

means of Candidates are insufficient to meet the requirements of electoral constituencies; and that recourse is had to millionaires more or less interested in the greatest enterprises of the country—such as Canals and Railways. It is evident that a great evil is spreading over the entire area of our young Dominion, which can only be checked by an electoral law of a more repressive character than that now in force. It is true that several good measures have been proposed through the medium of the press and on the floor of the House with a view to remedy this state of things; and we sincerely hope that Parliament will at the earliest opportunity not only adopt them, but that it will proceed even further: 1st. Every elector should be compelled by law to cast his vote, and, 2nd. he should be prohibited from conveying any other elector to the polls; the whole enforced by distress or by imprisonment. It may be objected that such a law would violate the principle of personal liberty. True, as long as the present system of nomination is continued; but with the abolition of this formality, obligatory voting would only enforce the duty devolving upon all citizens to exercise their franchise at every election. Under such a law, Conventions might be held and candidates nominated by political parties, while every elector would be at liberty to vote for either one of the candidates so selected, or any other individual of his own choice.

D. GIROUARD.

Montreal, 1st Sept., 1873.