On the morning of the election two strangers were found to be acting as deputies in Southwold, and four in St. Thomas. Some of whom refused to give their names or assumed names. Mr. Macdiarmid's supporters in the city distributed the following warning notices by thousands. Mr. Macnish was in the city and must have seen them.

### BEWARE.

"Three Pluggers already in goal. Many others operating in the city. Beware. Go out and poll your vote before a Pluggger VOTES on your Name. Four unknown persons acting as Deputy Returning Officers in the City. Every fraudulent scheme is being resorted to in order to defeat Mr. McDiarmid. Let honest men unite to condemn such nefarious deeds."

A letter over the signature of Mr. Price appeared in the *THE TIMES* the day after the election giving the particulars of the divisions where the unknown rascals acted in the names of other men. Mr. McNish *admits* he knew of it the morning after election. Here is his sworn admission:—

I was told that strangers acted—I made no inquiry as to how the strangers came to be acting deputy returning officers—I did not go near the Sheriff to find out who had been appointed—I did not go to anyone else—'Squire Hunt told me "the day after the election" that a stranger had acted in Middlemarch—I did not think of going to the Sheriff about it—I told the Sheriff it was necessary to appoint resolute men."

But he says nothing—asks no questions. But knowing the frauds (then *if not before*) he takes his seat in the House. Would an honest—would an innocent man act in this way? especially *after being concerned in the appointments?*

From these facts alone, is the conclusion not irresistible that he was either concerned in the theft, or retained the stolen property, knowing it to be stolen purposely refraining from inquiry?

### Hug the Machine.

The evening of election when Mr. Macnish was holding jubilation over his great victory (?) over Mr. Macdiarmid he received the following telegram:—

Toronto, Jan. 12, 1899.

To Donald Macnish,  
St. Thomas.

Heartiest congratulations. Sorry to the bottom of my heart I cannot be with you to-night. To be supported by such a noble army of workers should make you the proudest man in Ontario. Shake hands with the boys for me, and hug the members of the much-abused threshing maching for "Auld Lang Syne."

PRESTON.

Preston was Librarian at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, resigned to take charge of the Bye-elections, and within a few days after his work was done in West Elgin, was rewarded with a fat office worth \$3000 a year specially created for him—Inspector of Dominion Immigration agencies in Europe. He was in West Elgin for some three weeks prior to election working for Mr. Macnish. Smith looked after the public meetings—Preston looked after the *other branch* of the work. Charges were made against Preston in the Dominion Parliament. Laurier said he must vindicate his character, but he still draws his salary. Charges were made against him in the Toronto Press. He threatened libel proceedings, was defied and mocked for the threat, and dare not take up the challenge.

This telegram shows the intimate confidential relations between Preston and Mr. Macnish. It shows that the *victory (?) was due* to the "machine," recognizes that there would have been no victory without it, and shows that the existence and work of the machine was quite understood between Mr. Macnish and Preston.

**The Noble Army of Workers!  
Hug the Members of the Machine!  
Hugs His Seat.**

The Liberal Conservatives held a convention at Dutton, January 31st, 1899. The rascalities were publicly exposed and declarations of electors produced in proof. But Mr. Macnish retains his seat.

A Protest was filed and prosecutions commenced by the Conservatives against Bole, Cahill and Pritchett. Mr. Macnish attended the Bole prosecution was in company with Bole's lawyers, (one of them his most active agent in that and in the present campaign) and went with them to a private house for dinner instead of to the hotel.

**Objects to Proceedings.**

At the reform (?) Convention May 30th, the Liberal—Conservatives were denounced for the proceedings they were taking towards exposing the rascalities and notwithstanding all the information he had received Mr. Macnish declared that no wrong had been committed by him or any of his supporters, and proclaimed that he would defend the protest to the end, and "*would be found face front at every point*"

**Tried to Balk Exposure.**

Almost before the sound of these brave words had died away Mr. Macnish's Solicitor approached the petitioner to call off the protest. Mr. Macnish's Solicitor came to St. Thomas 3 times to endeavor to induce the petitioner to *accept his resignation merely*. The firm reply on every occasion was that the frauds must be exposed either in the Court or by admission, and to escape worse exposure in the Court Mr. Macnish signed the following document:

**The Most Damnable Catalogue of Infamy in the  
Political History of Canada.**

**AN AWFUL CONFESSION.**

St. Thomas, June 26th, 1899.

Messrs. Crothers & Price, Barristers, etc.

St. Thomas, Ont.

Dear Sirs,— We beg to advise you that Mr. Macnish has discussed at length with his solicitors the charges contained in the petition which has been filed against his return as member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario for West Elgin, and that they have to a considerable extent investigated the charges contained therein and other matters which have come to their knowledge in connection with the election. And the subscribers hereto make the following *statements* and *admissions* respecting the same:

1. That a large number of persons were specially sent into the constituency by men working *on behalf of the Liberal party* for the express purpose of taking part on Mr. Macnish's behalf in the election held January 12th, 1899, and we believe that fraudulent and corrupt means were used by some of such persons to secure his election.

2. That several of the said persons illegally and without authority acted as deputy returning officers at the said election, and in at least three cases so acted in the names of reputable local men, having, *under assumed names, been introduced to the returning officer by local agents of Mr. Macnish.*

3. That in many of the polling sub-divisions of the riding there were grave irregularities connected with the return of the ballot boxes and their contents, the voting, and the counting of the ballots thereat.

4. That there were large numbers of persons brought into the riding for the express purpose of personating legitimate voters, and *assisted by some of Mr. Macnish's local supporters* such persons did personate qualified votes in voting for Mr. Macnish.

5. That the declared number of votes for Mr. Macnish largely exceeded the number of bona fide votes cast for him.

6. That a large number of votes cast for Mr. Macdiarmid were in some nefarious and corrupt manner manipulated, whereby the result of the election was rendered doubtful and that in this connection the voting at Shedden and Middlemarch and in several divisions in St. Thomas, where said strangers so acted as deputy returning officers, merits special mention.

7. That there are good reasons to believe that there are *many specific and well authenticated cases where agents of Mr. Macnish concealed at their homes some of those strangers, who there paid large sums of money to electors to induce them to vote for him.*

8. That Mr. Macnish will forthwith deliver to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly his resignation as a member thereof for the said electoral district.

Witness:

(Sgd.) DONALD MACNISH.

(Sgd.) A. B. AYLESWORTH.

### **Asks Sympathy.**

The documentary evidence of Mr. Macnish's personal connection with the frauds was withheld in the pathetic appeals from his council, who was made aware of their existence.

And yet Mr. Macnish seeks sympathy for being forced to sign! He is an ill used man because he was not allowed to steal Mr. Macdiarmid's votes and conceal the theft.

### It's Significance.

Mr. Macnish had his choice about signing. Conservatives would have been better pleased had he not done so. For reasons best known to himself he did it. He did it after deliberation and thorough consideration by counsel, and *by at least one cabinet minister.*

*Note the organized systematic debauchery emanating from some centre. Note the part his locals agents and supporters took in the frauds, the personation, the debauching, the manner in which they are interwoven with it all.*

*Could Mr. Macnish go through all this and be innocent? Would an innocent man have signed such a confession?*

### What the Farmers' Sun Says:

It is not easy to find words to fittingly characterize the fraudulent and corrupt methods that were employed to elect Mr. Macnish in West Elgin. About the methods employed there can be no dispute. We have not to deal with mere charges. We have not to deal with charges sworn to by some men and denied by others. We have to deal with charges made by the Conservatives and admitted by Mr. Macnish over his own signature. The sending in of the Liberal workers to corrupt the electorate; the appointment of individuals with assumed names to act as deputy returning officer; the manipulation of the ballots; the frauds in the court; the personation of voters; the concealment of strangers who paid out money to electors—all this is admitted by Mr. Macnish to have been done on his behalf.

Once more the plea is put forward that the candidate did not know what was being done by his workers. But it seems to us there is little difference in degree of guilt between the candidate who knowingly permits his agents to violate the law and the candidate who keeps his eyes open to what is going on around him and gives his agents free rein. *A man who could go through such an election as Mr. Macnish and know nothing of the nefarious schemes that were being worked is hardly fitted for public life."*

### Nature of Ballot Frauds.

The Ballot frauds do not wear the ordinary hue of a corrupt practice but the darker stain of a crime. Here is what Mr. Justice Osler says of similar ballot frauds in North Waterloo:—

"Spoiling ballots is not specially an election offence or corrupt practice under the Election Act, but is, no doubt, an offence punishable under the Criminal Code, section 503."

### How the Fakir Deputies Were Placed in Control of the Ballots.

This knavery seems to have been resorted to when it appeared impossible to beat Mr. Macdiarmid even by all the ordinary kinds of debauchery.

Who conceived this scheme? Not each of the fakirs independently, merely "for the love of honest government," each paying his own expenses. Bole from

the Soo, Cahill from St. Catharines, Pritchett from London, "Stratford from — where? Each taking his own chances, three of them (Bole, Cahill, and Stratford) making over their government pay to Dan McIntyre, Mr. Macnish's nephew, the other making over his to George King, three orders for the purpose being forged. Supporters and agents of Mr. Macnish introduced the strangers to the sheriff, other obliging ones brought back the Ballot boxes. One of Mr. Macnish's very active agents wrote three recommendations which Mr. Macnish signed with his own hand, another agent and nephew, Secretary of the St. Thomas Liberal Club, wrote a fourth which Mr. Macnish not only signed but to which he also added the words "Yours Sincerely" and addressed it to the Sheriff. Partisans of Mr. Macnish originally selected to act and so notified, stepped out to let the fakirs in.

Deliberate, systematic and carefully planned out, was such a scheme as this. A number were in league with it—actively to assist, or quietly to permit and conceal.

Were the men who stepped aside to make room for the fakirs the innocent? Were the men who introduced the personating fakirs to the Sheriff by false names innocent? Were the men who drew the money on forged orders innocent. Were the men who brought back the ballot boxes the day after the election innocent? Were the men who wrote the requests asking the Sheriff to appoint "the bearer" innocent? Was Macnish himself innocent? It is impossible to believe that all these men could have been deceived. If some of them were guilty and Mr. Macnish is innocent why is he protecting them—and most of all why has he now nearly all the same men again as his active workers.

In seeking the guilty it is important to observe well the story told by the suspected person. Men do not make false explanations if the true story would establish innocence.

Here are the four documents—copies of three, a photographic reproduction of the fourth:—

Dear Sir:—

(A)

St. Thomas, Jan. 10, 99.

I desire you to appoint the bearer Deputy Returning Officer for Polling sub-division No. 6 of the Township of Southwold.

Sheriff Brown,  
St. Thomas.

Donald Macnish.

Dear Sir:—

(C)

St. Thomas, Jan. 10, 99.

I desire you to appoint the bearer Deputy Returning Officer at Ne. 4 for the City of St. Thomas and greatly oblige.

to  
Sheriff Brown,  
St. Thomas.

Yours truly,  
D. Macnish.

(F)

St. Thomas, Jan. 10th, 99.

Dear Sir:—

I desire you to appoint the bearer Deputy Returning Officer at No. 11 for the City of St. Thomas and oblige.

Yours truly,

D. Macnish.

to

D. Brown Esq;—  
Ret. Officer W. Elgin.

(E)

St Thomas Jan 10th 99

Dear Sir

Kindly appoint  
the bearer as deputy returning  
officer for Polling sub-  
division number seven  
in the City of St Thomas  
and oblige

Yours sincerely

D. Macnish

Sheriff Brown

R. D. W. Elgin

### What He Said About them.

Here is what Mr. Macnish said about the above letters;—  
Extracts from Donald Macnish's sworn statement made June 8th, 1899 :

"I am one of the respondents. (Looks at the four exhibits A., C., E. & F.) These bear my signatures. I do not recognize the handwriting of the bodies of these exhibits. I am not an expert on signatures. I have no idea who wrote them. I cannot say whether I read them or not. I know I am positive I did not read them, but they were I presume, in the same condition as they now appear when I signed them. I will not be positive as to how many were written. There were more than those four. The caretaker of the rooms of the Liberal committee rooms, who is janitor, was there and said. 'Mr. Macnish, there is a bundle of papers here for you to sign.' This was on Tuesday, the 10th of January. I went and signed all the papers without reading any of them. I thought they were appointments of scrutineers. The printed forms for the appointments of scrutineers were in a different form from these exhibits."

The above exhibits had been produced by Sheriff Brown on his examination before Judge Hughes as his justification for the appointment of four of the strangers who acted as deputy returning officers. Three of them "A" "C" and "F" were filed in Court at the trial. A photographic reproduction of the other one. Exhibit "E" is given above. The original of this one and photographs of the other three may be seen at any time. In Exhibit "E" the words: "Yours sincerely, D. Macnish, Sheriff Brown, R. O., W. Elgin," are in Mr. Macnish's own handwriting.

In the first place, Mr. Macnish had no right, and it was improper for him to interfere at all with the appointment of D. R. O's. It will be observed that (referring to these exhibits) Mr. Macnish stated under oath that "I thought they were appointments of scrutineers." Now, that statement could not be true, for "appointments of scrutineers" do not go to the sheriff at all (as he very well knew, having been a candidate twice before), but are used at the various polling booths merely. And having with his own hand written the address to the Sheriff, he must have known that it was intended for him, and therefore he knew the true character of the letter, namely that it was a request to appoint the bearer deputy-returning officer.

Again, Mr. Macnish says: "The printed forms for the appointments of scrutineers were in a different form from these exhibits." In fact, the printed forms were double the size of the exhibits, were PRINTED LENGTHWISE of the paper, while these exhibits were WRITTEN CROSSWISE, and he had not even been told by anyone that they were "appointments of scrutineers." The person must therefore be simple indeed to believe that Mr. Macnish "went and signed all the papers without reading any of them."

That Mr. Macnish was discussing and interfering with appointments of deputies is shown by the following extract from his evidence:—

"The sheriff spoke to me with regard to the deputies for Dunwich. He spoke to me about it in his office the time that I gave him the names of those to be appointed deputies for four places in Dunwich."



## Who Wrote Them ?

As a fact three of the above requests ("A", "C", and "F" are in the handwriting of Andy Grant of St. Thomas, the fourth (which is reproduced) is in the handwriting of John McIntyre, Mr. Macnish nephew, and Secretary of the St. Thomas Liberal Club.

Would any one suppose Mr. Macnish would "*not know or have any idea*" about the handwriting?—of John McIntyre, his nephew, whom he says he saw constantly at his club-room, being his Secretary, working for him; of Andy Grant, who has been his most active worker revising lists, for him year after year, with whom he must have had very frequent communication, and whom electors of Southwold who attended court of revision at Fingal will remember seeing writing in Mr. Macnish's presence day after day?

Hear what Mr. Macnish says:—"I do not recognize the handwriting—*I have no idea who wrote them.*"

Is it any wonder the electors have never been told *who wrote them*? Look at the documents. Is it possible any one could write such documents with an innocent purpose? Asking a public official to appoint "*the bearer*" to an office of sacred trust and confidence! Why were they made to read *bearer*? Mr. Macnish recognized the force of this when he would not admit knowing the contents of the requests or tell who wrote them.

Now let us see the use that was made of these negotiable "*letters of credit*"—the use for which only they could have been intended.

## Chain of Facts.

### NO. 6 SOUTHWOLD.

See the above letter (marked "F") written by Andrew Grant, Mr. Macnish's most active and confidential agent, signed by Mr. Macnish, addressed to the Sheriff, asking the latter to appoint "*the bearer*" D. R. O. for No. 6 Southwold an instrument which was honored by the Sheriff at its face value.

"*The bearer*", a stranger, attended the Sheriff, delivered the letter of credit, and got the ballots and poll book, giving his name as M. B. Johnson a reputable and pretty well known citizen of St. Thomas. He took the oath of office in Johnson's name, which oath reads as follows; "*I . . . . . do Solemnly swear that I will act faithfully in my capacity of Deputy Returning Officer without partiality fear favor or affection. So help me God.*" He went to No 6 conducted the poll, and forged the name of Mr. Johnson to various papers, and stole the votes of honest electors, and disappeared as mysteriously as he came. He declared the number of votes cast for Mr. Macdiarmid to be 85—102 Voters made Solemn Statutory declarations that they then and there distinctly marked their ballots for Mr. Macdiarmid—A theft of at least 34 votes.

The F. R. O. fees were paid to Gec. King on the following forged order;—

Dougald Brown, Esq;—  
Sheriff Elgin Co.

St. Thomas Jany. 20th, 99.

Please pay to George King the money due me as Deputy R. O. for Sub Div. six of Southold as he will pay all accounts due by me for help and this will be your authority for same.

Yours,

M. B. JOHNSON.

The Sheriff and Mr. Macnish both admit they had discussed the appointment of King for that division. Macnish *admits* he knew the morning after election that a "Stranger" and not King acted there, but he asked no questions.

Johnson didn't act as D. R. O. anywhere and never was asked to do so. The stranger was traced and identified as Ex. Ald. J. G. Pritchett, of London. A warrant was issued for his arrest, but he had gone to North Waterloo to labor there on behalf of honest government, and from there disappeared after the news of Bole's arrest.

#### NO. 4 ST. THOMAS.

Proceedure similar to the above, but the unknown stranger remains unknown except to friends and accomplices. Exhibit "C" written by Andrew Grant, signed by Mr. Macnish, duly honored by the Sheriff. But this distinguished exponent of honest government was introduced to the Sheriff by Thomas Coleman of St. Thomas, (as the Sheriff swears) as "Christopher Stratford" "residing on Kains Street" "a neighbor". He took the oath, signed documents in the name of "C. Stratford", got the ballots and poll book and conducted the poll, having delivered his letters of credit to the Sheriff.

Note the letter, Somewhat peremptory are these documents. "*I desire you*". It will be observed this letter differs a little from the other three. Mr. Macnish intimates that compliance with this request would "*greatly oblige*". From the preparations made for buisness it might well be expected he would have much cause to be grateful for the favor. Read the following document:—

#### Finger Nail and Other Tricks.

Dominion of Canada,  
Province of Ontario,  
County of Middlesex.

} In the matter of the West  
Elgin provincial election,  
held Jan. 12th, 1899.

I, George B. Campbell of the Township of Ekfrid, County of Middlesex, farmer, do solemnly declare that  
1—On the day of the said election I acted as scutineer at polling sub-division No. 4 in the City of St. Thomas.

2—The Deputy Returning Officer acting in said division represented himself to be Christopher Stafford, a railway engineer, and said he used to be employed on the Michigan Central, but was now employed on the Erie & Huron Railway.

3—Early in the day of the said election I discovered that the said Returning Officer had a number of loose ballots, had a drawer, conveniently arranged in front of him, and had a piece of lead pencil inserted under his finger nail. I compelled him to gather up the loose ballots and made him remove the pencil from under his nail.

4—The said Deputy returning officer produced a certificate purporting to be signed by Dugald Brown, Returning Officer, authorizing him to vote at said division No. 4 as Christopher Stratford, and desired to vote thereon, but when I insisted on his taking the oath, he did not vote.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of "The Canadian Evidence Act, 1893."

Declared before me at Dutton,  
in the County of Elgin, Jan.  
31st, 1899.

C. F. MAXWELL,  
A commissioner, etc.

(Signed)  
GEORGE B. CAMPBELL.

It need only be added that Harry Langan, a blacksmith, brought back the ballot box on the night of the 13th, that Dan McIntyre, Mr. Macnish's nephew, collected the D. R. O. fees on a forged order signed "C. Stafford," and that Christopher Stratford didn't even know an election was being held here.

**No. 7 ST. THOMAS.**

See Photographic reproduction on cover, written by John McIntyre, Mr. Macnish's agent, nephew and secretary at his Club-Rooms, which Mr. Macnish not only signed but also added to it the words "yours sincerely" and addressed it to the Sheriff, all with his own hand.

The Sheriff swears Dan McIntyre another nephew and agent of Mr. Macnish introduced Croden as if of St. Thomas, and collected the fees on an order from Croden, who lives in London.

Now read how Croden operated:—

Dominion of Canada,  
Province of Ontario,  
County of Elgin.

In the matter of the West  
Elgin Provincial Election,  
held Jan. 12th, 1899.

I, John Lang, of the City of St. Thomas, in the County of Elgin, mechanic, do solemnly declare that

Following forged order:—

Jan. 20th, 99.

as Deputy R. O.  
accounts due by me

JOHNSON.

ed the appointment  
rning after election  
questions.

as asked to do so.  
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to the Sheriff by  
as "Christopher  
the oath, signed  
poll book and  
eriff.

"I desire you".  
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he would have  
ment:—

f the West  
al election,  
1899.

County of  
at polling

1. I acted as agent and scrutineer for Finlay G. Macdiarmid in polling sub-division No. 7, St. Thomas, at the Provincial election, held in West E'gin, Jan. 12, 1899.

2. The Deputy Returning Officer who acted at said polling place was a stranger.

3. The said Deputy Returning Officer placed himself and the ballot box close to the window in such a position that in putting the ballots into the box he held them between himself and the light. He caused the ballots to be folded across the names of the candidates and allowed them to be folded only once. He enlarged the slit in the box (in our presence) with a chisel or piece of iron so that it would let them in this way. With these arrangements he could tell without any difficulty how each ballot was marked. I protested against his doing so, and a number of voters also raised objections, but the only result was to have a bill tacked up to the window which did not prevent his still distinguishing for whom the ballots were marked. The said Deputy Returning Officer had with him a list of names of voters written out on foolscap paper, which he referred to and made marks on after voters voted.

4. The said Deputy Returning Officer refused and neglected to swear a number of men whom myself, and my co-agent requested him to swear. Michael Heenan was one of these. He refused to swear him, he said, because we gave no reason for wanting him sworn.

5. When the time came to count the ballots the said Deputy Returning Officer, after first pretending to count the total number, threw the ballots all out on the table, shoving a few toward each of Macnish's scrutineers (one of whom was a stranger), the poll clerk and my co-agent. but hauling back the main bulk to himself. He allowed these men to sort or manipulate what they got as they chose, while he stood up and sorted the main bulk; so that nobody but himself could see the face of the ballots. He placed his back to the wall and purposely kept the ballots and himself in such a position that I could not by any possibility see their faces. He set them down on the table face down. He gathered up the bunches from the others and preceeded to count the two piles face down. I insisted we should see the face of the ballots, but he would not show them. I did not see more than half a dozen all told. He put the ballots away without either sealing or in any way fastening the packets or envelopes. During all this kind of work I objected and protested in the strongest terms. I threatened to have him arrested and to call help and did everything I could think of, short of using actual bodily violence to compel him to do his duty, but to no purpose;

He ordered the poll constable to keep the door locked and told me he would have me arrested.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the "Canada Evidence Act, 1893."

(Signed) JOHN G. LANG.

Declared before me at the city of St. Thomas this 28th day of January, A.D. 1899.

(Signed.) S. PRICE, Notary Public.

## Another Chain of Facts.

### NO. 11 ST. THOMAS.

See Exhibit "F" written by Andrew Grant, active confidential agent of Mr. Macnish, requesting the Sheriff to appoint "the bearer" D. R. O. for No. 11, St. Thomas.

The Sheriff swears J. R. Donahue, V.S., (the County Crown Attorney's nephew) introduced a stranger to him as "Albert E. Montgomery" "a property holder in number one ward" (in which Donahue had his office for a number of years).

"The bearer", with the letter of credit and the introduction, got the ballots and poll book, took the oath and signed the official document in the name of Montgomery, his real name being Martyn J. Cahill, of St. Catharines. James Casey returned the ballot box to the Sheriff next day, and Dan McIntyre, Mr. Macnish's nephew collected the D.R.O. fees on a forged order.

Cahill was traced and arrested by the Liberal Conservatives of West Elgin. He elected to be tried by the Police Magistrate (a temporary Hardy-Ross appointee of Mr. Macnish's recommendation) rather than by a jury, and was finally allowed by the Hardy-Ross officials to go free without being tried at all. The main facts of it are already before the public—the most outrageous farce that could disgrace the administration of justice in any country.

And who is to blame? Mr. Macnish and the Government were the beneficiaries of the fakir deputies' villany. Government officials at Toronto refused to produce documents required in *some* of the charges, the local officials refused to proceed on the charges in which they were not needed, or to require bail for Cahill's reappearance.

The private prosecutor wrote the Attorney-General complaining of the conduct of local officials. Here is the reply received from the government office:—

Toronto July 20th, 1899

Dear Sir, Queen V. Cahill.

I am directed by the Attorney General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter in this matter bearing the date the 15th. instant received by him yesterday the 19th instant. The County Attorney and has been communicated with upon the subject by this Department has been told to subpoena such witnesses as after examining into the facts and circumstances may appear to him as prosecuting Attorney to be reasonable and material and necessary witnesses,

I am etc.,

very truly yours,

J. R. CARTRIGHT.

So it will be seen the attention of the government was called to the matter but they would do nothing. Cahill was set free though the Crown Attorney himself declared in open Court the evidence was "overwhelming" against him. Here is the memorandum of evidence delivered to him by the private prosecutor on July 12.

#### QUEEN v CAHILL.

SHERIFF BROWN swore in Cahill as Montgomery, Cahill being represented to him as Montgomery by J. R. Donahue, Cahill brought written request signed by Macnish. The commission and oath are in the Poll Book for No. 11 St. Thomas. On the representation that Cahill was Montgomery the Sheriff delivered to Cahill the ballots packets Poll Book, Box Etc., (should have Registrar of Court of Appeal to produce the said request and Sheriff Brown identify it.) Ed .S. BROWN seems to have filled in the oath and commission in the Poll Book and may have been present when the oath was taken, and the ballot packets, etc., were delivered.

DONALD MACNISH, Ex. M.P.P. will say whether he signed the request and to whom he delivered them.

JAMES M. GLENN, will say above request is in Andrew Grant's handwriting.

ANDREW GRANT, will say how he came to write it.

JOHN R. DONAHUE, will tell how he came to bring Cahill up and introduce him as Montgomery.

ALBERT E. MONTGOMERY, will say he is the man named on Voters List and that he did not act as D.R.O. nor appear before the Sheriff and take the oath and get the ballots, etc.

JAMES CASEY—Sheriff stated that Casey brought back the the Ballot Box. Have him state what he knew about Cahill and tell where he got the ballot box, etc.

WALTER E. TRUMP, will say that Cahill acted as D.R.O. in No. 11, St. Thomas, saw him intial ballots, saw him make writings in Poll Book and direct hif Clerk to do the same and then saw him sign his name.

E. W. TRUMP, saw Cahill sign the name A. E. Montgomery to statment of Poll, and make writings and direct his clerk to do the same in the Poll Book, etc.

WILLIAM CROSS, will say that Cahill acted as D.R.O. in No. 11, St. Thomas.

WESLEY GRAHAM, arrested Cahill.

Col. Clark, will produce Poll Book loose statement of the Poll Ballots, etc.

James. S. Cartwright, Registaar of the court of Appeal, Toronto, will produce witten requests signed by Macnish to appoint Montgomery to act as D.R.O. for No. 11, St. Thomas.

W. J. Portwood, Cigar Clerk, London, acted as poll clerk, may be called if desirable.

Dan. A. McIntyre, can tell something about Cahill, he having got order from Cahill for payment of money for services as D.R.O. to him.

## Duncan Bole.

### NO. 4 SOUTHWOLD.

The case of Duncan Bole, a government official, who came down from the Soo to rob the honest electors of Shødden of the votes he could not buy, is too familiar to everyone to need extended description, Between 42 and 50 Macdiarmid ballots were converted into Macnish ballots by this government expert, making a difference in count of 84 to 100 votes. He was arrested, trial was baulked by government officials, bail furnished by Macnish supporters, and Bole allowed to escape. The lawyers for defence were Andy Grant, Macnish's agent, and Mr. Heyd—the latter being since rewarded with the title of Q. C.—perhaps as a recognition of his distinguished services in assisting the "persecuted" government benefactors in West Elgin to escape.

The petition of 80 outraged electors, asking protection of their franchise, has been disregarded by the government.

### One Deputy Sick

J. R. Donahue was appointed D. R. O. for No. 8, St. Thomas, but transferred ballots and poll book to a stranger who operated in the name of John Kilroy. Donahue was sufficiently recovered, however, by ten o'clock the same day to be actively hustling for Macnish in No. 1.

### Bogus Ballots.

These were used in profusion. Sample are in possession of the Petitioner's Solicitor.

### The Plugging Contingent.

A "noble army" captained by Sullivan and Lewis, assisted by Mr. Macnish's local agents, voting indifferently in the names of living men and dead in the names of Grits or Tories—but always in support of "honest government" for the love of the cause." They swarmed the City. Lewis's special body-guard consisted of eight organized at the Huron House, London.

The Conservatives endeavored to arrest them, but government officials would not permit them to be thus "persecuted," and refused warrants, one special case is worthy of mention. Mr. Billings had been buried the Sunday before election, but voted on election day. The D. R. O. who received his vote belonged to the same society and admitted attending the funeral, but he refused to issue a warrant against the personator. One warrant only was obtained that against "Edward May" who was lodged in jail. Tom Lewis interceded however and obtained the release of this perjured personating villain, the Hardy-Macnish police magistrate turning him loose on the bail of ex-alderman Miller and McCallum two prominent Macnish supporters, in \$100 each.

"May" of course never appeared for trial, and the bail has not (at last accounts) ever been enforced. *substituted*

### How the Money Was Used.

"Strangers" located in the various districts of the riding "concealed at the homes of Mr. Macnish's local agents" paid large sums of money to induce voters to vote for Mr. Macnish—a melancholy record of general organized systematic debauchery, particulars of which would fill a large volume.

### Ponder a Moment.

Let electors pause a moment and ask themselves how did it happen that this gang of rascals, collected from various parts of the province, were working here for Mr. MacNish and the Government—a vast fraternity of organized scoundrelism, consisting of bribers, personators, perjurers, forgers, and ballot-box stuffers, many of them criminals of the deepest dye, all interested in electing Mr. Macnish and supporting the government?

If it could be imagined for a moment that they were here at their own expense (as Mr. Preston said) "for the love of the cause," why was it the interest or desire of that class of humanity to have the men they were working for in power? An administration of affairs that is wholesome and acceptable to thieves and scoundrels cannot be wholesome for honest men.



If they were paid, where did the money come from? The price of such rascality must come high. The total expense of employing them, of maintaining them, paying them and furnishing them with the money they used for their work, not to say anything about "protecting" and defending them when they got into trouble must be immense. Who pays for it? The honest electors no doubt do in the end. But in the first place it can only be someone who is interested in their labors. The beneficiaries of their labors are the Government and its officials and employees.

### **The Matter in Brief.**

The reader is asked to observe from the foregoing pages, especially the following facts:

1. That in the campaign referred to not only were there all the ordinary phases of election debauchery in unprecedented profusion, but wholesale theft and destruction of the ballots cast by honest voters as well.
2. That this latter phase of unparalleled rascality was brought about by prostitution of the sacred trust of public office.
3. That Mr. Macnish was grossly culpable.
4. That the public officials protected the wrong-doers from the penalties of their crimes, and that the Government itself failed to give redress.

### **Only One Remedy.**

"Rights of franchise are given and elections are held for securing good government, and placing worthy men in authority. The men now in authority have proved unworthy of the trust reposed in them. Official positions have been prostituted. Official documents have been tampered with, stolen and destroyed. Official frauds and crimes have been committed. Officials entrusted with the protection of the people's rights, and the punishment and prevention of offences against those rights, are recreant to their trust. Complaints and petitions for redress are unheeded. If electors banish not such a state of things from their midst, wherein lies the purpose or protection of the franchise, or wherein the shield against tyranny."—The TIMES.

### **The Ministers Themselves.**

That such unblushing debauchery and fraud so abounded in the recent elections, among the organizers, agents and supporters of the Hardy-Ross Government need create no astonishment when the conduct of these cabinet ministers themselves is considered. Mr. Hardy

told the people of St. Thomas they could not afford to return a conservative, because the Government was going to have plenty of money to spend.

In his speech at Dutton on January 5th, Mr. Ross gave utterance to the following:—"The farmers of Dunwich and Aldborough had come to the Government with a substantial grievance over a drain in those townships, and when the government saw the fairness of the contention of the delegation they promised to remit \$2500 of the debt. As soon as the House met again the necessary legislation would be passed." And hear Mr. Ross again at Madoc :

### Ross at Madoc.

December 21, 1899.

Belleville Sun: "You have always been sending us men of different political persuasions from myself; but like others you have perhaps adopted the motto, 'It is time for a change..' (Hear, hear.) He was glad to come in behalf of Mr. Lott, whose aggressiveness he knew thoroughly. Mr. Ross said he had, in addition to his other duties, acted as Commissioner of Crown Lands during a part of 1897 when Mr. Gibson was in the Old Country and during that time was thrown into contact with Mr. Lott frequently. He is a curious fellow, this man Lott. He seems to make up his mind that what he wants he must have. He came to us with bridges that must be built and roads that needed money, &c., and we began to wonder if it were possible that there existed so many rivers and bogs and mountains that he claimed had to be crossed. *So persistent was he in fact, that we had to give him his way to some extent* and the only thing I had to fear was that if I continued to act as Commissioner and Mr. Lott had his way our beloved surplus would disappear altogether. We do not know very much regarding this Riding but here is a man who knows it like a book and if he is sent to us you can depend upon it that any lack of knowledge as to Hastings' needs, will not be his fault.

*"It might be that the Government has not heretofore done its whole duty by the constituency and it certainly was the wise course to have a man of Mr. Lott's energy to tell the House and the Government what it needed."*

"Mr. Ross spoke of the desire of the Government to encourage development of our natural resources in every way and instanced the aid to the Hamilton Smelter which had used already very large quantities of Hastings' iron ore. Why should not such development

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"characterize the Corundum belt, the charcoal, the lead and the scores of other products? The Government did not know very much about these. The people of the district did not know all themselves, and it seemed the reasonable course now that after twenty-seven years of experience of opposition they would give the Riding a chance to see what the Government could do."

This is bribery straight. Twenty-seven years in opposition and they got nothing. Vote for the Government now and they will get their reward—Hot and cold justice with a vengeance. Bole, Cahill and "May" are not the only fellows who realize that the Government dispenses a very discriminating kind of justice.

### Ross at Whitby.

Now hear Mr. Ross at Whiiby, Nov. 14th, 1899.—"If there is any one feeling in my heart stronger than another it is that I—a native Canadian, educated in her schools, trained in her institutions, having the confidence of a constituency for 27 years, and now apparently having the confidence of the whole province, shall devote all my energies, not simply to the development of the country, but to the moral development of the people. Righteousness exalteth a nation. Let us strengthen the moral foundations of this country, thus purifying elections where they are impure."

"Comment is unnecessary. Mr. Ross was himself unseated for bribery and corruption in West Middlesex in 1883 and narrowly escaped disqualification."

### The Government Responsible.

Almost the same gang of scoundrels that operated in West Elgin operated also in South Ontario, in Huron and in North Waterloo. Here is an extract from the judges' findings in the North Waterloo trial:—"The control and management of the campaign of the respondent was taken out of local hands by the witness Smith, representing the Reform Association. He and those associated with him took in hand the work of registration of voters, arranged for the respondent's meetings and public speakers, and, indeed, the whole work of the management and organization, using the local officers' names when desired, and having the assistance of the local organizations, but being the controlling and guiding hand throughout. They sought and obtained outside skilled assistance, and it was through them that Lewis came into the riding."

**A New Branch of Education.**  
**Evidence North Waterloo, Oct. 4, 1899.**

A. R. Shantz deposed in substance the following:—

“I was poll clerk in No. 2 division, Berlin, for the election. Wildfong came to see me previous to the election, and wanted to know if I was still a good Grit, and said he wanted a lot of young men to act as deputies, and that there would be a very good thing in it for me if I would act. He told me to meet him that night, and he would take me to one of the men who was here to instruct me about it. Next night I met Wildfong, and he told me to go to a room in the Walper house, No. 37 or 38, and he followed with Thomas Lewis, of London. Wildfong introduced me to Lewis and said Mr. Lewis would give me instructions.”

*“\$5 apiece for spoiled ballots.”*

“Lewis sat down and proceeded to tell me what was to take place. He said they proposed to pay \$5 apiece for every ballot spoiled or switched. He took a piece of paper and put a piece of lead under his thumb, and showed us how to pick the ballot up, so that when seen it was a spoiled ballot. He showed me how to switch the ballots also, and said they would be worth the same. He said he should get all in the room to handle the ballots so then all might be said to have a hand in what was done if there was any trouble. He said he would not pay for any more than 20, so that \$100 was the limit a man might make in this way.

*“They” would protect them.”*

“Lewis said we would be protected from trouble, that ‘they’ would protect us. I asked Lewis as to what would be done if there was a recount. He said it would be fixed up so that it would come out the same, and that he would have too large a majority anyway for a recount.”

**A Taunting Message.**

With the force of so many Cabinet Ministers, Government Speakers against him; the vast army of bribers and personators; the wholesale theft of his votes; and the gleeful jubilation of Mr. Macnish and his friends over his defeat, one would have thought Mr. Macdiarmid suffered injury enough. But insult and mockery must be added. On the night of the election one of Mr. Macnish’s chief lieutenants sent him the following jeering telegram:

“To Finlay G. MacDiarmid:

“Accept congratulations. Will inconvenience myself any time to give you a hand in harvest.”

“W. G. HOPPINS.”

D. F.

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### A Contemptible Letter.

D. F. McDonald is an official of the Government who drew \$1,421.61 of the people's money last year. Here is the blackguardly manner in which he slanders electors for the edification of his co-official, the Deputy Minister of Crown Lands at Toronto.

“Rodney, Jan. 6th, 1899.

“Dear Aubrey,—Here we are again, away from the rocks and charred pines of Nipissing and the nervous and excitable Frenchmen. Here's where there is hot work in store for us. Both candidates are popular, and lots of good workers on both sides. Here's where you can meet the sons and grandsons of the men that Argyle drove from their homes the islands of Mull, Islay, Tiree and Canna. As a class they are small in stature, dark and swarthy, with that greasy, fish-fed look that is found among the west coast fishermen. They are as tricky as pet foxes, and as sly as a tailor's pet monkey, and can lie as deftly as a Russian diplomat. They have pretensions of honor and pride from the teeth outwards. They are a slick, polished gang. in the majority. They are no more to be compared to the brawny and brainy men of old Glengarry than a mouth organ is to be compared to a Heintzman piano. We have one ward here with 25 Pattersons on the voters' list, 23 out of that are Tories. in the same ward or polling sub-division there are 29 Campbells, 14 of them are Tories. The McColls and MacDiarmids without number are Tories; the McCallums and McPhersons are solid Tories; the Macdonalds, as usual are divided. The McLarty, McVicars, McGregors and McPhails are Tory through to the spinal nerve.

*The Doubtful Fish.*

"The McKays are Gritty. The Purcells are Liberals to a man, and  
 "the doubtful fish are the Swishers, Scheitzers, Schneckenbergers, Schills  
 "Schmiats, Krauses, Kruppes, Keillers, Leibners and the Ousterhaughs.  
 "When you get that German brood intermarried with the McPhees, Mc-  
 "Faddens, Mc Phails and McAulays, they make a queer brood of Scottish  
 "Canadians from a doubtful ancestry. They had a hot time at the nomi-  
 "nations yesterday in Dutton. I was not there. They are going to have  
 "a big time here in Rodney tonight. They have 500 torches ready for  
 "the flames to meet G. W. Ross at the station this evening. The brass  
 "band will be there. The McRays, the McGugans, the McIvors, McRorys  
 "and McRitchies will be there. The Garchies, Dugalds, Duncans and  
 "Donalds, with Alberts, Conrads, Carlos, Gottliebs and Jacobs, will be  
 "jumbled up in a British mixture. Sauerkraut and porridge. Limburger  
 "cheese and salt herring. Bologna sausage and haggis, lager and hot  
 "Scotch, lamb-scouse and brose, and the riding is any man's to-day. I am  
 "going to St. Thomas in the morning to meet Preston. We will win if we  
 "can. Keep our fellows fighting mad until Thursday night.

"Hoping you are all well,

"I am, as ever, yours,

"D. F. MACDONALD."

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## A Broken Promise.

Here is a solemn written promise Mr. Macnish entered into, and which he shamelessly disregarded for his own personal and party advantage. This is an index to the character of the man. A man who will not keep faith is not worthy to represent the electors of West Elgin.

Messrs. Crothers & Price, Barristers,  
St. Thomas.

Dear Sir—We hereby undertake to use our best influence to have the Bye-Election to be held in consequence of the opening of the seat in West Elgin held within thirty days.

June 26th. 1899.

Donald Macnish.

Witness:

A. B. Aylesworth.

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## Unseated Members.

Attempts are made to excuse the West Elgin outrage and the recent wholesale debauchery in South Ontario, West Huron, and North Waterloo, by quoting alleged wrongdoing at other times and places. This would be no excuse for West Elgin rascality if it were all true and much of it is false and garbled. If fraud and debauchery be not visited with retribution by the electors where it is found in all its hideousness and where it is encouraged, and assisted and condoned by officials of the government for whose benefit it is perpetrated, there will soon be an end to all political purity. Mr. Whitney and his followers are in no way responsible for what took place at other times or places. Whatever others may have done it is his right and duty—it is the right and duty of every elector—to insist upon pure elections now. A list of members unseated since 1888 has been quoted against Mr. Whitney, of the 10 two were elected as patron candidates, one of

these was deprived of his seat merely because he had neglected to resign a petty office he held, before becoming a candidate. Here is the list of government members since March 1898 alone—as many of them in the last 20 months as of Mr. Whitney's followers in the past 12 years:—

Halton—Barber.  
 Nipissing—Loughrin  
 East Northumberland—Douglass.  
 West Huron—Hon. Mr. Garrow.  
 South Ontario—Hon. John Dryden.  
 Lennox—Aylesworth.  
 South Perth—Moscrip.  
 WEST ELGIN—MACNISH.  
 North Waterloo—Breithaupt.

Another protest against Hon. J. T. Garrow in West Huron is awaiting judgment, which it may safely be predicted will unseat him for the *second time within two years*.

If Dominion matters are to be referred to Mr. Ross, the present premier, should always receive honorable mention, and the total number of his party unseated in Ontario since confederation *in all elections* is about double that of his opponents. Juggle as they will they cannot alter this fact, and *they dare not give the total list*. Let no elector be deceived by garbled lists and unsupported assertions. They have been deceived too much in West Elgin already.

The record of **DISQUALIFIED members is 8 Grits to 1 Conservative**.

### Liberal Opinion of Mr. Macnish.

The Goderich Signal (Liberal) remarks as follows: "If the statement made by Donald Macnish, ex-M. P. P. for West Elgin, and witnessed by A. B. Aylesworth, his counsel, be correct, Mr. Macnish should get of politics, and that as soon as the law will allow.

"If Mr. Macnish signed that document, knowing it to be true, he he knew more about election crookedness than a straightsover candidate in any election could possibly know and continue in the running. If he signed that document without knowing it to be absolutely true, and merely at the dictation of a legal clique to save his own skin, then he should never again be named by a Reform convention.

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“Mr. Macnish knew either too much or too little about the crookedness in West Elgin. If he knew too much about it, and had a “cold deck” up his sleeve, he should get out of the game; if, on the other hand, he did not know anything about the matter, and was egged on to make a damnable statement without knowledge of facts, merely to get temporary relief in court, then he should be restrained from doing further injury to himself and his friends by being taken out of a line of business where green is not the prevailing color.

“The Signal is a Reform journal, but that does not hinder it from raising its voice against individuals on its side of politics who at times will insist upon tobogganing hellward for personal gain or partisan cussedness.”

From Haldimond Advocate (Liberal): “It is high time measures were taken to cure the epidemic of political corruption which is over-spreading this land. It is impossible to find words sufficiently expressive to characterize the scandalous proceedings in the West Elgin election. Nothing like it was ever witnessed in any election in Canada before. The Russell frauds were bad enough, but in all Canadian political history we have nothing like the confession of the candidate and the testimony of the returning officer in the trial just ended. An army of bribers, personators, ballot-stuffers and bogus deputy returning officers invaded the constituency, and under the direction of a party organizer, deliberately and openly violated the law. The whole thing is disgraceful in the extreme, and all the parties guilty of the crimes committed should go to the penitentiary. To say that the Tories do the same sort of thing is no excuse, and to pretend that the thing was done by irresponsible persons is the sheerest folly. It is no time for cant and hypocrisy.”

### Independent Papers.

Toronto Weekly Sun: “The recent disclosures, which show that the bribing of voters and the tampering with the ballots was the work of a body of men, who, in the West Elgin election, according to the statement of Mr. Macnish, were “specially sent into the riding by men working on behalf of the Liberal party,” came to many a Liberal as well as to independent voters as a rude shock. These men will not be satisfied with the information that the Tories were just as bad. They will not be satisfied with the raking up of the crimes of the past. What they require is punishment of the crimes of the present, and any government that isn't strong enough to punish crime will not be good enough for them to support.”

Toronto Telegram: "West Elgin caps the climax. West Elgin has brought the country face to face with an infamy compared to which trifles like the trade and barter of the elector who sells the vote he does not value for the \$5 bill which he does value, are nothing.

"The admission at St. Thomas yesterday put the Ontario Government and its candidate, Donald Macnish, in the position of the beneficiaries of a conspiracy to subvert free institutions.

"Free institutions are in danger when organized scoundrelism goes into a riding and directs its minions to cheat and steal away the votes of free men. Unfortunately the country is more or less familiar with bribery, but this supreme infamy of fraud at the ballot box has never revealed its existence in such open unblushing hideousness."

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Along the street  
The shadows meet  
Of destiny, whose hands conceal  
The moulds of fate  
That shape the State,  
And make or mar the common weal.

Around I see  
The powers that be :  
I stand by empire's primal springs ;  
And princes meet  
In every street,  
And hear the tread of uncrowned kings !

Hark ! through the crowd  
The laugh runs loud,  
Beneath the sad, rebuking moon.  
God save the land  
A careless hand  
May shake or swerve ere morrow's noon !

No jest is this ;  
One cast amiss  
May blast the hope of freedom's year.  
Oh, take me where  
Are hearts of prayer,  
And foreheads bowed in reverent fear !

Not lightly fall  
Beyond recall -  
The written scrolls a breath can float ;  
*The crowning fact*  
*The kingliest act*  
*Of freedom is the freeman's vote !*  
RILEY.

