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The Canadian Post.

LINDSAY, FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1890.

ON THE RUN — WHICH WAY?

That silly Empire man! He sez
"The grits is on the run!"
It minds me ov a story ex
Wuz told by Isr'el Dunn,
We went a huntin' grimly b'ar,
Did Isr'el Dunn an' me,
Among the Rocky Mountings, whar
Sech game wus sed to be.
Fust mornin' Isr'el sez, sez he,
Paint no great shakes for two
To kill a b'ar; so jest let me
Go west, alone, an' you
Go west, young man; mebbe to-night
We'll each one hev a pelt
To bring to camp." I sez all right;
But that wan't what I felt.
I tuned up an' down the west,
But, thank my lucky stars,
(The ways ov Providence is best),
I didn't see no b'ars.
When I got in the sun wus down,
An' so wus Isr'el Dunn,
An' pantin' like a tired hoss'
After a lengthy run.
"Hello!" sez I; "see any b'ar?"
"Wal, yes," sez he, "seen one—
A shaller grizzly, way out thar—
An' he's im on the run
Fer nine mile, sure; but couldn't git
A shot to save my hide!"
Guess Isr'el would be talkin' fit,
An' tellin' how he tried;
But when I looked him over well,
He'he went on to lie,
I seen he wus too weak to tell
The truth 'and so, sez I,
"Here, Isr'el, take a drink an' try
To tell it ez it wus!
Fer what's yer cap? What ails yer eye?
What tore yer clothes to fus?
An' what's yer belt an' coat-tails gone?
What scraped yer pants behind?
An' what's yer brain new Remington?
Sez he, "It ain't just kind
To take true words that's spoke in fus
An' twist them so; fer, see,
I hed that grizzly on the run,
A reachin after me!
An' jest es I wus to take a shot
Fer fear I'd lose my hide
An' aim to hev him ez ex not!
Now sez me! I lied!"
That silly Empire man! He sez
"The grits is on the run!"
It minds me my thet story ex
Wuz told by Isr'el Dunn.
When Grits hez reached for Meredith,
An' got him an' his clan,
An' all the folks make merry with
Our gritty Grand Old Man,
Then Empire man, ex Isr'el did,
Will then explain an' say,
"The Grits wus runnin', ez we see;
We did not state which way."

—Ben Beaver.

Carrollton P. O., Ont., May, 1890.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Papal Canon and Equal Rights in the Present Campaign. A "Corker" on Tory Intrigues against Mr. Mowat.

(To the Editor of The Mail.)

SIR,—It is perhaps too much to expect in the heat of an election contest keen opponents would refrain from seeking to further their own ends the utterances of a party which wishes to stand absolutely free on the question, but a document recently issued by the Equal Rights Association is not intended to influence my judgment if it is not capable of justification, used against one party rather than another. I must repeat what I said in my letter which you were good enough to publish on the 30th of April, that all attempts to make party capital out of the Jesuit question are either ignorant or dishonest, and will be discountenanced by every fair-minded man who knows a page of Canadian history. It were a strange thing for either party to make capital out of the Jesuit question, and then be responsible for extending the powers of separate schools, and almost every concession for the community or considerable section of it to lay the responsibility exclusively upon our legislators. What has been done, whether for good or evil, was done with but little criticism or remonstrance. The Jesuit questions relating to separate schools have been raised, and for my own part I see no reasons to have these considered on their merits that I must regard as an attempt to cover the men who would make the discussion by making it subservient to party interests. Conscientiously holding principles which they believe important, equal rights men will, I am sure, be guided to those and justice alone. Jesuit, Equal Rights, Protestant Protective Association, Orange Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Canadian Order of Foresters, Independent Order of Oddfellows, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Irish Catholic Benevolent Union, Canadian Order of Chosen Friends, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Royal Arcanum, Knights of Labor, Knights of Honor, Knights of Maccabees, Independent Order of Good Templars, Sons of Temperance, Sons of England, Sons of Scotland, Independent Order of Rechabites, Irish Land League, Irish National League, Irish National Federation, Irish Land Purchase League, Irish Parliamentary Fund, Irish Relief Fund, Irish Emigration Fund, Irish Evictions Fund, Irish Distress Fund, Irish Famine Fund, Irish Exodus Fund, Irish Exile Fund, Irish Exhibition Fund, Irish Exposition Fund, Irish Exchequer Fund, Irish Exchequer Endowments, or subventions, or gifts upon charities or upon strictly denominational objects. Here is a clear principle, easily understood by all, the observance of which would save immense trouble to the state, while it would really benefit the church and religion. Let those who believe in a state church hold their opinion, but let them recognize the necessity of observing—in a province such as Ontario at least—the course here indicated.

As long as separate schools exist by authority of the state they should be under regulations identical with those which govern the public schools, except in so far as the special character which belongs to them or the provisions of the British North America Act determine otherwise. I can hardly see how this statement can be controverted, and it covers, if I mistake not, what is said on this subject in the address, while it supplies a comparatively easy rule for the legislature to follow.

The equal rights association will be regarded, I trust, as acting fairly towards the parties in setting forth its views in good time for all to consider them; and who can object to the closing words: "Candidates in the field should be approached by our friends in the constituencies, and he who—other things being equal—is found to be most in accordance with our principles should receive their hearty and undivided support."

Yours, etc.,
WM. CAVEN.

Toronto, May 16.

The Contest in West Victoria.

(To the Editor of THE POST.)

SIR,—As the contest is now opened, it might not be out of place to give the electors some facts to consider before casting their votes on the 5th of June. The people of Ontario have to choose between the noble premier of this province and the members of his cabinet, and the Hon. W. R. Meredith and his four lieutenants. Now the first question that would naturally occur in most persons' minds, is: Are those who are controlling the affairs of the province, or the opposition, the better qualified and fitted for the task of carrying on the affairs and governing the province, and administering fair, just and impartial laws to all? If the opposition have more capable men, if they have any charge to bring against the government, why not put their men forward and formulate their charges? With reference to the personnel of the opposition, the Mail of May the 10.h says: "That Mr. Meredith is universally regarded as a highly honorable and capable man, and if he could multiply himself by six the country would have nothing to fear. It is not at all satisfied, however, that it would get as honest or as competent service from his lieutenants as it obtains from the existing administration." Here the electors have it admitted by the opponents of the administration that they only have one competent man in the field, and the country is not at all satisfied that they will get as honest men—now mark the word "honest" and what it implies—or as competent administration from those who are clamoring for the reins of power. If those men ever expect to be successful at the polls, let them put forward men who have the respect and confidence of their own party. How do they expect the country to trust them when they cannot trust themselves? Do they expect that the electors are going to turn out a set of honest and competent men who have governed the province and have administered its affairs in such a just way that not one of the opposition dare charge them with wrong doing or squandering the people's money? The idea is perfectly absurd. Having taken a glance at the opinion they hold of themselves, let us consider the battle cry of these fellows. The chief hobby is the separate schools. Well, who is responsible for having separate schools at all? Certainly not the liberal party. It is well known that prior to confederation the Catholic vote was with the conservative party. They came into confederation with the separate school system guaranteed them. By reference to the votes of the parties who are responsible for framing the confederation act, it will be seen that the separate school system that we hear so much about is an institution of conservative framing, the liberals of that day working and voting against it. Now when they think there is a chance to get into power by decrying separate schools, they turn around and abuse their own legislation, and try to foster charges against the men who opposed the establishment of separate schools, to make political capital out of it.

The next bugbear that is troubling these strange fellows is the assessment law with reference to the schools. In 1879 the then minister of education, Mr. Crooks, introduced legislation for distinguishing between public and separate school supporters; that is, any Catholic who desires to become a supporter of a separate school, if one is situated in the municipality in which he resides within the limit prescribed by law, to give notice in writing of such intention. Here is the view held by conservatives of that time: Mr. O'sullivan moved as amendment to the bill providing that Roman Catholics should be deemed ipso facto (in the fact itself) separate school supporters, and that notice in writing should be required to be given by a Roman Catholic ratepayer before school taxes levied upon his property should be applied in aid of public schools. This motion received the hearty support of the conservative party, including Mr. John White, Mr. Meredith's first lieutenant, who spoke as follows: "He was decidedly in favor of the principle of the motion. He was not sure that it would not be better to go further than the amendment went, and if any one were desirous that the minority should be protected, he would suggest that the onus should be thrown upon the minority to show that they were dissatisfied with the present system. He was told that if he had made this visit last fall he could have had an overwhelming majority of Catholics against the Separate School