

Parlor Games

Now that the long evenings are with us, why not provide for home amusement of some kind. We have just received a complete assortment of all the old favorite games and some new ones as well, such as:

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DURHAM CHRONICLE

W. IRWIN, Editor and Proprietor.

Durham, Nov. 17, 1904.

SANCTUM SIFTINGS.

The re-constitution of the Cabinet, desirable though it may be is not going to destroy the parasites of the party, and the only way to get rid of them is to turn out the whole outfit as a purifying process. Some may cling to Mr. Ross as a good capable and honest administrator. However true the supposition may be he has an extremely bad following and the "barnacles" on the old ship will destroy its usefulness. "It's time for a change."

The season has been busy and the rush is not over yet. The Dominion elections are now off and the chances are that a Provincial contest will be on in a few weeks. The Ross Government is in a quandary and they are figuring now on some plan by means of which they may be able to secure a majority vote and continue to hold the reins of government. Thirty-two years is a long time for any one party to guide the helm of state, and however much it may seem like an old chestnut "It's Time for a Change."

The municipal councils will have a good crop of aspirants except in town here where there's no pay attached to it, and where we have sometimes to go begging for men to fill the positions. Even here we should get the best men the town has, men who are not afraid to do their duty, even should they run a chance of being turned down at the next election. Get good men, and give them a good moral support. The election of trustees is not considered as it should be and the choice of men should be duly considered in this as well as the other elections.

This too is the year to elect the County Councillors, and the fields are full of ambitious fire crackers who would like to shine at the council board. We hope there will be no force in connection with the nomination of good, honest honorable and capable men for the position. There are plenty of them to be found but the better candidates is not the kind to foist themselves on the public. Only a man of ability, judgment and commonsense should be elected to a position involving such responsibility. There's nothing definite yet about who'll be in the field, but the men whom we choose should be men of character and ability.

The Convention of the party to be held next week in Toronto, will likely produce a platform of some kind to land the party in power, if at all possible. This with a sanctimonious whim for purity in politics, and an extension of morals in society will be the trump card of the hypocritical and dying government. It believes every elector to remember the rottenness of the past decade and remove the administration from control of the treasury benches. It isn't necessary to go over the whole catalogue of crimes the Ontario outfit is guilty of, nor should it be necessary to remind the electors that Ross himself has proved his deception, and is preparing another bait for a similar outrage. "It's time for a change."

There seems to be no definite action by the Liberals on the choice of a Candidate to contest the riding of South Grey at the next general election. Dr. Mearns is spoken of, but we understand is not likely to accept the honor. Reeve Morice of Normanby, is another man whose name has been frequently mentioned and a man who is able to command a good following in his municipal contests. Neil McCannel of Glenelg is a good straight honest fellow as far as we know, but how he would run where he is not known is a question we can hardly answer. Rumor has it too that J. D. Morgan would like to try conclusions single handed against Dr. Jamieson, Mr. McNichol's candidature in the last election he regards as a handicap against his success and with a lone hand for the Liberal vote he is reported to have confidence in his winning power. David McNichol and Gilbert McKechnie have also been named but we are not authorized to say they have any intention to enter the fight. Mr. Ramage, Editor of the review, is another good man, and might like to take a crack at it. He's quite a talker and right up in politics, has a deaf ear and blind eye to the defections of the Ross Government, and has a paper of his own to boom his election. He may be a little thin in the skin, but he won't be long in politics till he has a chance to get it thickened up.

The Liberals have no scarcity of political timber, and will no doubt make a hard fight for the constituency.

A RECORD MAJORITY.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's majority, tho' large, is far from being the record in the history of the Dominion. In 1878 Sir John Macdonald swept the country even more effectually than on the occasion of Sir Wilfrid's victory in the election just won. Sir John came back to Parliament with a majority of 86, not 68, as is strangely asserted in many periodicals. The detailed figures are:—Ontario—63 Conservatives, 17 Liberals. Quebec—48 Conservatives, 17 Liberals. Nova Scotia—16 Conservatives, 5 Liberals. New Brunswick—5 Conservatives, 11 Liberals. Prince Edward Island—5 Conservatives, 1 Liberal. Manitoba—5 Conservatives, 1 Liberal. British Columbia—4 Conservatives, no Liberals. Total—146 Conservatives, 60 Liberals.

At the first division in the session of 1879 the figures were:—136 Conservatives, 51 Liberals—majority, 85; and the Speaker in the chair. That remains the record in the Canadian House.

STRAY SHOTS.

(Solomon, in the Shoe and Leather Journal.)

ALWAYS THE SAME. Said a policeman once, "the friends I value are those who stand by me even when I am wrong." This is all right in the sense that when a man makes a mistake or meets with misfortune it is a poor friend who quits him. To call that friendship however ever that sticks to a man "through thick and thin" when he is wrong and bent on wrong doing is a libel on the relationship. The man who sticks to a friend who is doing wrong is an accessory after the fact and when that wrong is against society or the state is a compounder of felony. To expect men to stand by you in evil is not only colossal cheek but an outrage on common decency. There is a friendship which "loveth at all times,"—which stays with a man in adversity as in prosperity, which backs him through good report and ill and believes in him when others doubt, but it is based on something broader and deeper than personal or political interest. A true friend if we are worthy the friendship is the highest and noblest possession a man or woman can have.

WATCH THE BEGINNINGS.

It is easy to get into a fracas, but usually hard to get out. Some men would give their ears if they could have the chance over again to keep out of trouble. "The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention before it be meddled with." Beware of the beginning of strife. Pocket of your feelings and let little things go that might lead you to unnecessarily quarrel with your neighbor. The quarrel with your neighbor. The best law firms to-day advise clients to keep out of court and devote themselves to promoting settlements of disputes. No one can tell where a quarrel once begun will end. Close friends are by misunderstanding and

strife driven farther and farther apart until the universe can hardly hold them. Ninetenths of the bitterness and animosity of the world never have existed had men had sense enough to avoid the beginnings of strife. Don't let your dignity or your "rights" lead you into differences with people. No man should lie down and let people walk over him, but the woods are full of the incendiaries who are doing the devil's work in promoting discord and hatred in the world.

BEWARE OF THE SCRAPPER.

The quarrelsome man is a crooked man. The fellow who is always blabbing about his rights will ride roughshod on his neighbors if he gets the chance. You never met a man yet who quich to stand up and fight for his honor every time he fancied it was impugned who was not at heart a liar and a cheat. The man who is honest does not go chasing up every blatherskite who says he is not all wool; the fellow whose word amounts to anything does not get excited and want to kill every man who calls him a liar. There are some people who love strife more than they love the truth and who habitually go about like an Irishman with their coat tails trailing on the ground, spoiling for a fight. "He loveth transgression who loveth strife." The man who is fond of fight will usually adopt any means to establish his contention. "Everything is fair in love and war," and so men throw conscience, fairness, charity and everything else to the winds to come out on top. "That man is a born out fighter," and usually you may say also that he is a pig headed, cantankerous idiot who will not stop at anything to be able to maintain his pugilistic reputation. Beware of this tendency to scarp.

TAKING BUMPS.

You can't knock sense into some people's pate with a baseball bat. After you have given them a good straight crack they will spend all their time discussing the way the message has been delivered and imputing motions to the person who has delivered it. When you get a good straight tap on the head, don't stand rubbing the spot and finding fault with the fellow that hit you. Ask yourself what it means and what the business you had standing there when you got it. In every riot it is the fools who stand and look on who get done up by the policemen's club. Get out of the way of sinners and then judgements will not fall on you. Instead of criticising Solomon and sneering at his philosophy, quit some of these things that he hits. Every time you find a man who is sore on the question of what some one says about his wickedness you have a rascal or a fool—in the one case a fellow who will not quit his villainy, in the other one who will not forsake the company of those who made light of evil. Remember this: "A reproof entereth more into a wise man than a hundred stripes into a fool." How do you take your bumps? Do you quit the evil thing or hate those who are interested enough to rebuke you?

HAND IT AROUND.

Don't be ashamed or afraid to say kind things. There are some people who look as though they had been caught sheep stealing after they give away to an impulse to be pleasant. Kindness is not weakness. There is no danger of over production upon this line. There is a market for all the bright looks and good wholesome pleasantness that he turned out. People go to bed hungry every night for a gentle touch or a helpful word. Men and women are laid at rest in the cemeteries every day, who would a thousand times rather had a few thoughtful tokens of good will when living than all the flowers that have been heaped upon their caskets. Hand out kindness and see the joy it will bring you as well as those at the other end of the transaction. "Pleasant words are as an honey-comb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones." Get away from the idea that pleasant words should only now and then be thrown out like a bone to a dog. Carry a full casket and be generous. It will beat the widow's curse and flour barrel at spontaneous reproduction.

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GET OUT OF THE WAY.

When some of the mean old screws who jerk their thumbs over their shoulders and thank God they are not as other men are lined up with some of these so-called riff raff on the judgment day they will find how much bigger some of these dispised ones look in the light of the Great White Throne than they. The reason some of these outcasts never get nearer to Christ in this world is that there are such a horde of snivelling pharisees hanging to His skirts that they can't get their cry for mercy within earshot. We read in the New Testament that when the four brought the palsied man to be healed they could not get near Christ for the press. It has been the same ever since. If the church could shake off the incubus of self-seeking, narrow-minded, small-souled hypocrites who occupy the uppermost seats of the synagogues and sicken the angels with their scant and chicanery the publicans and sinners would fall at the Saviour's feet. You mosquito-seul-ed, chicken-livered, make-believe camp-follower of Christ quit your double life and get down to the principles of the Kingdom or take your carcass out of the way of those who need the grace of God and are pausing because you hinder them.

CARD OF THANKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE:

Dear Sir,—I beg to earnestly thank, through your columns, my good friends who so splendidly worked with me in the recent Election and those, too, who voted for me. I also thank the electors generally for their kindness and courtesy to me during the campaign.

Yours truly,

Hanover, Nov. 7. H. H. MILLER.

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