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SATURDAY JANUARY 5, 1895.

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

*"I must have liberty,
Withal as large a charter as the wind—
To blow on whom I please."*

TORONTO has, according to the reports which have arrived from that "unco guid" city, been governed by boodling aldermen. It has been said that "every man has his price," a statement to which I do not hesitate to take exception in its broadest sense. Nevertheless, in that Sabbath-observing and well-ordered community which resides on the shores of Lake Ontario and constitutes what is known as the Queen City, there are a number of public men who, it seems, have sold themselves and the interests of their city for monetary considerations. These persons have not been placed on trial before the courts of justice, and the terms thieves and rascals should not, therefore, be applied to them. But if in due process of law before the courts of the land they shall be proved to be such, all honest men will hope that the extreme penalty will be meted out

to them. It has frequently been asked, both here and elsewhere, if public men serve their fellow-citizens for naught. It may safely be said that many of them enter into public life with the sole desire to benefit the community; but there are others—judging from the experiences of Toronto, some of whose aldermen have pleaded guilty by running away—who cannot be described other than as boodlers of the most virulent type, who are, in fact, worse than the common footpad, who is a respectable man in comparison with them, as he makes no pretension to being other than what he really is.

The large number of gentlemen who are offering themselves as candidates for seats at the council board is a safe indication that there will be a hot contest. For the mayoralty, it looks as if the present incumbent would be elected by acclamation. Ald. Munn and Ald. Wilson have been mentioned in connection with the chief civic honor, but so far no definite action has been taken by either of these gentlemen. As the time is almost too short to make an effective fight, it is quite probable that Mayor Teague, who is a strong man anyway, will be permitted to preside over the council board for another year.

Of the new men who aspire to write "Ald." before their names, are mentioned E. A. Lewis, John McMillan, Ed. Bragg, John Hall, John Kinsman, Wm. Allan, J. C. Blackett, D. McNaughton, M. Humber, H. E. Levy, A. J. McLennan, John Partridge, John

Jardine, S. L. Kelly, Wm. Prout and Hedley Chapman. It is also probable that nearly all, if not all, the members of the present council will seek re-election. The people, in pondering over the foregoing list, should congratulate themselves on the fact that so many men may be found with sufficient public spirit as to devote a large portion of their time to the good government of the city.

"R. J. Musgrave" is the extension of "R. J. M.," the long distance champion of the now famous "beater" party in Saanich, where the shooters were beaten by the birds; and not being able to dispute the position I took (which was distinctly understood to be applied to this country) he tries to be funny, but his fun is of that elephantine type that one sees in *Punch*, and which seems perpetrated only to make one feel tired and sleepy. Then too, (another sign of a bad argument), he takes advantage of his distance of six thousand miles away to give a man the lie, or doubting his word which is much the same thing. Seeing the source this emanated from, perhaps it would be as well not to take too much notice of it. It also would not be the act of a gentleman to cast doubt on the accuracy of the statement about 3,500 or 4,000 pheasants this season killed by single shots in a party of which "R. J. M." was a member. These and other little points showing a poor defence might as well in kindness be let alone. "Sport" in the Old Country is evidently better suited to this domestic indi-