

THE WHIG—68th YEAR.

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EDW. J. B. PENSE, PROPRIETOR.

THE DAILY WHIG.

Opiter per Urbem Dicitur.

DIVERSITY OF VIEWS.

The prohibition convention, which met in Toronto on Tuesday, did not accomplish very much. If the occasion demonstrated anything it was the diversity of views which prevailed.

A great many ideas were expressed in resolution and speeches favouring straight prohibition, the referendum with new conditions, and a bill without the referendum—but the bulk of them were rejected by an overwhelming majority.

The Montreal Witness, answering its critics, warmly endorses the referendum as it stands, observing: "A referendum vote recently taken in Ontario on an important financial issue did not draw out half a dozen voters in the most intelligent ward in the city."

The Chinese commission, after a special study of the question, recommended a head tax for three years of \$300 and a rise of it after that to \$500. That means exclusion, says the Chinese retaliator.

Rev. Mr. McAmmond has reconsidered the matter and decided to serve the Perth church for another year if the conference approve. The man is worried still by the Syracuse scandal. Like Banquo's ghost it will not down.

The Atlantic Pulp and Paper Company, whose factory is at Ray of Chabour, calculate in making 22,000 tons of newspaper a year at \$1.80 per cwt. The same article is now selling at \$2.50 per cwt. The combine must be rolling up fortunes at the present rate.

A motion of want of confidence in the legislature? Yes, and because the Ontario government has not forced the federal house to regulate the rates for carrying agricultural products on the railways. Things are going awry with the Ontario opposition.

The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario railway is a popular enterprise, and means the making of New Ontario. It will tap millions of acres of agricultural and woodland and make its resources available. The opposition leader cannot claim the scheme as his as he appears to know very little about it.

The Tory says "a little healthy agitation within the ranks of a party is frequently the sign of that vitality which is the point of victory." Hence the Tory has been kicking a little on his own account.

CALL TO MR. CAMERON.

The Whig congratulates John Cameron, of London, upon his appointment to the office of postmaster. Mr. Cameron is one of Canada's veteran journalists. While yet a very young man he launched the Advertiser, that stalwart of journalism which has done so much for the party and for the people in the moulding of public opinion.

Thursday Thoughts. This is a good year for rubbers, though they may not be of the Good-year brand.

According to the Telegram—which knows of course—there is not a daily paper in Canada, with one exception, which is in favour of prohibition. Can you guess the exception?

The Ontario liquor license act is a by-law fixing the hours each evening when the bars should close, if it was desired to provide for it in the general statute. That is now the law in force in Scotland, and in many parts of England, and it has been successful.

Mr. Whitney, marshalled all his anti-federalists, including Joseph Haycock and others of his class, who were not conservatives, and that important clause without more ado drew her out of the house. Mr. Hardy had to withdraw it or have his government resign.

Common gratitude, as well as sound policy dictates that we remember the fifty-nine men who stood by us in our extremity. If the liquor men have ever expressed a doubt since of where Mr. Whitney stands, let them be notified.

Accused of Forgery. Cape Town, Feb. 27.—The princess Radziwi, accused of issuing notes to which the signature of Cecil Rhodes had been forged, has been arrested on the charge of forging Mr. Rhodes' signature. She was remanded for a further hearing, and, afterwards, released on bail.

Grecian's Captain Suspended. Halifax, Feb. 27.—Decision is given in the stranding of the Allan line steamer Grecian. The certificate of Capt. James Harrison was suspended for three months and the certificates of the mates were not interfered with.

Italy Takes Energetic Steps. London, Feb. 27.—A despatch to the Times from Rome says the Italian government is taking energetic measures for the preservation of order, and warships have been ordered to Naples, Leghorn and Genoa.

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WHITNEY ON PROHIBITION

THE WHIG'S ENQUIRY HAS BROUGHT AN ANSWER.

He Will Be a "Straddler"—Facts That Many Have Overlooked—Quite An Interesting Arrangement.

Kingston, Feb. 26.—(To the Editor)—I received your issue of the 25th, and am constantly making editorial enquiries and enquiries as to what will be Mr. Whitney's position in regard to the Ross prohibition bill, when the time comes for her to speak out.

1. Just previous to the general provincial election of 1894 the late Louis P. Kribs published the Advocate, a paper exclusively in the interest of the liquor-makers and liquor dealers. The Advocate at that time assured its friends that Mr. Whitney could be relied on to stand in with them, and should have their support.

2. After the election the Advocate assured its friends there would be no advanced temperance legislation during that legislature as enough members pledged to prevent anything of the kind.

3. A short time after, when Mr. Meredith resigned the conservative leadership, and Mr. Marter was named leader, the party declared that it was unfair to make a prohibitionist, like Marter, the party leader, as the party had done so much for the liquor interests.

4. In June, 1897, the Ontario liquor license protective association was held in Hamilton and the officers' annual report was presented. That report strongly endorsed the acts of Mr. Whitney and his friends in opposing the protective legislation.

5. In the license protective officer's report, just referred to, it is said, "The bill was not satisfactory to the temperance organizations were advised by wire and by letter of this new clause, and instructed of what action to take, and then the siege began in the house."

6. Then were given the lists of how the members voted, and the officers then point out who were their friends, including Mr. Whitney, and the leading conservative opponents of course. Then came this suggestion about the support of the men who stood by them in their "extremity."

7. Mr. Whitney was often asked at public meetings—not by the liquor men—what was his position. At a meeting in Dundas in July, 1897, he gave this reply, according to the Mail report: "The next government (his of course) would act as common sense and public opinion told them to do, and they would do it with all their might."

Driving Accident. Smith's Falls World. While Mrs. H. A. Lavell and Mrs. T. G. Macalister were enjoying a pleasant drive the horse took fright and started at a much faster pace than was necessary. He lost his footing and fell heavily, and the occupants were thrown out. Both ladies were slightly injured.

PRINCESS OFA'S FUNERAL.

An English Missionary Officiated, By Special Request.

Victoria, B.C., Feb. 27.—News was brought from Tonga by the steamer Minerva of the death of princess Ofa, of Tonga. Before the king's marriage with Lavinia it was generally considered that Ofa would probably be the lady to whom the king would throw his handkerchief.

In Memory Of McKinley. Washington, Feb. 27.—Congress laid aside all business and devoted today to paying fitting tribute to the memory of the late president. The scene of the memorial exercises was the hall of representatives where both branches assembled at ten o'clock to listen to eloquent memorial addresses.

Playful Spouse Hangs Wife. Red Island, Ill., Feb. 27.—A celebration following a christening in the south-western part of the city to-day came near ending in a tragedy. While the hilarity was at its height one of the merry-makers, a large and powerful man, seized his contrived wife and carried her into the yard. Finding there a piece of rope, he placed one end of it about her neck, and, throwing the other over the limb of a tree, he proceeded to take her out of the ground. Then he went back into the house and confided to a number of his friends the nature of the joke he had played on his better half.

Golden Jubilee Of A Church. Santa Rosa, Cal., Feb. 27.—The first Baptist church of this city, the fourth oldest church of its denomination on the Pacific coast, to-day began a three-day celebration of its golden jubilee. Fifty years ago the church was organized, the first service being held beneath a spreading oak on the Hudson ranch, seven miles from this city.

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GRAVEDIGGER'S MISTAKE. Wrong Plot Opened For Burial of a Blacksmith. Greenwich, Conn., Feb. 27.—A grave digger's grave mistake caused consternation among a group of mourners yesterday, when the body of Henry Brautages, a blacksmith, was about to be buried. Had the mistake not been discovered just then the dead blacksmith would have been buried alongside some other's in a grave of close to the grave of his own wife.



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