

CONSISTENCY, thou art indeed a jewel in politics. Here is N. Clark Wallace himself going in for a "combine." He has just sailed for the Old Country, where, he brazenly announced ere starting, he intends to combine pleasure with business.



THE DOG OF WAR.

NEW GERMAN EMPEROR.—"Now, if I could only see someone to 'sic' this dog on to!"

CHRONICLES OF THE COMBINE.

II.

AND it came to pass, that when the great dealers in Mount Royal, and throughout the land, had entered into covenant with Georgius and had set their seals unto the roll whereon were inscribed the names of those joined unto the sect now called the Combine,

That there arose in the assembly one named Hartius Lockius, a merchant of the city, who loved more the sound of his own voice than the souls of the people, and thus spake:

Men and brethren, have we not on our rolls the names of all the great dealers in granulate, both here and throughout the land, all save two or three stiff-necked fellows, whose days are numbered?

But there be in the combine those who sell in small measure unto the household, and unto the families of the people, yea, even the scribes and workmen. Harken, therefore, men and brethren, for this is not right, nor according unto the laws of trade; nor according even unto Hoyle; for are they not inferior unto us, that they should buy from us first, and then sell unto the people in smaller measure?

But if they be of the combine they may go straight unto the refinery, and there buy, and we be thus shorn of our just dues, and be laughed to scorn by them.

Wherefore, let us cast them forth from amongst us, that they may as aforetime be constrained to buy from us, at our own prices. And it was even as Hartius Lockius said.

And the people at the street corners did mock them, and did say, "Aha! Lo, ye counted yourselves among the great ones, even the combiners, and behold your combs have been cut," and they did laugh with exceeding great noise.

And it came to pass that there arrived great ships from the land of the covenant laden with granulate for James Adams, the son of Mathews, and Boundlightly, and the

fame thereof spread throughout the land, for it was said the granulate of Georgius is it not partly glucose?

But lo! these men have brought from a far country better merchandise, and it is not subject to the laws of Georgius and his fellows; and the dealers who had been cast forth by Hartius Lockius raised their heads and did smile.

But Georgius, when the tidings were brought unto him, rent his garments, and called unto him the members of the combine and said,

Have we not agreed together to fix the values of granulate as seemeth good unto ourselves; and the guild answered as one man, it is even as thou hast said, oh Georgius!

But lo, these troublesome fellows, James Adams, the son of Mathews, and Boundlightly, have they not brought from the land of the covenant great cargoes of granulate wherewith to supply the dealers in the valley of the Ottawa, and Gananogue, and the Trent; yea, even those in our own city whom we cast forth, and who now make a mock at this great Guild?

Wherefore let us straightway lower the price of granulate one twentieth, that ye be enabled to sell unto these small dealers for less than this which is brought from the land of the covenant is sold; thus shall these stiff-necked fellows be delivered into our hands.

And then shall we raise the prices, and there shall be none to deter us; and the small dealers and the people shall be unto us as clay in the hands of the potter, and the combine cried with a loud voice, even as one man, "Long live Georgius;" and his countenance waxed shiny, and he pulled down his vest.

Now when the news was come unto the ears of the small dealers, they cried out, We are undone; for of a surety now shall Georgius add unto the granulate greater measure of glucose, and there shall no more come from the land of the covenant!

THE MODERN AUTOCRAT.



A MAN who from the dunghill springs
By pulling deftly party strings,
Or by mere chance;

And who authority assumes,
Tho' foul as yet with stable fumes,
Will bid at once

That all the rest of human kind
Be to his thoughts and words resigned
To jig or dance.

And thinks himself without a flaw,
The wisest man the world e'er saw
Encased in pants!

This would-be Czar is never slow
To dictate and to clearly show
His arrogance.

He has a head so ill defined,
And off the hinges all behind,
With skyward glance,

He'll pass his betters quickly by,
His nasal organ pointing high
To heav'n's expanse.

Oh pity him beneath the rule
Of this uncultivated mule
Whose ignorance

His every word and action show,
For better manners he should go
Away to France.

W. W.