



In the Night

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OTTAWA LETTER.

OTTAWA, Mar. 8.—The parable of the barley meal and the leaven which was hidden therein has its exemplification in social and political life. There was some ground for the assumption a week or two ago that the Conservatives had resolved to change their ways of life in Parliament, and to answer to the dictates of a new heart. They turned down Mr. Clarke Wallace and put up Mr. Borden; but Mr. Wallace is the kind of man who cannot be dispensed of in that way. Mr. Borden is nominally the leader; but to anyone who has watched the proceedings of the past week it must have been clearly apparent that the leaven which was supposed to have been buried by the Tory caucus is getting in its work very effectively.

The ascendancy of Mr. Clarke Wallace and Mr. Bennett would be a matter of trivial importance if either of these gentlemen had the slightest conception of what Parliamentary dignity means. Their idea of discharging the functions of an Opposition is to treat the members on the other side of the House as though they were an organized gang of horse thieves. They say nasty things and disrespectful things. They impute corrupt and immoral motives, just as though this were a fight thing to do. Their idea of opposing the Government is to act in such a way that a decent man would find parliamentary life unbearable.

An incident in point occurred on Tuesday evening. The item respecting the Canadian office in Paris was under consideration, and information was being asked in relation to the furnishings purchased for the Canadian office last year. This was Mr. Clarke Wallace's opportunity. He began to throw innuendoes across the floor, and asked if the furnishings were specially needed for the entertainment of the Minister of Public Works and his lady friends. A number of coarse allusions in this vein brought Mr. Tarte to his feet in a fine burst of indignation. He challenged Mr. Wallace to be a man and state openly what he was hinting at. Of course, Mr. Wallace had no foundation for his allusions, and could only say that he would return to the subject later.

It will be a deplorable thing if this element in the Opposition should be able to triumph over the judgment of the Conservative caucus. Of course, the Liberals have nothing to fear from it except the discomfort which is occasioned by such uncouth and disreputable tactics. To retaliate in kind would make matters no better. The man who is kicked by a mule gets very little satisfaction in kicking back, and in the long run he is sure to be a loser in trying to play the mule's game. If the Tory party can stand the domination of Mr. Clarke Wallace the Liberals need not lie awake at night over the matter. The people may always be relied upon to exercise a wise judgment as between parties.

I had just mailed my letter of last week when Mr. Costigan's resolution with respect to the Coronation Oath came up in the House.

This resolution had no reference whatever to any other part of the Oath than that which related to the Catholic faith, and which reads as follows:—

"I do solemnly and sincerely, in the presence of God, profess, testify and declare that I do believe that in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper there is not any transubstantiation of the elements of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ at or after the consecration thereof by any person whatsoever, and that the invocation or adoration of the Virgin Mary, or any other saint, and the sacrifice of the mass, and they are now

used in the church of Rome, are superstitious and idolatrous."

These words were contained in an Act passed in the reign of Charles II, and were primarily intended to apply only to members of Parliament. The intention was to exclude Catholics from the House of Commons. It was not until the reign of William and Mary that it came into operation. What was intended to apply only to members of Parliament has now come to be applied to the Sovereign only.

Mr. Costigan made it quite clear at the outset that he did not desire to take the least exception to anything in the Coronation Oath which required that the Sovereign of Great Britain should be a Protestant. What he merely wished to do was to have the King petitioned to eliminate those words in the Oath which were offensive to Catholics, and which referred to the most cherished articles of their faith as being idolatrous. In short, he asked that the British Sovereign should not be called upon to make any declaration offensive to the religious belief of any subject of the British Crown. If any member of the House could show him that injury would be done by the carrying out of this request, or that it would interfere with the permanence or succession of the Crown as now arranged, he would willingly withdraw his resolution.

Mr. Costigan quoted from a number of authorities on the subject; but none were perhaps so striking as that from the "Christian Guardian," one of the foremost of the Protestant organs in England. This paper declared that Christian charity had made such great progress in two and a half centuries that the declaration of the time of Charles II had long ago become too offensive to be used by any of His Majesty's subjects. It was pointed out that the studied insult of calling all Roman Catholic subjects idolaters should not be maintained as a part of the King's accession duties. It concluded by expressing the hope that Edward VII would not be obliged to use words which would brand the King of Portugal, the King of the Belgians and many others who stood with the royal mourners by the good Queen's grave as superstitious idolaters.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier supported the resolution in a speech that was as calm and moderate in tone as Mr. Costigan's. He dealt at considerable length with the historical aspects of the question. In concluding, he asked what would be the effect upon Roman Catholics if this petition were rejected in England; would it effect their loyalty. He declared that it would not; they would continue to be willing and cheerful subjects of His Majesty and of his successors; but he maintained that the pride and devotion which all British subjects felt toward the Empire would be enhanced if the last remnant of persecuting ages were to be blotted out forever from the Statute Book of free England.

Mr. Borden, the leader of the Opposition, also gave his support to the resolution, speaking even longer than did the Premier. Dr. Kendall and Mr. John Charlton also spoke in favor of the mo-



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Beware of Imitations

tion. A discordant note was struck, however, when Mr. Clarke Wallace arose. As the Orange Grand Master it could scarcely be expected—although it would be a libel on Orangemen to say that they all believe in the maintenance of the Coronation Oath—that he would enthusiastically endorse the resolution before the House. For the most part, however, his efforts were directed towards sneering at Mr. Costigan and Mr. Charlton. He also had a great deal to say about the Westminster Confession of Faith, and in some way he sought to make it appear that all Presbyterians subscribed to views which were practically identical with the Coronation Oath. As the King was a Presbyterian in Scotland the Westminster Confession would need also to be revised if all allusions to the Catholic faith were to be stricken from his obligations. It was true, furthermore, that every Roman Catholic bishop took an oath which was opposed to the Protestant faith. The people of England were evidently in favor of continuing the Coronation Oath, or they would have moved long ago to change it. On the whole, there was more of implied than direct opposition to the motion in Mr. Wallace's speech.

Hon. H. R. Emmerston contributed a really fine speech to the debate, his views being entirely favorable to the resolution. Mr. Haggart endeavored to split a few hairs in a criticism that was more captious than logical, and while apparently opposing Mr. Costigan he ended by voting for the motion. The discussion was continued until near two o'clock in the morning, and ended in the motion being carried by a vote of 125 to 18. Mr. Oliver was the only Liberal who voted against the resolution. The debate throughout was characterized by a very commendable spirit of calmness and toleration, and was thought by many experienced Parliamentarians to have been one of the best contributions to Hansard for many a year.

This session has already been made conspicuous by the special interest displayed in the transportation problem. First there was the proposition by Mr. McLean that the Government should take over all the railways in the country and administer them as a public trust. Then came the motion by Mr. Davis in favor of a Railway Commission, specially charged with the duty of regulating freight rates, and lastly Mr. Bennett came forward with an attack on the canal system, and the suggestion that a bonus should be offered to the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific to enable these two lines to command a larger share of the grain carrying traffic. The House gave close attention to the views advanced by Mr. Davis on the subject of a Railway Commission; but the propositions introduced by Mr. McLean and Mr. Bennett were altogether too crude to command thoughtful attention, and both matters were still further marred by strong political bias. It is not by such methods that useful legislation is promoted.

ST. NICHOLAS RIVER.

As North Pole Nat, and Goggles are engaged a present, I feel it my duty to defend the latter, as I belong to the club of which Goggles is a member. Goggle's mistake is very slight as a revivification and conventicle meeting is contemtable, or to use your own words, Nat, it is the same as ignorance and want of knowing better. The Goggle is an ascetic, but would write nothing that would bring the blush of shame to the cheek of the most fastidious. We furthermore give an asseveration that scandle was not meant. The members are highly elated at having such an ascendant as N. P. Nat in proximity, as there is an aggregation of cats around here, and Goggle would like to have N. P. Nat to determine if they are holding a convention or a revival.

F. G. Robertson who has joined the South African Constabulary, received a military send off by his many friends who met at his father's residence the other evening. Mr. Alex. Mundle delivered a very touching and appropriate address, after which the boys formed and marched to the bridge where they fired a salute and gave three cheers for the soldier boy who is not afraid to die for his King and country.

Mr. W. A. Robertson is making rapid progress in the art of photography. He will go to Halifax to take snaps of the departing soldiers.

Miss Lizzie Lawson, who is visiting her brother is much missed by her many friends.

Mrs. A. Carter is paying a visit to her daughter, Mrs. J. McNulty.

Mr. A. Wilmot, of Nantasket, Mass., is visiting Mr. H. A. Robertson of this place.

GOOGLE, No. 2.

Extreme Weakness

RESULTING FROM POOR WATERY BLOOD.

Heart Palpitation, Dizziness and Weakness in the Legs Followed Until the Sufferer Felt that His Case Was Almost Hopeless.

From the Mirror, Meaford, Ont.

No man in Meaford is better known or more highly respected than Mr. Patrick Delaney, who has been a resident of the town for nearly forty years. Mr. Delaney is a stone mason by trade, and has helped construct many of the buildings which go to make up Meaford's chief business structures. Hearing that he had received great benefit from the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, a reporter of the Mirror called to obtain particulars of the cure, and Mr. Delaney cheerfully gave him the following statement: "Last March," said he, "my health became so poor that I was compelled to quit work. The chief symptoms of my illness were extreme weakness in the legs, loss of appetite, and palpitation of the heart. The least exertion would cause my heart to palpitate violently, and if I stooped to pick up anything I would be overcome with dizziness. My legs were so weak that I was compelled to sit down to put my clothes on. The doctor I consulted said I had a bad case of anaemia. He prescribed for me and I took three bottles of medicine, but all the while I actually grew worse until I became so weak and emaciated that it seemed impossible that I could recover. Having read of the cures effected by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills I determined to give them a trial. From the first box I noted an improvement in my condition. My legs became stronger, my appetite improved, and by the time I had used four boxes I felt better than I had done for months. That the pills are a wonderful remedy there is not the least doubt. I can do light work about home without experiencing any of the unpleasant sensations that I once underwent. I feel an altogether different man despite the fact that I am now sixty-seven years of age. All I can say is that I attribute my present good health to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and I would advise any other similar sufferer to try them."

To those who are weak, easily tired, nervous, or whose blood is out of condition, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills come as a blessing, curing when all other medicines fail and restoring those who give them a fair trial to a full measure of health and strength. The pills are sold only in boxes bearing on the wrapper the full name Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. If your dealer does not keep them they will be sent post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

HIS POINTS.

First Boy—Is that a good house dog?
Second Boy—No.
Good bird dog?
No.
Good for rabbits?
No.
Knows some tricks, perhaps!
No.
What is he good for!
Nothin' only to take prizes at shows.
New York World.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.

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It is a reconstructant, restorative and revitalizer of the most unusual merit, which sends new life and new vigor to every part of the body, and gradually and permanently cures all nervous troubles and diseases resulting from weak blood and low vitality. 50 cents a box, at all dealers', or Edimanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

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Cloths and Groceries,
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