The Canadian Champion

MILTON, Aug. 25, 1910.

DIGNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF JOURNALISM.

The calling of a journalist is admittedly one of great power in his community. He is in a position to do a great deal of good, and just on this account he is also in a position to do a great deal of harm.

If he casts his influence, and that of his journal, on the side of right as against wrong, on the side of good as against evil, there is hardly any assignable limit to what he can help the community to accomplish; if, on the other hand, he prefers to work from some sinister motive, even that of mere selfish interest, he may do unspeakable harm in an endless variety of ways and to a large number of people.

There is no means by which the journalist can rid himself of responsibility for the manner in which he uses his power, except giving up his calling altogether, and allowing some other person to carry on the work for better or for worse. This is a much more commendable course than one that means degradation for himself and demoralization for the whole community.

Of all the journalistic wreckers and pirates who have been evolved out of modern social conditions the meanest, if not the most mischievous, is the man who makes use of his journal for purposes of blackmail. Once he enters on the down grade he finds, like Dante gliding down to the infernal regions, that the descent is easy. He soon loses caste in his community, for he can no more keep his predatory practices in the dark than can the vulture avoid being seen beside the carcass with which he is gorging himself.

Of late years the blackmailing journals have been multiplying in the United States with great rapidity. This has been made possible and inevitable by the fact that industrial exploitations have been very numerous, and in some cases very extensive. It is not surprising that when some men become wrecking pirates on a large scale others should be found equal to the task of holding them up for a share of the plunder, and a journal that has a certain amount of circulation becomes a handy club to be used for the purpose. There are all over America today hundreds of journals that live on the proceeds of hold-ups or of payment for keeping quiet.

Some of these journalistic highwaymen are to be found in Canada as well as in the United States, though their number is smaller on account of the narrower field of operations. There is the same meanness of spirit to be reckoned with, the same readiness to be bought up body and soul, the same cowardly borrowing under the surface, the same preference for insinuations instead of statements of fact, the same unprincipled disposition to put a false color on the most innocent business transactions, the same determination to keep back important facts that if published would make a connected story useless for the blackmailer's purpose, the same dependence on the "half-truth" that is always harder to refute than the full-orbed brazen lie. The breed is the same always and everywhere, the type is a family likeness.

The commercial and industrial wrecker, with his accommodating journalistic minion and bond slave, have a conventional method of proceeding. There are some things done, some project floated, some means adopted to make money fast, that will not stand the light of day. The venal blackmailer takes up one of these and starts in to expose it to public view. He collects information carefully and uses it remorselessly. He will not in such a case be bought up, for he is building up a reputation by means of which to make a larger hand later on. His line of operation is analogous to that of the intending forger who begins with securing accommodation at a bank by making genuine deposits and doing a legitimate business with the institution he has earmarked to victimize. There is method in his villainy, as there is in the journalistic blackmailer.

After making a reputation as a public benefactor by exposing a few real frauds the blackmailer finds it necessary to get revenue from some quarter and he looks around for a victim. He begins by publishing insinuations calculated and intended to damage the credit of a bona fide industrial corporation. If no notice is taken of these, his balloons become bolder as the pressure of impecuniosity becomes more irresistible. At the next stage he makes approaches. He is "open for honest." He must have money, at the very least in payment for advertisements, at the most in payment for protection against the danger of wrecking.

Usually there is behind the journalistic blackmailer in these modern days some rival corporation, probably a merger, or a combine, or a trust that wishes to rush out a rising business rival in order to retain a monopoly of the production of some useful article. The article may be barbed wire, or a wire gate, or net fencing, or an efficient plough, or a new kind of harrow. The new rival to an established article in common use may depend on the validity of patents, and these are questioned and often litigated. It may depend on getting municipal aid, and persistent efforts are made to lessen the confidence of the taxpayers in the assisted enterprise. It may depend on securing additional capital for the development of the plant, and all sorts of falsehoods and half truths are put into circulation to deter people from taking stock in the enterprise.

The journalistic blackmailer who is in a position to plead necessity is a craven and an infamous; the journalist who sells himself for 30c. as a wrecker of legitimate enterprises is a thug and an assassin. He probably is the old-time ship-owner who insured "floating coffins" and sent them to sea so overloaded that destruction was inevitable. Fortunately exposure is equally inevitable and in Canada it is coming promptly if has already arrived.

The Problem of Baking Powder.

It's easy to secure good and wholesome baking. Buy White Swan Baking Powder. It contains no alum. Costs only 25c. per lb.

Official Programme of Canadian National Exhibition Free this Year.

For the Canadian National Exhibition of this year an Official Programme has been issued showing the special attractions for each day; days of judging for every kind of stock, poultry, grain, vegetables, and the prizes to be distributed for all entries; programme of harness horse racing, detailed description of the performances in front of the grand stand, fireworks display, the countless attractions of the Midway which, this year, is to be more complete than ever, and the bands from almost every town in Ontario with their special performance days. Programme also shows the rates in effect from Ontario points during the Exhibition, special low rates in effect on excursion days and the special train service in effect from all points. Copy of programme may be obtained from any Canadian Pacific Railway Agent, or by writing R. L. Thompson, D.P.A., C.P.R., Toronto.

Major-General Colin Mackenzie has been selected as Chief of the General Staff in Canada.

Only $25,000 of the Government appropriation of a million dollars for the protection of railway crossings has been spent.

To the Editor of the Champion:

Dear Sir:—The Toronto Saturday Night in its issue of Aug. 20th inst. in an attack on the P. L. Robertson Screw Company makes the following reference to the town of Milton:—"When the visit was made to Milton officials of the town, these gentlemen were not aware that this patent had been nullified, in spite of the fact that Milton had granted this corporation special privileges and given financial aid."

I wish, Mr. Editor, to give this statement an unqualified denial. The officials of the town during 1909 were kept informed by Mr. Robertson of the action to annull the old patent; of the intention of the Company not to defend that action and of its probable ultimate success.

They were also shown the patent of a later date than the one annulled, which covers the screw that the Company has always made and is now making. This patent is still in force and has never been questioned.

The officials had also full information regarding the patents of 1866 and 1875 and that, too, before the by-law was passed.

The bonds were signed with a full knowledge of the circumstances related, after a careful consideration of all the facts and with the advice and consent of the town solicitor.

The elective officials of a town necessarily change from year to year and there would be no occasion for Mr. Robertson to notify each new representative as he took office. Sufficient if he notified those acting during the year in which the event transpired. This fact must have been known to the representative of the Toronto Saturday Night and although the present Mayor and Reeve were members of the council for the previous two years he did not seek information from them.

Mr. Hemstreet was not, at the time the patent was annulled, an official of the town and there was not then, nor has there been since, any obligation on the part of Mr. Robertson, or of the proper officials of the town to notify him of these circumstances. I have not any doubt that Mr. Hemstreet made this quite plain to the representative of Saturday Night, but that gentleman has taken an undue advantage of the town Treasurer for purposes of his own.

At no time has Mr. Robertson been guilty of want of frankness when dealing with the town officials.

Milton guarantees the bonds of the company and pays the interest on $100,000. But the citizens believe that they have cornered the future screw industry of this country.

I hope, Mr. Editor, that this explanation will show the erroneous and misleading character of the statements made in the Toronto Saturday Night as regards the town of Milton and if the further remarks concerning the Company are as unfair and unjust it necessarily follows that such a paper is unworthy the confidence of the reading public.

Yours truly,
ROBT. K. ANDERSON,
Mayor 1909

Milton, Aug. 24th, 1910.

FARM LABORERS' EXCURSIONS.

$10.00 to Winnipeg.

It has been found that the farm laborers' excursions already run from Ontario points have not produced as many laborers as expected and, as the harvesting operations in Ontario are about over for this year, two additional excursions are being run from all stations in Ontario to the Canadian Pacific Railway at rate of $10.00 to Winnipeg and points east of Moose Jaw on Main Line and Branch Lines on Tuesday, August 30th and Tuesday, September 6th. Special trains will be run through from Toronto to Winnipeg with no change of cars, thus avoiding transfer troubles and customs arrangements en route. Tickets will be issued to women but there will be no half rate tickets for children.

Ask any C.P.R. agent for particulars.

Ashgrove.

Aug. 23rd, 1910.

Messrs. McLaren, of Toronto, were the guests of Mr. Nixon on Sunday.

Mr. and Miss Nichol, of Limehouse, and Miss Pearl Ross, of Georgetown, spent Sunday with Miss Gerty Wrigglesworth.

Miss Lillian Thompson is holidaying at her uncle's, George Thompson, Hornby.

Andrew Murdock has returned home after spending the summer at Saskatoon. He will commence work at his brother's new barn, which was burned quite recently.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hewson, of Toronto, spent Saturday and Sunday with friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Morrison, attended the wedding of their son, Percy Morrison, on Wednesday last at Buffalo.

As Mr. Brockbank, thresher, was moving up the sixth line on Saturday evening the engine crashed through a bridge, where it had to remain till the following Monday.

WANTED!

A representative for county of Halton. A permanent position and exclusive territory for the right man. Stone & Wellington Nurseries, Toronto. 10-4t

For Sale.

Blacksmith shop and dwelling in the Village of Lowville; shop up-to-date and dwelling new. Apply to

A. EMERSON
7-4t Lowville P.O.

Cattle Astray.

Four yearlings, one red with white hind feet, one all red, one grey, one a lighter grey, three steers and one heifer, strayed from lot 21, con. 3, Esquesing, about the 1st June. Suitable reward will be paid for information which will lead to their recovery.

JOHN MCISAAC,
9-4t Acton P.O.

Elmgrove Farm for Sale

Lots 4 and 5, Con. 5, Nassagaweya, 196 acres. On the premises are a good dwelling, barn 60x36 feet, in fairly good repair, stable and driving house 48x30, in good repair, and small orchard. Farm good for fruit or stock raising. Apply to S. McDowell, or to E. Chapman, Auctioneer, both of Campbellville. 9-4t

Sale of Church Property at Hornby.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of the Act respecting the property of Religious Institutions (R.S.O., ch. 307) and amendments thereto, the Trustee of the lands and premises of the Baptist Church at Hornby, being part of lot number Three, in the Eighth Concession of the Township of Esquesing, in the County of Halton, containing one-quarter of an acre, more or less, will offer the same for sale at public auction, on the premises, on SATURDAY, the 10th Sept., 1910, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Dated 10th Aug., 1910.

J. W. ELLIOTT, Milton, Ont., Solicitor.
W. S. HALL, Trustee.
9-4t

VICIOUS ATTACK ON THE MILTON SCREW COMPANY.

"Saturday Night" Makes Scurrilous Charges

In last week's issue of Saturday Night almost an entire page was devoted to the Milton Screw Company. Placards, in flaring type, displayed by newsdealers selling Saturday Night read as follows: "Saturday Night, Toronto, Aug. 20th, 1910. When is a patent not a patent. How promoter got $125,000 for one 3½ years old. Out to-day. For sale here."

The charges made are that the patent covering the Robertson Screw was anticipated by a patent taken out some thirty-five years ago; that the Robertson patent was set aside by the courts; that the patentee, Mr. Robertson, had received $125,000—the placard infers in cash, the paper says in stock; that this cash or stock had been taken from the Company for a valueless patent; that no notification of the court's action had been sent out, and the inference is drawn that not only were the stockholders imposed on, but also the town of Milton which had guaranteed the bonds of the Company was still under the erroneous impression that the patent covering the Company's screw was still in existence.

Were it not for the fact that people generally are apt to regard statements made in the public prints as having been made in good faith, it would hardly be necessary for a Milton paper to take any notice of Saturday Night's charges.

In Milton and among people generally who are at all familiar with the Robertson Screw Company, it is well known, and there has never been any secret made of the matter, that an early patent taken out by Mr. Robertson was cancelled, and further it was a patent which to some extent had been anticipated by earlier patents, chiefly by one granted in 1875. It has also, however, been just as well known that the idea covered by that patent was for what might be termed a theoretical screw, one which might have been good if any method could have been devised for manufacturing it at reasonable cost. No such method ever has been found however and the consequence has been that the screw never was manufactured commercially either by the Robertson Company or by anyone else.

It is also just as well understood that what is known as the Robertson Socket Head Screw is an entirely different article, that it is this screw with which the Robertson people came to Milton, that it was this screw on which the Company received the backing it secured from the town of Milton, that it is this screw on which it has sold the stock of the Company, that this screw is patented, that the Company owns the patent, that the patent has never been cancelled but is in full force, that not only is this screw protected by one patent but in various ways is protected by several patents all of which are owned by the Company, that this is the screw the Company is and has been making ever since it has been in Milton, and that it has never made any other screw.

On interviewing Mr. Robertson, regarding Saturday Night's attack, we asked him as to the truth of his alleged statement that if the shareholders had been foolish enough to turn over to him $125,000, for which they had nothing to show to-day that that was their business, he stated, "that is simply a malicious lie." Mr. Robertson said that statements regarding sales and other matters had purposely been misquoted and many other statements in the article were pointed out as being without any foundation whatever.

Whether the Saturday Night article was written in good faith or not, may be judged by comparing the garbled version of the Robertson Company's letter of Aug. 8th, appearing in small type at the end of the article, with the letter itself, a copy of which Mr. Robertson supplied to the writer. In those portions of the Robertson letter which Saturday Night "blue pencilled" and left out, or where changes were made in the wording, the original is put in brackets and italic.

Milton, Ont., Aug. 8th, 1910.

(Publishers)
Toronto Saturday Night,
Toronto.

Dear Sirs:—(One of your editorial staff, *the editor of Credit and Trade section, Mr. Harris,*) visited our factory last Saturday, stated that your paper was going to make some further mention of our concern in your columns and was especially persistent and insistent in a request that we should furnish your paper with a statement for publication to appear at the same time. As he agreed that anything we would write for this purpose of reasonable length would be printed with your article, we have concluded to accede to your request.

When Mr. Harris appeared at the factory and introduced himself we offered to show him through the works. He said he didn't want to see the plant and wouldn't know anything about it if he did see it. That we might show him a chain and say it was a screw making machine and he wouldn't know the difference. (comment on this kind of an "expert" not to mention quite such a concern as ours would seem superfluous.) He said he wanted statements regarding certain other particulars of our business, and it developed that these particulars were principally information regarding our patents, regarding stock of the Company paid for patents, present output of screws, cost of production, sales of screws to date and, if we would be so kind, the names of customers using the screw.

We wanted to know why we should supply Saturday Night with this sort of information and also on whose behalf Saturday Night was acting. He (*Mr. Harris*) stated that Saturday Night wanted the information for the benefit of our stockholders, many of whom (about twenty he said) had sent requests to your office. We questioned his statement and wanted to know who they were. He declined to state. We intimated that it looked much like a line of investigation suggested by opposition screw interests. Mr. Harris stated at length and most emphatically that such was not the case, (*that he personally did not know anyone connected with slot screw manufacturers, and that neither he nor anyone connected with your paper had had any communication whatever with these people in regard to our concern,*) that Saturday Night wanted this information solely for the benefit of our stockholders and possibly for the benefit of intending investors in our stock.

We explained (*to Mr. Harris*) that this was a private concern engaged in a legitimate business, that not only would it be impolitic for the officers of the Company to give out the information he sought for publication, but that the By-laws of the Company prohibited the directors from doing that very thing, (*that so far as our stockholders were concerned they were partners in the enterprise and they or any of them were entitled to and could obtain any desired information, for their own use, directly from this office, that we knew our stockholders and they knew us, and that it was entirely unnecessary that we should address one another through the columns of Saturday Night or any other publication. That so far as intending investors in our stock were concerned we issued a prospectus for their benefit, and such further information as they desired, of a proper character, could be obtained directly from our Company.*)

Your representative (*Mr. Harris*) remained nearly two hours in our office and toward the latter part of his visit stated that a representative of a screw company (*the Canada Screw Company*) had offered to come out with him and assist him in his investigation of our affairs, but that he had declined the offer. (*In view of his former statement quoted above it is evident that Mr. Harris was guilty of deliberately telling us a palpable untruth.*)

So far as our stockholders are concerned we have yet to learn from an authentic source that any one of them is dissatisfied with his investment, with the Company's purchase of patents, or with the management of this Company. If by any chance any such do exist they had better at once communicate with this office and we have no doubt that some of the gentlemen who are taking care of the stock selling for the company will be able to quickly find a market for their holdings.

As to our patent protection we advised your representative (*Mr. Harris*) in a general way that while we would engage in absolutely no discussion with him on this subject, we were thoroughly satisfied with our position and we take this opportunity of advising Saturday Night or any of its readers that we are prepared at any time to defend those rights against any and all comers, and that if we ever enter into any controversy regarding our patent position it will be in the courts and not in the columns of any newspaper.

During his stay Mr. Harris expressed considerable approval of the work we are producing and when leaving stated that if we would furnish him with the data he asked for and show him that we would be able to pay seven per cent. dividends he would take five hundred dollars of the stock. We told him that we would gladly give him the data for his own personal information, but not for publication, and show him that our earning capacity would be many times seven per cent., but he declined to go on with his proposal unless the data could be used for publication. This we consider a rather high bid for legitimate news matter and leads us to wonder who was to supply the five hundred dollars.

As to using your columns for the benefit of prospective investors, eliminating the question of the value of your paper for such a purpose, we can only say that we are not using the public prints in this connection. We have only a small amount of treasury stock still left for sale and that is being rapidly taken up through our established channels.

As to going into any controversy in the press as to the merits or demerits of our business we have neither the time nor the inclination for it. We are busy people and our time is fully occupied in the extension of our plant and in making screws in quantities to at least partially satisfy the ever growing demand.

Yours very truly,
P. L. Robertson Mfg. Co., Ltd.
P. L. Robertson, Pres.

As to the integrity of the Robertson Screw Co., of its President, Mr. Robertson, or of the management generally we think it hardly necessary to make special mention in these columns. These gentlemen are all well known in Milton and are among our most esteemed citizens. They have the utmost confidence of this community. Those here having stock in the Company are well aware that Mr. Robertson has devoted two years of hard and effective work to this company's interests for which he has charged not one dollar of salary, that his individual payment for patents amounts to much less than $125,000 in stock and further that this stock is entirely common stock which will never pay him a dollar until the other common stock-holders share dividends with him pro rata.

Conclusions to be drawn from the whole article may safely be left to the public and we are satisfied that Miltonians will not be slow in resenting an attempt to maliciously injure a concern in which we all take so deep an interest.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

$10 TO WINNIPEG

FROM ALL CANADIAN PACIFIC STATIONS IN ONTARIO

ADDITIONAL FARM LABORERS' EXCURSIONS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Free transportation will be furnished at Winnipeg to points on Canadian Pacific where laborers are required. East of Moose Jaw, including branches, and at one cent per mile each way West thereof in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

SPECIAL TRAINS FROM TORONTO TO WINNIPEG ON ABOVE DATES.

ASK ANY CANADIAN PACIFIC AGENT FOR PARTICULARS

Store Opens 7.30 a.m. **BASTEDO & Co.** Store Closes 6.30 p.m.

MILTON'S POPULAR STORE

PRESERVING TIME

Best Vinegars.

Pure Cider Vinegar 40c. gal.
Pure White Wine Vinegar 40c. gal.
Pure Malt Vinegar 40c. gal.

Purest Spices.

Pure Cinnamon, whole or ground, 40c. lb.
Pure Cloves, " 40c. lb.
Pure Allspice, " 40c. lb.
Pure Pickling Spice, " 40c. lb.

Standard Sugars.

Granulated, 18 lbs. for $1.00
Yellow, 19 lbs. for $1.00

Gem Jars.

Imperial Pint Jars, per doz., 75c.
" Quart Jars, " 90c.
Half-gallon Jars, " $1.00.
Jelly Jars, per doz. - - 50c.

Sealing Wax for Bottles

Per tin, 10c.

Do your shopping

At Levinsky's

and shop early.

Sale on FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Store Open Evenings until 9.30.

To-morrow and Saturday

and the week following will witness a

TERRIFIC SLAUGHTER SALE

OF

Men's & Boys' Clothing, Gents' Furnishings and Boots & Shoes

which will go down in history as the greatest money saving opportunity ever recorded in Milton.

As we are compelled to make room on account of our fall stock coming in we are going to make some great sacrifices in our stock, so be on hand early. It will be a bargain chance of a life time.

Remember the sale opens to-morrow and lasts until the Saturday night of the following week.

BUY HERE AND SAVE MONEY!

L. LEVINSKY, Prop. J. F. LEVINSKY, Mgr.

Chief Game Warden Tinsley says all danger from rabies is over and dogs should be unmuzzled.

Cook's Cotton Root Compound.

The great Uterine Tonic, and only safe effectual Monthly Regulator on which women can depend. Sold in three degrees of strength—No. 1, $1; No. 2, 3 degrees stronger, $3; No. 3, for special cases, $5 per box. Sold by all druggists, or sent prepaid on receipt of price, in plain wrapper. Address: The Cook Medicine Co., Windsor, Ont. (Formerly Windsor)

School Supplies

Every requirement in Bright, New Goods...

The Hunter Studio, - Milton.

A MANURE SPREADER for $59.50 will pay for itself over year.

WITH THE GREAT YOU ALREADY KNOW, $59.50 without truck, freight paid; $65.00 complete with farm truck, freight prepaid.

Henry Atkin, North Malton, writes: Willmott & Co., Milton.

I have a wagon box spreader and I find that I would not trade it for one of the other spreaders, etc.

Ask for our Spreader Propositions

Buck & Featherstone, - Agents, MILTON.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

Additional Farm Laborers' Excursions

Aug. 30 and Sept. 6

To certain points in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, including Grand Trunk Pacific, Northern Railway, Edmonton and Fort Frances.

$10 GOING $18

From all stations in Ontario. Full particulars and tickets at G. T. R. Station.

CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY

Want 6,000 FARM LABORERS

EXCURSION FROM ONTARIO

AUGUST 30th and 6th

$10.00

Tickets will be issued to points in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Edmonton, Prince Albert, North Battleford, Battleford, Lloydminster, Regina, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Maple Creek, Medicine Hat, Calgary, Strathcona, Lethbridge, Macleod, Nanton, Stavely, Okotoks, High River, Calgary, Strathmore, Gleichen, Cluny, Bassano, Brooks, Langdon, Carseland, Bowell, Nobleford, Taber, Raymond, Stirling, Magrath, Cardston, Card, Glenwood, Aldersyde, Lomond, Nanton, Stavely, Okotoks