

The Ballots Were Not Spoiled.

(From the *Fergus News Record*.)
A great deal of censure and not a little abuse has been heaped upon the heads of certain Deputy Returning Officers, notably those of polling sub-divisions number two, Arthur Village, and number three, West Luther, because of their having marked upon the back of the ballots the figures printed opposite the voters' name on the voters' lists and thereby, as alleged, spoiled all the ballots cast at these divisions. But it turns out after all that although the marking of the numbers on the back of the ballots was an error of judgment it was not a fatal one; and consequently had Mr. Plumb been counted in by the County Judge, he would assuredly have been counted out again upon the case being carried to the superior courts. This is a question that has been fully considered and clearly settled years ago. In the Russell election Mr. Baker received a majority of the votes cast; but upon a recount the County Judge threw out a great many ballots because of figures improperly placed upon them by deputy returning officers. A petition being entered the case was carried to the superior court and tried before the late Chief Justice Moss and Vice-Chancellor Blake, who rendered judgement as follows: "It appears that the deputy returning officer endorsed upon the back of the ballot paper the number which appeared upon the voter's list. Under the act of 1874 that would, I apprehend have been a fatal objection to the validity of the vote, but the Act of 1879 (42 Vic. c. 4) was passed for the very purpose of remedying that difficulty. That statute while still rendering the ballot papers invalid if marks are placed upon other than the proper marks, contains this saving clause: 'But words or marks corruptly intentionally or by mistake written or made by the deputy returning officer on the ballot paper shall not void the same.' I am of opinion that this case upon the evidence comes clearly within the proviso that where the mark is made by mistake of the deputy returning officer the ballot paper is not voided, but the vote is entitled to be counted. The language of the Legislature is plain that, under such circumstances, it did not intend that the act of the deputy returning officer by whatever motive he may be animated, should have the effect of destroying the franchise."

The wisdom and fairness of this judgment was never questioned. It stands upon the legal records of the Province to-day, and is accepted alike by bench and bar as a correct settlement of the question raised. Indeed it is an interpretation of the statutory law that commands the endorsement of the law of common sense. If the object were to show that secret voting had proved a failure, and that the ballot is a snare and a delusion, then the rejection of ballots because of blunders (or worse) by deputy returning officers would be a strong point. And, indeed, we freely confess the suspicion that not a few of the difficulties that have arisen in connection with the counting of ballots might if thoroughly investigated be traced in some degree to prejudices upon the part of officials to that system of voting, and who in consequence are none too anxious to simplify and smoothly work out the ballot system in the manner intended. But that ballots cannot be invalidated intentionally or through error of judgment on the part of deputy returning officers is clearly established by the judgement of Chief Justice Moss, which was fully concurred in by Vice-Chancellor Blake, a judgment which, though rendered years ago has never yet been questioned or overridden by any Judge elevated to a seat upon the Superior Court Bench.

Sudden Death.—The Georgetown *Advertiser* says: It is our painful duty to announce the death of Johnnie Turner, Scotch block, a lad 12 years of age, which took place on Saturday, 15th inst., after suffering intense agony. A week previous he was taken to his bed and on Monday, becoming worse, doctor Bennet was called in. He pronounced it an abscess on his leg and treated accordingly. He continued to grow worse, and on Saturday morning his cries of pain becoming unbearable, the doctor gave him some medicine to make him sleep, from which the poor little fellow never wakened. The real cause of his death was found out on Sunday, when his little brother remembered that one evening when he was walking on top of the board fence his foot slipped and he fell astride the fence, receiving injuries which resulted as above.

A very sad accident occurred on Wednesday last week, on the 8th concession of King, John Cooper, was turned to death. It appears that while Mrs. Cooper was out milking, the child had been playing with matches and set fire to its clothing, and on the return of Mrs. Cooper she found her child lying on the floor burned almost to crisp. Much sympathy is felt for the bereaved parents.

One of the best answers an infidel ever received was made by an old lady to whom he remarked that he didn't believe in a God he couldn't see. "Do you believe you have any brains?" she asked. "Of course," was his reply. "Did you ever see them?" The answer came faintly, "No." "Did any one else ever see them?"—and the controversy came to a sudden close.

Among those who were drowned at the terrible disaster on the Ohio River on the 4th of July were Mr. E. P. Smith, formerly a resident of Welland, and his three children. He was an expert swimmer, but in endeavouring to save his family he lost his own wife.

One of the finest buildings in Western Ontario will soon be reared on the corner of John and King streets in Hamilton. The buildings will include the Custom House, Post-office and Inland Revenue Department.

Through carelessness in opening a can of powder in the outskirts of Chicago upwards of a ton of gunpowder was exploded. The shock was terrific, but fortunately no one was killed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The prohibition amendment has been declared carried in Iowa by nearly 30,000 majority.

The man O'Brien arrested in Venezuela for connection with the Phoenix Park murders turns out to be an imposter.

The Russian steamship "Mostaway," with 200 men on board, is thought to have foundered with all hands in the Indian Ocean.

The growth of tea cultivation in India is steady and progressive. Some 6,000 acres more are devoted to tea-gardens every year. Last year's crop is estimated at 40,000,000 lbs.

A woman and two children became lost in the woods near Berry station, Michigan. One of the children and the mother died. The other child was found sitting beside the tree.

Biliousness.
A furred tongue, bad taste in the mouth, nausea vomiting, variable appetite, alternate diarrhoea and constipation, flatulence, yellow cast of eyes and countenance, serious bilious trouble. Jaundice is a dangerous disease, it is an overflow of bad bile in the circulation, any of these symptoms should be treated without delay, and Burdock Blood Bitter is the remedy upon which you may surely rely.—1829

Nearly fifty deaths occurred in New York from the heat on Tuesday week.

The Wild Strawberry plant possesses rare virtue as a cleansing, cooling, astringent, antiseptic, tonic, diuretic, emollient, and when combined with other valuable vegetable extracts, as in Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry, it is an unfailing remedy in all bowel complaints.—1829

A Union is being formed in New Mexico and Arizona for the purpose of "wiping out" the Apaches.

Davy & Clark Druggists, Renfrew, writes us June 4th: "We have sold Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry for a number of years, and find it equal to it for the purpose for which it is desired." Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry cures all forms of bowel complaints incident to summer and fall.—1829

Tantah, the scene of the late outrages, may become an important strategical point, and a rallying centre for Arab's followers. It is the capital of religious fanaticism in Lower Egypt, and is, besides, the capital of the Gorreeh provinces in the Delta. The city is fifty-four miles north of Cairo, on the Cairo & Alexandria Railroad, and is the third city in Egypt. Its population is variously estimated at from 60,000 to 100,000 souls.

REST IN PEACE to the STUFFING

"Brown's Household Panacea" has no equal in the market for internal and external. It cures Pain in the Side, Back, Head, Throat, Rheumatism, Toothache, Lameness, &c. &c. It will most surely quicken the Blood and Heart, as the Liver, and of the strength of any other Elixir. This Liniment should be given every family handy for use when there is need for a strong and rapid cure for Cramps in the Stomach and Limbs, &c. &c. It is good for all Diseases and Complaints incident to old age, &c. &c.

DURHAM DIRECTORY.
TRINITY CHURCH.

Sabbath services at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. S. H. Ashby, B. A. pastor Church Wardens, H. Parker and H. W. Mockler.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Divine Service every Sabbath at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sabbath School at 2:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting every Wednesday evening at 7:30. Bible Class every Thursday evening at 7:30. Rev. Wm. Park, pastor.

KNOT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Service every Sabbath in the Town Hall at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sabbath School at 2:30 p.m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30. Rev. Wm. Park, pastor.

C. C. METHODIST CHURCH.

Service every Sabbath at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sabbath School at 2:30 p.m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30. Rev. Wm. Park, pastor.

S. G. REGISTRY OFFICE.

Thomas Lander, Registrar; John J. Munro, Deputy Registrar. Office hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MECHANICS INSTITUTE.

Town Hall—open every Friday evening from 7 to 9 o'clock. Annual fee \$1. Alex. Robertson Librarian.

POST OFFICE.

Office hours from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Archie McKeon, Postmaster.

DURHAM LODGE NO. 303 OF A. F. & A. M.

Night of Meeting, Tuesday or before full moon, to meet at the Lodge between 7 and 8 p.m.; Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m.; Friday meeting at 8 p.m.

GRAY LOUNGE NO. 103 I. O. O. F.

Night of meeting every Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Fellow Hall. Visiting or dinner welcome. Merritt Cochrane, N. G. Wm. A. Rose, Secy.

DURHAM L. O. L. No. 632.

Night of meeting, on or before full moon in each month. Wm. A. Anderson, Secy.

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