

The British Whig



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Defective School Book: A Whig representative, interested in locating the some of the recent steamship accident, turned up a new Ontario school geography and failed to find Father Point upon it.

Church should not be in politics: "The church should not be in politics," says one who has been reading the resolutions of church conferences and meetings in favour of temperance reform.

Conciliation in Order: A Board of Conciliation has been formed in the city, at the instance of the mayor, and last night it had its first meeting and elected its officers.

Divorce case has been cast out of the commons because the members did not know the case.

Slums of Dublin: The word "slum," whatever its origin may be, is a word of disagreeable associations and suggestions; it tells of congested district, with dirty, crowded houses, and wretchedness that is partly a result and partly a cause of wretchedness.

Women and Their Rights: The women of lowly men, who want their possessions or rights for the good they may do with them, have an eloquent pleader in the Rev. Mr. Campbell.

Public Opinion: Same Kind. Toronto Globe. The Calgary oil wells are not in the same class as guahers with the Calgary oil brokers.

Tax Reform in Toronto: Mr. Farmer will have strong support in the north-west riding, a district where the inequalities of the assessor weigh as heavily as anywhere in the city.

Poor Policy: Hamilton Herald. Whitney's immigration policy crowd...

preacher, did not condone or approve of the silly and destructive work of the British suffragettes, but he felt that they were contending, though in the wrong way, for a principle, and that eventually they would triumph as they deserved to do.

A preacher in Windsor, J. C. Tommie by name, gives up the ministry, and a salary of \$3,000 a year, to become the candidate for the legislature. He is a champion of temperance, and is willing to make sacrifices for the cause.

STRIPPED OF THEIR DISGUISE. G. Howard Ferguson has been properly denounced in the commons, where his report on the Trent Valley canal affairs was read a while ago.

Mr. Guthrie is to be thanked, by the government and opposition alike, for the exposure he has made of the alleged investigator. The precise nature of his commission is not known, but it was surely never meant that he should distort statements, suppress facts, and refuse evidence which would have had the effect of putting a new face on some matters he discussed.

Let it be remembered that this is the report for which Mr. Ferguson was paid a pretty penny by the Dominion government, the report which, in its reference to the Peterboro members of parliament, and others, has been so indignantly repudiated, the report which Ministers Hughes and Reid declared reflected without cause on the superintendent of the canal and his assistant, Hewitt.

A whole sheaf of affidavits was put in by Mr. Guthrie, from persons referred to by Mr. Ferguson, denying what was said of them by him, and particularly the charge that some moneys, unaccounted for by the superintendent of the canal, had gone into the treasury of the liberal party.

He was the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee in the last local parliament, and all through the term of that parliament acted in a high-handed and arbitrary way, refusing liberals the opportunity they wanted to probe certain suspicious accounts.

He was also the chairman of the special committee which was appointed to investigate Hauna and his corrupt dealing with a certain public contractor. He has been stripped of his disguise, of what remained of it, by Mr. Guthrie, and stands revealed as a partizan of whom even his own party appears to be now ashamed.

There was an appropriateness and a compliment in Mr. Nickle's request that Ald. Harrison represent him at the Salvation Army memorial meeting. The appointment was generally appreciated.

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Church union is not seemingly so near as it was some time ago. It has suffered through the delays in bringing it about, though the purposes of union are as clear and essential to-day as ever they were.

The progressives of New York state are urging Mr. Roosevelt to give up hunting in the jungles of South Africa, and run for the governorship of the state. He had better not. He has been president and he cannot afford to contest for a smaller office and not get it. It may be that the state needs him, as a hunter of vicious politicians, but they have votes, and may kill him before he lines a gun on them.

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tion of an intelligent and patriotic civic authority, been reduced to 2,000, and the good work goes on.

On the 16th of April last there was a debate in the British house of commons that brought into clear light the fact that Ireland has problems that are quite as important as the political question of home rule.

The Irish members were asking for financial help to deal with this question in Dublin. Lord Robert Cecil declared: "The case against Dublin is not that it has slums, but that they are infinitely worse than in any other city in the United Kingdom."

One quarter of the population live in one-room tenements. One of the members for Dublin admitted that there are 20,108 families living in one-room tenements of the old style mentioned above. According to one housing expert "there are 8,000 people living six in a room; 5,000 living seven in a room; 3,000 living eight in a room; 450 living ten in a room; 176 living eleven in a room and 60 living twelve in a room. In one of these tenement houses which had been divided the two parts being known as No. 10 Front and No. 10 Block, and in them lived 107 human beings."

"In Dublin 259 persons per 1,000 lived in single rooms. In Belfast the number was only 3 per 1,000. We have no means of checking these figures, but they were given on the floor of the house and in presence of the Dublin representatives. Can we wonder at "Larkinism" or even wider agitation, under such conditions.

Many of these houses are owned by members of the corporation who seem to have been lax in applying the law and altogether remiss in their social duties. No doubt T. P. O'Connor was clever in his description of the unionists as "the new Christopher Columbus" who had discovered the slums of Ireland, but we all know quite well that the slums of Dublin and other great cities do not need discovering. What needs discovering is the best method of dealing with a grave situation.

Mr. Burrill set his face against the proposal to give cheap houses so that wages might be kept low in Dublin. One element of difficulty is that some of these people object to be disturbed and are suspicious of efforts made for their improvement. We can make these comments all the more freely because we sympathize with Irish aspirations towards local self-government. But, after all, political constitutions are a means to an end, and the way in which they work depends upon the character of the people.

Taking the most sober estimate the slums of Dublin are evidently one of the great blot on the beauty and fair fame of the Irish nation. So long as they continue to this extent they show that both church and state have failed in their highest duties. Surely it would be a great thing if some of the energy spent in political conflicts and religious wrangles could be devoted to intelligent social service.

EDITORIAL NOTES. The president of the Liberal Association of Ottawa resigns office because he is not in accord with Mr. Rowell on the temperance question. He has three liquor stores.

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ed the cities last winter with idle men whom the citizens had to support. He is continuing the same policy to-day.

Difference Between Them. Hamilton Herald. In the debate on the bill for the relief of the Farmers' bank depositors, the opposition has the best of the argument, but the government has the best of the count.

Questioning the How. Syracuse Post-Standard. The British empire must prepare itself to answer the question: Shall a lady murderer be dismissed from jail because she declines to take her bacon and eggs for breakfast?

But it Won't. Montreal Star. Now that the senate snuff-box is gone—a symbol of the anachronistic habits of that assembly—perhaps the senate itself would go next and thus accomplish its patriotic act.

Told to Go. Exchange. The Parry Sound Tories have also told their late representative that he is no longer wanted, and that he have chosen W. Joseph Edgar instead. The split in the party seems to be spreading.

Kingston Events 25 YEARS AGO. The past week has been one of great anxiety about the crops. First the gale then the frost and then heavy rains, but the country has emerged from it all better than was expected.

Hymns were sung in the Anglican churches on Sunday from the newly authorized hymn books. The Kingston cricket club has made a great many engagements with outside teams.

An Inside Story. Canadian Courier. W. F. Nickle, M.P., for Kingston, is being lauded to the skies by the liberal papers. They say he is a hero. "Billy" is entitled to a better fate. To be praised by his enemies and hammered by his friends is the unhappiest experience any member may have.

The conservatives are now whispering that "Billy's" condemnation of the Canadian Northern lobby will not hold water. It appears that there is only one real vigorous lobby put up in the House of Commons this year, and that was for a bill which stood in the name of W. F. Nickle, M.P., it provided for the dominion incorporation of a life insurance company operating under provincial charter in Winnipeg, and when it came before the committee of the house, which deals with such matters in detail, the members heard from several quarters that the company was not worthy of the privilege being extended to it. Hence the bill was thrown out and so reported to the house. A Toronto weekly newspaper was largely responsible for the opposition.

But Mr. Nickle was not content with that result. He, so the story goes, interviewed cabinet ministers and buttoned-holed members, and the bill was again referred to the committee a most unusual proceeding. Curiously enough, though the opposition was still as strong as ever, the bill went through, with the proviso that the charter would not issue unless W. T. White, minister of finance, should say so. This was a peculiar decision. Any one can see at a glance that the situation is decidedly unusual, and one might add, unparliamentary.

Of course, his fellow-members do not desire to be unkind to "Billy" Nickle, who is generous and considerate ninety-nine times out of one hundred. But this "holier than thou" attitude got on their nerves a bit, and they are quietly coming to their own defence.

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FIREMAN GETS FORTUNE. Southern Pacific Employee Willing \$165,000 by Uncle. Los Angeles, June 3.—A fireman on the Southern Pacific named Jack Henderson was the recipient of a telegram yesterday from William Travers Jerome telling him he was sole heir to the estate of his uncle, George J. Rooney, of 134 1-2 West St., Brooklyn, valued at \$165,000. Henderson will succeed to the

Birthdays Note. TUESDAY, JUNE NINTH. The Hon. Charles Dalton, father of the black fox industry in Prince Edward Island and now member without portfolio of the Mathieson ministry, was born sixty-four years ago today at Tignish, P.E.I. He was an early life a farmer and later a merchant. The story of how he made a fortune out of raising black foxes is one of the most romantic in the annals of modern industry. A litter of foxes came into his possession some years ago as a sort of curiosity. Knowing that the pelts of silver black animals were commanding high prices in the fur markets, he determined to experiment in raising the little creatures in captivity. He worked secretly and after several years of effort began to realize extraordinary profits. After a time he could no longer conceal his source of wealth and though he was at first refused to sell live animals, he was at length compelled to dispose of them and thus began the general industry of black fox raising as it is now carried on in P.E.I. Also born to-day: H. Sexton, principal of the Nova Scotia Technical College, born New Boston, N.H., 1873. A. E. Donnet, civil engineer, born Montreal, 1860.

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