

**QUESTION OF PARTY.**

**The Influence of an Independent Element in the Community.**

The recent Ontario election has plainly shown that the people in that province are no longer to be hoodwinked with the "race and religion" cry. The P. P. A. has come out at the small end of the horn in spite of much bluster and bray as to what they were going to do in suppressing popery and elevating the grand principle of equal right to all, by the enforcement of the rule that "no Roman Catholic need apply."

The Patrons of Industry have had much greater success, and deservedly. This is an organization recruited from the most common sense element in the community. The members, while recognizing the need of party government to a certain extent, deprecate the servile submission to the autocratic will of a party leader, and see no inconsistency in a public man retaining a measure of his independence. The Montreal Star some while ago had an article, which is here reprinted dealing with the question of party. It said:—

"It is certainly a comfort to the non-partisan observer to see some force arise in our politics which tends to make the party leaders distrust the blind and canine faithfulness of their "safe" constituencies. Heretofore they have always begun an election campaign by calmly scoring off the list a certain number of constituencies on each side, about whose vote there could be no uncertainty. "Tory strongholds" and "Grit strongholds," they were unshaken by argument, unmoved by shifting policies; caring nothing for "developments," issues or pronouncements, they were loyal to a party name, no matter what or whom it stood for. To charge such a constituency with casting an intelligent vote, ought to be regarded as libellous—on intelligence. They ranked all efforts to argue the case from the other side as samples of gratuitous impertinence, and looked upon "issues" as but cunning devices to entice the stray sheep into the true fold. To shout for a "name," to vote for a "name," and to close their ears against all blasphemous criticism of the actions of the men bearing that "name," was in their opinion the whole political duty of man.

Into such hives of prejudice and self-assertive ignorance as this, it was folly for any ordinary force to seek to enter. Sometimes a sort of bellicose travesty on religion appeared to have a chance, for the passionate pilgrims who dwelt in these darksome caves seemed to faintly remember that their kind fought in religious party quarrels before political parties arose, and religion became a gospel of peace and good-will. But these diversions were only temporary. The party machinist, with his eye on the leaves and fishes, always managed to keep the more practical brand of prejudice to the front. Now, however, the Patrons have invaded some of these camps of unreason with the cry of general self-interest; and they seem to be making headway. This is the cure, if cure there be. Once convince the voters in these "safe" constituencies that the game of politics is something more than a hereditary tug-of-war between the descendants of different families—that their grandfathers took sides because of their opinions on certain issues, and that now new issues are to the fore—that these "issues" affect their bread and butter, the price of their clothes and the value of their land or their labor—and party "hives" will follow "rotten boroughs" into the limbo of political curiosities, where hang the disused devices of the bad old days when bribery was a political virtue and the franchise a farce. Enlightened self-interest is the best weapon to strike down prejudice and arouse thought; and this is the ground upon which the Patrons are appealing, with such alarming effect on the calculations of politicians, to the farmers of the Frontenacs and the Oxforde of the country. If this movement lifts a few constituencies from the "safe" to the "unsafe" list, it will pay, by that one act, its admission fee into the field of Canadian politics."

**MOOSEHEAD LAKE ACCIDENT.**

**Mr. Timmerman is Convinced it was Caused by an Obstruction on the Track.**

The following is reprinted from the Saint John Globe, and bears on the accident:

General Superintendent Timmerman, who has been at the wreck, came in last Friday, and when seen by the Globe talked quite freely about the disaster. He is fully convinced that it was caused by an obstruction on the track and says there are many circumstances which force this belief. Mr. Timmerman said all the timbers of the trestle which had been cut in connection with the repairs were found firm and solid and without any evidence of decay. The repairs were all made with the old material and this of itself was an evidence that the trestle had been solid. The position of the engine and cars, and the position in which the fireman was found, he said, proved conclusively that the train had been thrown from the track instead of being carried down in the wreck of the bridge. He pointed out that the fireman was picked up about 135 feet back of where the engine went off, and also that the engine instead of being under the trestle, as it would have been if there had been a collapse, was some distance to one side of it. The engine, as already pointed out, was upside down, and all the gear showed that the engineer had reversed the machinery in view of some impending danger. Then there is the sleeper on which are the plain marks of the wheels, all facts which point to a deliberate attempt at train wrecking. Mr. Timmerman said while there were many things to support and almost to prove conclusively the train wrecking theory there were just as many things which could not be reconciled with the idea of the collapse of the bridge.

During the conversation Mr. Timmerman referred to the statement in this morning's Sun that the accident was caused by the flange coming off the front forward driving wheel on the left side, and said this could not have been the case, because engines of the pattern now in use do not have flanges on the front driving wheels. Mr. Timmerman said that the injured men are all doing well. It is now thought both McDonald and Grant will recover, while Kelly and Devine will be at work again in a few days. The

Maine railroad commissioners, Mr. Timmerman said, has carefully viewed the scene of the accident and all seemed convinced of the fact that there had been foul play. They will hold an investigation under oath in a few days and give an official statement as to the cause of the accident. Mr. Timmerman referred briefly to the charges made against him in some quarters of having suppressed information and said, although he was very busy the day of the accident, he had cheerfully given to all whom he thought interested the information in his possession. To this the Globe can bear testimony, for the very full and detailed particulars of the accident which we were able to present our readers on Monday were received from Mr. Timmerman. Those particulars were given as they came in and subsequent inquiries have shown that they were accurate and reliable.

**PROHIBITION CONVENTION**

**Held in Montreal Last Week.—A Gathering of Delegates From All Parts.**

The National Prohibition Convention has begun its work. The first session was held in Montreal, last week, in the spacious hall of the Monument National. If enthusiasm counts for anything the convention of 1894 will be a memorable one.

There was a large and representative body of delegate. Senator Vidal took the chair in the large hall and opened the convention prayer. First came a few moments of silent prayer and then the audience repeated the Lord's prayer aloud. The first business was the appointment of a committee on business and organization, as follows: Messrs. J. R. Doughall, T. B. Flint, M. P.; Major E. L. Bond, Sydney Fisher, J. B. Andrews, J. B. Brooks, A. R. Dickey, M. P.; F. S. Spence, A. M. Featherston, W. W. Buchanan, J. J. Maclaren, Q. C.; J. T. Middleton, M. P. P., and A. H. Hannington.

The address adopted by the council of the alliance was read by the Rev. W. W. Kettlewell, who moved its reception. The Rev. Dr. Chiniquy seconded the motion which was unanimously carried. The president intimated that it was the desire of the alliance that the report should be freely discussed.

It was just noon when Miss Willard entered the hall and the audience rose *en masse* and remained standing, cheering and waving handkerchiefs, while she walked to the platform. Miss Willard was accompanied by Miss Anna Gordon, who is the superintendent of the Juvenile branch of the work. She spoke first and her speech was a brief one. She said:

"I am glad to bear the greetings of 250,000 children who march under the banner inscribed 'Death to King Alcohol.' They say, 'We'll elevate the ballot-box and we'll purify the ballot-box, when we are twenty-one.'"

Miss Willard then stepped forward. "Dear brothers and sisters," she said, "you would laugh if you knew what I was thinking of as I came along in the carriage. It was the line we used to learn in the nursery:

'Ye rocks and crags,  
I'm with you once again.'

What was it that recalled those words to my mind? It was the rock of purpose of Canadians and the crags of spirit. I want before the business of the Convention is fairly begun to get in the greetings of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, and the National Women's Christian Temperance Union so that you may know you are remembered by the Yankees across the border. When I heard read the letters from the dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church, it reminded me of the letters we received on our return at New York from Archbishop Ireland, of the Roman Catholic Church, and Ballington Booth, of the Salvation Army, and I thought what a great cause it was that embraced such opposite sects. When I see how determined you are in Canada I think of the time in Atlanta when General Howard, in addressing his men, asked 'What shall I say to our friends when I go North?' There was a pause and a curly-headed little colored boy shouted: 'Tell 'em we is risin'!' I take it that we, U. S. & Company, in Canada, the United States and the dear Mother land would tell that to the rest of mankind."

Mr. T. B. Flint, M. P., presented an interim report of the Nominating Committee recommending the following appointments for the Convention:

President—Mr. R. Fleming of Toronto.  
Vice-President—Major Bond and Dr. McLeod.

Secretaries—Rev. S. D. Chown and Mr. J. H. Laud.

Committee on Credentials—Messrs. J. H. Carson, E. S. Spence, J. J. Warren and F. A. Howe.

Letters of regret at not being able to attend were read from Cardinal Taschereau, Archbishop Fabre and Bishop Emard. The new president was introduced by Senator Vidal, and in a few well chosen words he thanked the audience for the honor.

**Rosebery to Bowell.**

Mr. Mackenzie Bowell, minister of trade and commerce and president of the Inter-colonial Conference, received the following cable message from the Premier of Great Britain:

HON. MR. BOWELL,  
I am anxious to express to you, as president, the sympathy and interest with which I am watching the proceedings of the conference, which should be of such happy augury for the future of the Empire.  
[Signed] ROSEBERY.

A lazy man does his hardest work in looking for an easy place.

**Here and There.**

They live most who love most.

Growth is always the result of life inside.

No real joy can ever be bought with money. Hunger never finds any fault with the tablecloth.

The best workers are those who know best how to rest.

It costs more to be proud than it does to be generous.

If you think too little you will be sure to talk too much.

The Princess of Wales is ushering in an economic style by wearing two-button gloves again.

"Do farmers like short stories?" he asked as he crept into the agricultural editor's room.

"No, they are more interested in the production of cereals.—Atlanta Constitution.

Extreme cases of habitual drunkenness, according to the Manchester correspondent of London Lancet, seem to be more common in women than men. An old woman was brought before the city magistrates of Manchester recently, charged with drunkenness for the 191st time.

The average weight of the brain of an adult male is three pounds eight ounces; of a female, two pounds four ounces. The nerves are all connected with it directly or by the spinal marrow. These nerves with their branches and minute ramifications probably exceed 10,000,000 in number.

Miss Daisy Uppercrest (to maid): "Molly I heard somebody kiss you in the dark hall last night." Maid: "Well, you get kissed, too, don't you?" Yes, but I am kissed by the young man to whom I am engaged to be married. There is no harm in that." "I'm glad to know it. He is the same young man you heard kissing me in the hall last night."

Probably the oldest clergyman in the world was a Greek priest who lately died in Thessaly, Greece, after completing his 120th year. He never left the place in which he was born and where he died. He was accustomed to begin his priestly offices before sunrise, and to retire promptly at 9. His sight and hearing were in excellent condition to the day of his death, and he never made use of glasses. He was in the active ministry for 99 years.

The mother was in the act of administering a well earned chastisement for the offence of running away from home and returning with a torn and soiled dress, when the little girl rebelled, and began vigorous retaliatory measures.

"Nellie!" exclaimed the maternal parent, "how dare you strike your mother?" "I'd like to know," screamed Nellie, "if you didn't begin this fuss!"

In some circumstances assurance is an excellent quality to have and to hold. Not long ago a young couple entered a railroad car who were immediately put down as a bridal pair. But they were remarkably self-possessed, and acted just like old folks, so that the other passengers began to doubt it, after all. As the train moved out, however, the young man rose to remove his overcoat and a shower of rice fell out, while the passengers smiled broadly. But even that did not effect the youth, who also smiled and, turning to his partner, remarked audibly: "By jove, May, I've stolen the groom's overcoat!"

The Elephant reached around with his trunk and rattled the bars of the cage of the Royal Bengal Tiger.

"What do you want?" growled the Tiger. "Didn't you cast some aspersions on my trunk the other day?" enquired the Elephant. "I did," responded the Tiger; "what are you going to do about it?"

"Nothing." "Well, what are you disturbing me for? You make me tired."

"I beg your pardon. I merely wanted to ask you a question."

"Ask it then, and don't stand there all day."

"Can you tell me the difference between a Royal Bengal Tiger and a jackass?"

"No," growled the Tiger. "What's the difference?" "Well," chuckled the Elephant as he blew a washtubful of dust into the Tiger's eyes. "If I couldn't tell the difference between myself and a jackass, I'd tie my stripes into a string and hang myself with it; indeed I would," and the Elephant went back to sawing on his front legs and distributing occasional trunkfuls of dust and grass along his spinal column.—Detroit Free Press.

The English language is spoken at present by 115,000,000 people, distributed as follows: British Islands, 32,000,000; United States, 65,000,000; Canada (exclusive of French-Canadians), 4,000,000; West Indies, British Guiana, etc., 1,500,000; Australasia, 4,000,000; South Africa, India, and other colonies, 2,500,000. This only includes those whose mother tongue is English.

If the number of persons able to speak English—but not regarding it as their mother tongue—is included, the figures would be considerably increased. To this, however, one exception must be made; the large number of Germans, Scandinavians, and other alien races who have emigrated to the United States and the British colonies and become absorbed therein are included in the above enumerations, for English is their adopted language; they have become a permanent part of the Anglo-Saxon race, and their children after them will be entirely English speaking.

No other language of modern times has made such rapid progress as English, and the increase of English speakers may be calculated at 2,000,000 annually. Three hundred years ago, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, the language was spoken only by about 5,000,000 of people, nearly all of whom resided in the British Isles. It was about this time that England began her work of colonization, to which the great spread of the English tongue is mainly to be attributed.—Chambers' Journal.

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