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The Effects of High Duties.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK)

Finding that France was flooded with
Swiss jewelry, and that all the vigilance
of his officers could not stop it, the min-
ister thought he would try to do a little
detective work himself. He went from
Paris to Geneva under an assumed name,
in a hired carriage with post horses. At
the frontier he made himself known to
his officers and warned them to be extra
vigilant, as he believed an attempt to
smuggle some valuable jewels would soon
be made. At Geneva he bought a lot of
watches and jewelry which could all be
packed in a small parcel, and still repre-
sented a pretty round sum of money,
which he devoutly hoped he never would
have to pay, the bargain being, to be paid
on delivery in Paris. He gave the ad-
dress of some friend who was not sup-
posed to be in any way connected with
the minister. Having, as he thought,
completed his arrangements incognito, he
started on his way back traveling as fast
as horses could go. At the frontier he
again cautioned his officers, recommend-
ing the greatest vigilance all along the
line, as he knew some valuable jewelry
would soon be forwarded. Had he pre-
served his incognito with his own officers
it would have been wiser as the sequel
will show. He had scarcely been an hour
in his own house in Paris, when a mes-
sage came from the address he had given
in Geneva, a gentleman was there with a
package of jewelry, just arrived from
Geneva, and an invoice for which he de-
manded payment. The minister was
completely mystified, he had travelled so
fast from Geneva, immediately, after
making his purchase, that he did not be-
lieve any one else could have reached
Paris so soon, and still there was that
confounded parcel, it had not been seized
and it must be paid for, what a sell. His
curiosity was excited, he was dying to
find out how the trick had been done,
and he said so to the bearer of the parcel,
promising on his word of honor as a gen-
tleman, that if he would only satisfy his
curiosity, no one would suffer on that
account, no advantage would be taken,
no one would know anything about it but
himself. The gentleman hesitated a
little, at last he said I will trust your
Excellency's word about it. The package
was placed in your own carriage by my
friends in Geneva and crossed the fron-
tier under your protection; we knew the
officers would never think of searching
your own carriage. Your incognito had
not deceived any of us. The minister
admitted frankly that he had been out-
witted, instead of detecting he was de-
tected. But the little episode had some
good results in the end. The minister
came to the conclusion that the high
duties were the cause of all the smug-
gling, he went from one extreme to the
other, he reduced the duties so low that
it was not worth running the risk of
smuggling any more, and the revenue
was increased by the duties collected on
articles which had invariably been smug-
gled before.

SMUGGLING FROM BELGIUM INTO FRANCE.

The people in Belgium are very indus-
trious and with the facilities they have
for importing raw material and neces-
saries of life without the impediments
imposed on them in other countries by
high tariffs, they manufacture a great
many articles at very low prices. One of
their chief industries is lace, which every-
body knows is very costly; it does not
take much of it to make a large sum.
They also manufacture silks. The raw
material is produced in warmer climates
—Spain, Italy, South of France, Greece,
where the mulberry trees flourish—there
the Belgians buy it and manufacture it
into expensive cloth and they sell it to
the very countries from where they im-
ported the material. The great value of
small packages of these two articles offers
great temptations to smugglers, many in-
genious devices having been invented for
shoving them across the line. A curious
one is the use of dogs specially kept and
trained for the purpose. Those animals
are raised in France near the frontier,
they are well taken care of and made to
love their home; when old enough they
are taken short distances at first to some
house where they are shut up a day or
two without food, then turned out and
scared away, if they are at all good they
make for home as quick as they can. On
their way they meet men disguised as
custom house officers who throw sticks
and stones and even fire at them with
dust shot and do all they can to inspire
them with a wholesome dread of the cus-
toms uniform. After a while those who
are supposed to be clever enough to be
trusted are taken into Belgium near the
fronier. On a dark night when there is
no moon, and principally when the sky is
cloudy, the dog is fitted out for his ex-
pedition. The silks or lace are inserted in
a bag of strong canvas, cut in the shape
of a horse blanket to fit the dog, and pro-
perly secured with breast strap, belly
band, etc. So equipped he is started on
his way home. If he is clever, with his
keen senses of sight and smell, his noise-

less step and the dark night, he will
easily cross the line undetected. The
officers are stationed at very short dis-
tances from one another, their muskets
are not loaded with ball for at night they
could not take proper aim, but with buck
shot which scatters wide. If they think
they see or hear anything suspicious they
fire in the direction, hoping they may by
chance hit the offender be he man or dog.
They have occasionally peppered one an-
other's calves in that way, as for the dog
his body is pretty well protected by the
bag, and stuffs inserted therein and if a
stray pellet hit him in the nose or leg, it
seldom stops him and only makes him
more wary on future expeditions.

There was a drover who frequently
drove cattle or sheep from Belgium to
France—there were no railways in those
days they all had to foot it—he was a
dealer in a small way, he never had but a
few heads of cattle or a small flock of
sheep, but he was apparently doing fairly
well and his dealings with the custom
house quite satisfactory. It turned out
in the end that if his cattle trade did not
amount to much he carried on under
cover of it another far more lucrative if
not quite so legitimate. He had no one to
help him but a dog called Mouton.
Mouton was very well trained. In front of
the custom house he would go round the
animals barking and snapping at them to
bring them all in a bunch for the inspec-
tion of the officers; they all admired his
cleverness and seeing him so intent on
his business never suspected anything.
But he was shy and surly and would not
let any one but his master approach him.
The fact is the drover had most ingeni-
ously invested Mouton with a false skin,
and between the true and the false skin
a great deal of valuable lace could be
concealed. It is said of people who wear
wigs that they only succeed in deceiving
themselves, but Mouton had one all over
his body for years before he was found
out and that only happened by accident.
One day as the officers were inspecting
the cattle, Mouton had a fight with an-
other dog, and before his master could
interfere, holes had been torn in his wig
and the "cat came out of the bag," at any
rate the lace did. After that the drover
and dog were seen no more. My inform-
ant was a custom house officer, a fellow
passenger I met accidentally on a French
railway years ago, but he could not tell
us what became of the drover, he fancied
that having carried that game success-
fully for many years before he was de-
tected he had earned enough to be inde-
pendent and retire.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

West York.

MEETING AT THORNHILL.

A public meeting in the interest of Mr.
Wm J Hill, the Reform candidate for
West York, was held in Victoria Hall,
Thornhill, on Tuesday evening. The
chair was filled by Mr. T. Lane, and the
speakers were Mr. Russell, Mr. Hill, Dr.
Gilmour and Mr. Rowell for the Liberal
party, and Mr. Harvey and Mr. Neville
for the opposition.

Ex-Warden Russell was the first to be
called to the platform. He briefly re-
ferred to Mr. Hill's past record as a pub-
lic man, stating that for six years he had
done excellent services as an alderman in
Toronto, and that in January last the
electors in York township were pleased
to return him as their representative by a
majority of over 500. He bespoke for him
the support of the electors of West York
on the 26th of June.

Mr. R. O. Harvey was the next
speaker. He advocated a reduction in
the members of the Legislature, thought
that one member was sufficient for the
county of York, and that the members
should not be paid more than \$300 a
year. He thought that the Government
House should be abolished, and that the
Legislature should not meet oftener than
once in two years. He would abolish
the fee system and pay all officials by
yearly salaries. He believed that Sher-
iffs, Registrars, etc., should do the work
themselves, and not employ deputies. He
was also in favor of the granting of the
liquor licenses being put back into the
municipalities. He found fault with the
Ontario ballot, claiming that it was not
as secret as that of the Dominion.

Mr. Hill followed, and made a rattling
speech in favor of the Mowat adminis-
tration. He combated the arguments of
the previous speaker at almost every
point, and the great majority of those
present were evidently in favor of his
contentions. He thought it absurd that
the Legislature should meet only once in
two years. Referring to the proposal to
take the license department out of the
hands of the government, Mr. Hill said
he would rather suffer defeat at the com-
ing election than to have the licenses re-
vert to the municipalities. Mr. Harvey,
said the speaker, told you that the money
paid back to the municipalities out of the
license fund was less than under the old
system, but he did not tell you that the
Government had reduced the licenses
from 6,000 to about 3,000. Mr. Hill

contended that in 22 years it had not
been shown that the Mowat Government
had ever taken a dollar illegally out of
the public chest. The Parliament build-
ings in Toronto had been built with
scarcely any extras, whereas the Lange-
vin Block in Ottawa cost \$300,000 more
than the contract price, and the Curran
bridge more than \$240,000. In reference
to the sectarian cry Mr. Hill denied
most emphatically, as some people had re-
ported, that he was ever a member of the
P. P. A. "I stand upon a platform that
was laid down more than 1500 years ago,
and that platform is 'do unto others as
you would have others do unto you.'" Mr.
Hill was loudly cheered at the close of an
admirable address.

Mr. Neville followed. He did not like
certain remarks about lawyers made by
the last speaker, and retorted that law-
yers were just as honest as contractors or
builders. Mr. Neville, however, felt satis-
fied that whether Mr. St. John or Mr.
Hill was elected, West York was sure of
having a respectable gentleman for its
next member. The same, said he, might
be stated relative to the character and
ability of Mr. Meredith and Sir Oliver
Mowat. Mr. Neville took up the greater
part of his time in reading and discussing
the Muldoon affidavits as published in
the News a week ago. He claimed that
the documents showed that personation
had taken place at the last general elec-
tion in Toronto, but he was not prepared
to say that the Reform candidates,
Messrs. Tait and McDougall, were aware
of the fact. He prophesied that Mr.
Mowat would be defeated on the 26th of
this month.

Dr. Gilmour was greeted with round
after round of applause when he took the
platform. He was in excellent spirits,
and seemed to thoroughly enjoy criticiz-
ing the remarks of his opponents. He
complimented West York in the selection
of their candidate, and spoke of Mr.
Hill's good ability and sterling worth.
In Mr. St. John's case, said he, the man
sought the constituency, whereas with
Mr. Hill, the constituency sought the
man. The doctor caused much laughter
by showing the different platforms which
Mr. Meredith had constructed in order
to get into power. In 1879 he had a tim-
ber policy, in 1883 he tried the "Facts
for Irish Electors" to make the Catholics
believe that the Mowat Government were
their oppressors. In 1886 he tried the
Ross Bible, in 1890 Equal Rights was
the principal cry, and now in 1894 by
the assistance of the P. P. A. he tries to
make the Protestants believe that Mr.
Mowat is granting favors to the Roman
Catholics. The doctor closed with a
strong appeal to the electors of West
York to support Mr. Hill and the Mowat
Government.

Mr. Rowell was the last speaker. He
gave an excellent address, although the
hour was getting late. He ridiculed the
Muldoon story, which had been bottled
up for four years, and was brought up
merely as an election cry. He showed
Muldoon, the acknowledged personator,
to be an ex convict from a New York
prison, and thought that his word could
not be believed.

The meeting closed with cheers for
Mr. Mowat and Mr. Hill.

BIRTHS.

Brown—At Victoria Square, on Saturday, the
9th of June, the wife of Edmund Brown, of a
daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Hudson—Denton—On Monday, June 11th, 1894,
at Broadway Methodist Church, Toronto, by
Rev. J. C. Speer, Charles Hudson, of the C.
P. R. Superintendent's office, to Lily,
youngest daughter of the late William
Denton, all of Toronto.

Maple

On Wednesday evening, June 6th, the "Coral
Builders" Mission Band held an entertainment
in the Methodist church. At the close of the
programme Miss Maggie Johnston read an ad-
dress, and Miss Ada Gordon presented Mrs.
Browne with a Bible and Hymn Book. Mrs.
Browne was completely taken by surprise, and
replied feelingly.

On Friday evening a social was held at the
parsonage, when Mr. and Mrs. Browne were pre-
sented with an address and a piano lamp by the
Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor.
Much regret is felt at having so soon to part with
the pastor and his wife.

On Sunday the pulpit of the Methodist church
was occupied in the morning by Rev. S. Miller,
and in the evening by Rev. R. B. Starks, both of
Pennsylvania, U. S.

Miss Annie Craddock is visiting friends in
Aurora.

Mr. J. Q. Iyer is taking a trip through western
Ontario.

A great many of our villagers attended some
of the sessions of the Pittsburg Synod held in
the Lutheran church.

Rev. J. Shunk and family are here from the
States visiting friends.

Strayed or Stolen.

A dark sorrel mare with white star on fore-
head, strayed or was stolen from the 14th con. of
Vaughan on the Sunday night of the big storm.
The owner Mrs. Barnett, is anxious to hear of
the mare's whereabouts. The mare may have a
colt by her side now. Any information concern-
ing her may be sent to either Mrs. Barnett, or
Rev. J. A. Lunlap, Sherwood, Ont. 49-2

MISS F. M. BROWN,

Teacher of the Piano and Organ, Dufferin
Grove, Richmond Hill.