

## The Governor and His Ministers.

### Powers and Prerogatives of the Crown.

(By an Ex-M.P.A.)

#### A POLITICAL INCIDENT RECALLED.

The spring session of the Legislature in 1881 was marked with warm discussions in the Government ranks about poor relief. An indiscreet utterance of the Prime Minister (Hon. John Kent) brought matters to a head. The strife in the Government was so keen that there certainly would have been a split even if no untoward event had not happened. Mr. Kent, in his place in the House of Assembly openly accused Governor Bannerman of conspiracy with the judges, the lawyers and a number of the House to defeat the poor relief Bill fixing the value to be given to sterling money in the payment of official salaries.

#### MR. ROBINSON'S ATTITUDE.

Judge Robinson, of the Supreme Court, had always contended that the law could only mean British law, i.e., dollars at 4s. 2d. It had been the practice to use two sterling coins, one a colonial sterling dollar at 4s. 4d. and another designated a dollar sterling at 4s. 2d. His Lordship Mr. Justice Robinson petitioned the House against the passage of this Bill, arguing his claim to be paid his salary in British sterling. In his debate on the question, Mr. Hugh Hughes (there were no "Knights" of the realm here in those days), leader of the Opposition, stated that Mr. Kent had not consulted his colleagues before replying to an accusation to which the Governor took exception. Mr. Hughes contradicted him, and said he did in his usual curt and irritating manner. "He consulted me," said the ex-Attorney-General. "Then," he consulted you," replied Mr. Hughes. "He would be sure to put his foot in it."

#### THE MINISTRY DISMISSED.

However, the accusation in question appeared in the newspapers and the Governor wrote to the Colonial Secretary asking for an explanation. Mr. Kent replied that he did not consider an account of this utterance as a member of the Legislature to his Excellency. Immediately on receiving this communication, Sir Alexander Bannerman dismissed his Ministry and called upon the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Hughes) to form a new administration. Mr. Hughes selected his Government and announced its formation to the Assembly.

#### DISSOLUTION AND GENERAL ELECTION.

The House was immediately dissolved, and a general election took place in April, 1881. The result confirmed the position of political parties. No one could doubt that Sir Alexander was fully justified in dismissing the Premier and his Ministry under the circumstances, he (the Premier) having refused to withdraw or apologise. The Hon. Thomas Talbot ("The Protector of the Judges"), one of the most able and contented officials in the public service says, in his short history of the colony: "No Governor fit for the position would have taken any other course than the one adopted by Sir Alexander Bannerman."

#### AN EMINENT AUTHORITY'S OPINION.

Let us see what the Earl of Halsbury, Lord High Chancellor of England, practically from 1885 to 1905, has to say regarding this matter of dismissal. In volume seven of "Laws of England," under section 72, I find the following:—

"The Sovereign may legally dissolve the Ministry at any time by discharging it, but the exercise of this power is not to be asserted by the personal wishes of the Sovereign in opposition to the wishes of the Parliament, and ultimately of the electorate, is clearly."

#### COOL, SOOTHING, HEALING

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Just the thing for sunburn and insect bites. Invaluable for relief of irritation.

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recognized as a unconstitutional; though in cases where the Ministry still retains the confidence of the House of Commons, but the Crown has reason to believe that the latter no longer represents the sense of the electorate, the dismissal of the Ministry, or the dissolution of Parliament, would be constitutional; and cases of emergency might conceivably arise where, through the unfitness or incapacity of the Ministry, the exercise of the power of dismissal would be constitutional, justifiable and proper, in order to prevent the adoption of "It is, however, a clearly recognized course of action ruinous to the nation."

ed constitutional principle, that, though in dismissing his councillors the King may seem to be acting independently and without advice, there is no act of the Crown relating to public government for which some person is not responsible to Parliament, and that in all cases the incoming Ministry are constructively responsible for the dismissal of their predecessors.

"Under the modern usage, though nominally dismissed by the Crown, the Ministry are in reality dependent upon the goodwill of the House of Commons for their continuance in office, and the exercise of the power of dismissal is rarely required. An adverse vote in the House of Commons upon a Government measure may be said to be invariably followed by resignation of the Ministry or appeal to the electorate by dissolution."

"The continuance of the Ministry in office is also dependent ultimately upon the goodwill of the electorate, and where, upon a dissolution the latter declares itself against the Government by returning a majority opposed to its policy, it is usual for the Ministry either to resign immediately or to await an adverse vote in the new Parliament. In some instances, however, the resignation has been deferred until Parliament has met and a vote of want of confidence has been passed. Anyway, the Crown is justified in dismissing a Ministry in whom it feels unable to repose confidence or for want of ability or fitness."

#### WHAT DICEY SAYS ABOUT IT.

In his "Introduction to the Study of the Law of the Constitution," A. V. Dicey, K.C., Hon. D.C.L., observes:—"There are certain combinations of circumstances under which the Crown has a right to dismiss a Ministry who command a Parliamentary majority, and to dissolve the Parliament by which the Ministry is supported. The prerogative, in short, of dissolution may be constitutionally so employed as to override the will of the representative body, or, as is properly called, 'The People's House of Parliament.' This looks at first sight like saying that in certain cases the prerogative can be so used as to set at naught the will of the nation. But in reality it is far otherwise. The discretionary power of the Crown occasionally may be, and according to constitutional precedents sometimes ought to be, used to strip an existing House of Commons of its authority. But the reason why the House can in accordance with the constitution be deprived of power and of existence is that an occasion has arisen on which there is fair reason to suppose that the opinion of the House is not the opinion of the electorate. A dissolution is in its essence an appeal from the legal to the political sovereign. A dissolution is allowed, or necessary, whenever the wishes of the Legislature are, or may fairly be presumed to be, different from the wishes of the nation."

"Now, then, it is by 'constitutional' we mean 'in conformity with the fundamental principles of the constitution,' we must without hesitation pronounce the conduct of Sir Alexander Bannerman constitutional, that is, in conformity with the principles of the constitution as they are now understood. He believed that the country did not approve of the policy pursued by the House of Assembly. He was right in this belief. No modern constitutionalist will dispute that the authority of the House of Assembly is derived from its representing the will of the country, and that the chief object of a dissolution is to ascertain that the will of Parliament coincides with the will of the people. As a matter of fact, the right of dissolution is the right of appeal to the people, and thus underlies all those constitutional conventions which, in one way or another, are intended to produce harmony between the legal and the political sovereign power."

#### VOTING POWER OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

Speaking of an appeal to the electorate reminds me that things are widely different from what they were

(Continued on Page 12.)

# Something Different Every Week

## —at The Royal Stores—

The merchandise at The Royal Stores continually changes from week to week, owing to the rapidity with which the bargains are snapped up by the thrifty shoppers. This rapid turnover of stocks also ensures that fresh, clean goods are always being offered.

NOTE THESE VALUES FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

### Newest Costumes Materials

All Wool Gaberdines. 56 inches wide. Fine lustre finish, medium weight, suitable for costume and light coats. Colors of Fawn, Brown, Navy and Black. Special per yard. **\$4.70**

Sedan Costume Cloth. 54 inches wide. Fine satin finish. Colors of Fawn, Navy, Mole, Brown, Navy and Black. Special per yard. **\$4.30**

Dress Gingham. 27 inches wide, assorted pretty checks, plaids and stripes in popular washing colors. Reg. 35c. yard. **22c.**

### Stamped Linens

Pillow Cases. White linen. Size 20 x 36 inches. Pretty stamped designs ready for working. Reg. 25c. each. **\$2.75**

Cushion Tops. Tight Crash Linen. Sizes 18 x 24 in. Assorted Stamped floral. Reg. 25c. each. **21c.**

Table Centres. White Cotton. Linen finish. Size 18 x 18. Stamped ready to work. Reg. 22c. each. **19c.**

Huckabuck Towels. White Linen. Size 16 x 27. Pretty designs on ends of working. Scalloped and Hem. Reg. 55c. each. **56c.**

### Splendid Values in Hosiery

Women's Silk Lisle Hose. In white only. Sizes 8-12 to 10 in. Elastic tops. Spliced feet. Reg. 78c. pair. **78c.**

Women's Cashmere Hose. Light weight. All wool hose. In Black only. Fashioned ankle and leg. Soft finish. Fast dyes. Size 9 x 9-12. Reg. 85c. pair. **84c.**

Child's Cotton Sox. In colors of blue, pink and white. Strong heels and toes. To fit children of 4 to 6. Reg. 24c. **24c.**

Child's Cutie Sox. 16 Dozen pairs in white with fancy colored tops. To fit children of 4 to 15 years. Spliced feet. Reg. 35c. pair. **30c.**

### GLOVES

Women's Silk Gloves. In colors of Grey, Fawn, Brown, Black and White. Sizes 6 to 7 Double tipped. 2 Domes. Reg. \$1.25 a pair. **\$1.13**

Women's Suede Finished Gloves. In colors of Chamade Brown, Grey and Black. Sizes 6 to 7. Reg. \$1.20 a pair. **\$1.05**



### A Clearance Sale of Children's Dresses

A big stock of Children's Gingham and Cotton Dresses in Striped, Checked and Plain Colors. Tastefully trimmed with fancy edging. Buttons and contrasting colors. To fit girls of 3 to 12 years.

Reg. \$1.50 each	<b>\$1.25</b>
Selling for	<b>\$1.39</b>
Reg. \$1.65 each	<b>\$1.42</b>
Selling for	<b>\$1.57</b>
Reg. \$1.70 each	<b>\$1.78</b>
Selling for	<b>\$2.10</b>
Reg. \$2.10 each	<b>\$2.35</b>
Selling for	<b>\$2.50</b>
Reg. \$2.50 each	<b>\$2.75</b>
Selling for	<b>\$2.85</b>

### Smokers Companions

Neat nickel cases; the reliable Pipe Cleaners. Reg. 30c. each. **27c.**

### New Marquisettes

Over 1000 yards of handsome Marquisettes—white grounds with dainty embroidered spot designs in assorted colors. These goods are 36 inches wide and come in short lengths ranging from 1 to 4-1/2 yards. 70c. values. **SELLING FOR 35c.**



### Special Offers in Women and Children's Wear

#### Poplin Shirtwaists.

Fitted with adjustable high or low collar, white grounds with beautiful striped designs; all sizes. Reg. **\$4.50**

#### White Blouses.

In Voile and Linen, round, square and V shaped necks, long or short sleeves. Reg. \$1.50 each. **\$1.25**

#### Paisley Jumpers.

Strong Cotton Jumpers made of hand-loomed Paisley pattern cottons; round neck and half sleeves; fitted with hip-per bands; all sizes. Reg. \$1.00. **85c.**

#### Women's Corsets.

Stylish sport models for slim or average figures; sizes 21 to 26 inches; free hip, short boning, elastic. These Corsets are made of strong Pink Cotton; four elastic suspenders. Reg. \$3.00. **\$2.75**

#### Women's Rubberized Coats.

Fashionable Tweed Raincoats in assorted colors. The Cloth has been treated with Rubber and is perfectly waterproof. These models are dubbed "breasted," they have large turned up Reverses with belted waist and sleeves. Reg. \$28.00 each. **\$25.35**

#### Jabot Collars.

Dainty designs in Silk and Georgette. All white. The popular styles for wearing with costumes. Reg. \$1.45 each. **\$1.20**

#### Children's Nightgowns.

Made of high grade White Flannelette, trimmed with Pink and Blue galoon trimming; to fit children of 4 to 14 years. Reg. \$1.10 each. **95c.**

#### Camisole Embroidery.

12 inches wide. Fine grade cambric with dainty solid and Eyelet Embroidery. Ribbon banding at top and bottom. Reg. 75c. yard. **66c.**

#### Quick-on-Veils.

In very pretty designs. Black only. No knots, no pins, no trouble. Under and Over. "It's on in a tick." Suitable for Walking, Cycling, Golfing and Motoring. Anywhere and Everywhere. Reg. 50c. each. **45c.**

### COTTON BLANKETS

#### Soft, Fluffy, Californian Cotton

Blankets, with Pink and Blue Borders. Warmth without weight.

Size 50 x 72 Reg.	\$2.55	pair for	<b>\$2.33</b>
Size 60 x 76 Reg.	\$3.15	pair for	<b>\$2.93</b>

#### Infant's Cradle Quilts.

Swadown in Blue and Pink. Size 30 x 40. Reg. \$1.10 each. **95c.**

#### Infants' Cradle Blankets.

Size 28 x 37. Blue and Pink Borders. Reg. 90c. each. **75c.**

### MEN'S WEAR SPECIALS

#### Men's Cashmere Socks.

6 Dozen Pairs only. All wool Cashmere Socks in colors of Navy, Dark Grey and Black. Sizes 10 to 11 in. 2 Steeple brand. Assorted Ribbs. Reg. \$2.00 a pair. **\$1.75**

Men's Ties. 20 Dozen, Finest Silk Finished Cotton Ties in a variety of beautiful colorings. Wide Flowing Ends. Navy with White Polka Dot, etc. Reg. 45c. each. **39c.**

26 Dozen of Plain and Fancy Silk Ties. In very effective color designs. All the fashionable shades are represented. Wide Flowing Ends. Reg. 70c. each. **62c.**

#### President Braces.

The most satisfactory brace made for ordinary wear. The Sliding cords provide for the distribution of strains. Strong, Cable Cord Fasteners. Good Elastic Webbing and Nickel Buckles. Reg. 75c. a pair. **69c.**

#### Men's Shirts.

Well fashioned Shirts made of Silk finished Dimity and Percale. Sizes 14 to 17 in. Light grounds with Blue, Helle and Green Stripes. Reg. \$2.30 each. **\$1.95**

#### Men's Shantung Shirts.

In White only, with Neck Collar attached. Buttoned Pocket. Sheer Finish. Sizes 14 to 16-1/2. Reg. \$2.30 each. **\$1.95**

#### Boys' Sport Shirts.

Made of strong Twill Khaki. Sizes from 12 to 14 in. Double Stitched Seams and Button. Reg. \$1.50 each. **\$1.25**

#### Smart Hats for Fall

This is an opportunity to buy nifty Headgear for men and boys. Whether it is a hard or a soft felt, a Tweed Cap or a Boys' School Cap, you'll find your needs anticipated at The Royal Stores.

#### Men's Felt Hats.

Smartest shapes in Men's Soft Felt Hats. Each fitted with a leather sweat band. Perfect fitting sizes. Assorted popular coloring. Reg. \$7.65 each. **\$3.50**

#### Boy's Caps.

6 Dozen only. Smart Tweed caps for Boys. In an assortment of light and dark colorings. Strongly lined and well finished. All sizes. Reg. 75c. each. **65c.**

### Bargains in Men's Boots

400 pairs Men's Boots in Vici Kid, Box Calf and Mahogany Calf. All have Goodyear

Wells. Reg. \$12.00 values for **\$6.95**

50 pairs Gun Metal Boots. Sizes 6 to 9-1/2. Rubber Heels and Thick Soles. Reg. \$16.50 a pair for **\$8.75**

50 pairs Black Vici Kid Boots. Blucher Cut, Wide Fitting Styles, Soft and comfortable. Sizes 6 to 8. Rubber Heels. Reg. \$13.30 a pair for **\$7.30**

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### New Arrivals in Hearth Rugs

Axminster Hearth Rugs. Size 27x54. Assorted beautiful color designs. Plain Hemmed Ends. Reg. \$5.75 each. **\$5.15**

Tapestry Hearth Rugs. Size 27 x 54. Latest designs in assorted beautiful color schemes. Plain Hemmed Ends. Reg. \$3.50 each. **\$3.10**

### Bargains in Flannelette

White Flannelettes. American make. 27 inches wide. Soft downy finish. Reg. 37c. yard for **27c.**

Colored Flettes. 36 inches wide. Assorted colors with striped designs. Reg. 37c. yard for **33c.**

Blouse Flannelettes. In short lengths. 27 inches wide. Light and dark patterns. Length from 3 to 6 yards. Reg. 37c. yard for **33c.**

### Household Linen Specials

Linen Sideboard Cloths. Made of fine grade white linen. Embroidered with dainty floral designs. Hem-stitched borders. Reg. \$1.85 each. **\$1.35**

Lace Curtains. 3 yards long. Taped edges. Fine Nottingham lace nets in assorted scroll and floral designs. Reg. \$5.60 a pair for **\$4.85**

Turkish Towels. Made of strong substantial Turkish towelling. Size 21 x 43. Colored stripes and fringed ends. Guaranteed to give hard wear. Reg. 49c. **49c.**

Tea Caddy Pads. Large Sizes. Well padded with cotton batting. Good Sateen covering in colors of Sage Green, Red, Yellow and Pink. Reg. \$1.00. **\$1.00**

Linen Tea Cloths. Strong white Linen Teacloths with neat embroidered Corners and wide Hemstitched Borders. Size 36 x 36. Reg. \$1.95 each. **\$1.50**

### Smallware Values

ALUMINUM CRUT SETS—Pepper, Salt and Mustard. Reg. 55c. set for **44c.**

DARNING WOOL—In Black only. Reg. 10c. **10c.**

WAXED PAPER—24 sheets in a roll. Size 12 x 18. Reg. 12c. rolls for **10c.**

RUBBER BALLS—Solid rubber. A limited number only. Reg. 5c. each for **39c.**

CELLULOID SOAP BOXES—In colors of Green, Blue and White. Reg. 45c. each for **38c.**

NAIL BRUSHES—With extra heavy bristles. Reg. 12c. each for **10c.**

JAM POT COVERS—For 2 lb. jars. 12 covers and wax tissues. Special per pkt. **6c.**

NAIL BRUSHES—In small and large sizes. Plain and colored wood backs and heavy bristles. Reg. 15c. each for **13c.**

ALUMINUM CUPS—Full Sizes. Reg. 17c. each for **14c.**

RUBBER GLOVES—For House work. Reg. 5c. pair for **38c.**

### Great Sale of Canvas Shoes

This is an opportunity to buy Canvas Shoes at a saving. We are offering as fine a selection of Canvas Shoes with Rubber Soles as you could want to find. Owing to their late arrival these shoes are offered at extremely low prices.

CHILD'S WHITE—Sizes 6 to 10. Price per pair **\$1.15**

MISS TAN—Sizes 11 to 2. Price per pair **\$1.30**

MISS WHITE—Sizes 11 to 2. Price per pair **\$1.30**

#### Boys Cotton Blouses

A clearance sale of well made Cotton Blouses for boys of 3 to 8 years. These Blouses will give long satisfying service.

Prices run **57c. to \$1.80**

# The Royal Stores, Ltd