

## The Planet

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MONDAY, MARCH 16.

## AN EFFECTIVE DEFENSE.

The local organ of the Ross administration, the Chatham Banner—or News, as it now styles itself—has entered a most effective defence, on behalf of its party leaders, to the terrible charges of Mr. R. R. Gamey, M. P. P., of Manitoulin, made on the floor of the Legislature, that four Ministers of the Crown, Messrs. Stratton, Gibson, Latchford and Ross were concerned in a conspiracy to bribe him to forswear honor and prove treacherous to his constituents.

The Banner says the strong responses it makes can be regarded "as presumptive evidence of the weakness of the Gamey charges," and for this reason The Planet enumerates them, it being the desire of this great home journal to give both sides a full and fair hearing.

The Banner disposes of the charges as follows. The quotations are verbatim:

1. "Mr. Whitney cannot open his mouth in the House without offense and even his followers are restive and rebellious under his displays of amperous temper and the lashing of his fishwife vocabulary."

2. "There is just a possibility that Gamey may end his career in a penitentiary."

3. "During all the years Jeremiah Whitney has been in the House he has never done anything but carp. As a fault finder and political bravo he is a success."

4. "The readers of Mr. Willison's paper will smile to read that Gamey should be the Hercules chosen by Providence or any other agency to clean alleged Augean. It is a broad and lofty pedestal on which to place a political pigmy like Gamey."

Upon these four powerful and fair-minded articles of defence the Banner effectually acquits Mr. Stratton and the Ross administration of all charges against them.

What do the people think about it all?

## LINES OF DEFENCE.

Says Mr. Willison, late editor of the Globe, and life-long friend and colleague of Premier Ross:—

How familiar are the preparations of many of the Government's apologists to break the force of Mr. Gamey's attack. The Liberals in the Legislature profess a lively fear lest they should be suspected of voting to whitewash a Minister. On no account could they invite this suspicion, and therefore the charges must go to a judicial commission. If the investigation were undertaken by the Committee on Privileges and Elections partisan considerations might be traded to the advantage of Mr. Stratton. The thought is abhorrent to the champions of the Government. Then Mr. Whitney, in the rough and ready, plain spoken and rather vehement language for which he is distinguished, has harked back to the West Elgin scandal and made a distinct appeal to that spirit of partisanship which is so repugnant to friends of the Ministers. This, we are told, is calculated to inflame the public mind against the methods of a school of Liberal politicians, and unfit the Legislature for unprejudiced action and independent judgment. The Gamey charges, it seems, must be coldly and dispassionately examined in that calm and judicial spirit which characterizes Liberal partisans in political crises.

Mr. Whitney ought to perceive that the only reason which influences the Government to pass over the Committee on Privileges and Elections is that the charges may be exhaustively investigated, and no guilty man permitted to escape. This is to be accomplished by providing a judicial tribunal which is limited to the letter of its instructions, and while it may require witnesses to attend, cannot compel them to answer questions which may involve liability to prosecution, as against a Legislative committee which is not restricted in its scope, can investigate particular charges and follow other charges arising in the process of the enquiry, compel witnesses to attend and testify and order imprisonment for contumacy.

The insinuation that the Ministers would even dream of "playing with loaded dice" is denounced as bad form, and as not characterized by that sweet and pacific temper which should be exhibited by men who believe, whether rightly or wrongly, that they have been cheated out of their rights in the constituencies and that some of their associates have been offered vulgar cash payments for their support in the Legislature. They have the bad taste also, following the vicious example of Liberals at Ottawa, to question the adaptability of a judicial commission to investigate transactions which compromise the honor and dignity of Parliament, and which the genius of the British constitutional system defines as the strict business of Parliament and its committees. It is further suggested that if Mr. Whitney had used language which seems to assail the judg-

## Nothing Tastes Good

And eating is simply perfunctory—done because it must be. This is the common complaint of the dyspeptic.

If eating sparingly would cure dyspepsia, few would suffer from it long.

The only way to cure dyspepsia, which is difficult digestion, is to give vigor and tone to the stomach and the whole digestive system.

Hood's Sarsaparilla cured Mrs. Frances Blodgett, Pembroke, Ont., Benj. Webb, Clinton, Ont., and W. A. Nugent, Belleville, Ont., all of whom suffered greatly from dyspepsia. Mrs. Blodgett writes, "I am fully cured"; Mr. Webb, "It worked like a charm, restored a healthy appetite and toned my whole system"; and Mr. Nugent, "I cannot praise it too highly for the good it has done me."

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**  
Promises to cure and keeps the promise. Don't wait till you are worse, but buy a bottle today.

es, then a commission of judges ought to be instituted in order to show at least the Ministerialists are jealous for the honor of the Bench, and deeply grieved at the generous scope of Whitney's oratory. Further, Mr. Stratton is a Minister of the Crown, and Mr. Gamey, the whisper goes, is not a very reputable person. If he were a sensitive and high-minded man he would, like Mr. Sutherland, of Oxford, have spurned approaches, have struggled with a conspiracy to rob him of his seat by purchased evidence, and be branded in strictly parliamentary language as a liar, if he should hint at the generous desire of the Liberal agents to effect his political conversion through the delicate agency of commercial considerations.

Of course it is not to be understood that merely bargaining with Mr. Gamey for his vote in return for the control of patronage in his constituency is censurable. Is that not the very method that a sensitive British statesman would adopt to acquire political support? We should treat the fact only as evidence of the presence in our councils of that dominant commercial spirit which is the proudest possession of the ruling race to which we belong. Is it not an outrage on British fair play to pre-judge the case upon such evidence, conclusive though it may be, while Mr. Gamey's responsibility may be in dispute, and while the actual connection of the Provincial Secretary with a cash bribe may not be clearly established? In fact, we are asked to say that trafficking with the public patronage for political support is a trivial proceeding, and that to call for the retirement of a Minister and the condemnation of a Government upon such grounds is nothing better than extreme and vulgar partisanship.

If we take this ground we actually set up the contention that there is something higher in politics than to hold office, and something more disgraceful to a Government or a party than to suffer defeat. If Mr. Gamey was mercenary, and desired to be purchased, and then weakened and turned traitor upon the agents who arranged the price and paid the cash, surely there is nothing to do but to condemn his want of commercial honesty, and hold him to account for his violation of a solemn contract. If we permit commercial engagements to be violated do we not strike at the very foundations of the na-

## Spring 1903

So many of our customers having asked us when we expect our spring clothing here, we might remind you that we've made the most extensive preparations for the coming season, that we feel sure we will be able to show you the choicest range of clothing for all ages, this season, you ever saw, and that we feel sure we will be able to please you better than in the past, which is always our aim and success. We will make a special announcement when our spring clothing is ready for your inspection.

## MEYNELL

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tional edifice? It would seem, according to this view, that the thing to keep in mind is whether or not the cash actually passed from the hands of a Minister. Nothing else counts. So long as this is not clear, we should be tender in our estimate of the vulgar transfer of patronage to one elected to oppose the Government, and of all the miserable intrigue employed to effect his change of allegiance. Let Liberals, who should be concerned only for decent government, frankly consider the tendency of all this vicious reasoning, and ask themselves if the features of Mr. Gamey's revelation, which admit of no dispute, do not condemn the Provincial Secretary, discredit the Government, and stamp with disgrace the political methods which we seem willing to tolerate in Ontario.

## DISTRICT DOINGS.

## KENT BRIDGE.

Miss Rena Langford spent last week in Chatham.

Dr. Davis has returned to London.

The meetings at the M. E. Church have closed.

Mr. Sherman Langford has started a grocery business in the store formerly occupied by Mr. A. Hubble.

A young daughter arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Langford Friday the 6th.

## RUTHERFORD.

Mr. and Mrs. James Sager gave a taffy party to a number of young friends last week.

Miss McDonald and Miss Black, of Dresden, are visiting friends here.

Mr. McPherson has purchased the east half of lot 20 in concession 8, of Dawn.

Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Healy visited friends in Bothwell last week.

Will McBrayne's little girl has the measles.

John Brown has sold his 50 acre farm, lot 21 in the 7th concession.

Mr. James Timmy has sold his farm and has bought at Aberfeldy.

Mr. Morris had a wood bee last week.

The council met here last Saturday.

Jona Webster has sold his farm.

David O'Neil is recovering from the appendicitis operation.

Allen McDonald moved his barn.

## A LINGERING COUGH

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How? Scott's Emulsion.

Why? Because Scott's Emulsion stops the irritation, soothes the tissues and heals the affected membranes.

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Heavy tapestry carpets—In hand—some new spring patterns and colorings, splendid wearing quality, large range to select from, cut and sewn per yard 50c.

Hemp carpets—In floral and stripe designs, reversible colorings, wide widths, at per yard 10c, 12 1-2c, 15c and 20c.

New Brussels Carpets—direct from the English makers. Firm, heavy quality, in good range of new patterns and colorings, cut and sewn at per yard 75c.

Heavy English Brussels Carpets—rich colorings, new spring designs, guaranteed in color and wear, body and border to match, cut and sewn at per yard \$1.00.

Best Five Frame Brussels Carpet—extra heavy, firm quality, in hand—some new designs, rich colorings, special cut and sewn at per yard \$1.25.

English Velvet Carpets—Superior quality, rich, heavy deep pile, in elegant designs, rich color combinations, body and border to match, cut and sewn at per yard 50c.

Japan matting—An immense range of new spring patterns, imported direct from Japan, lovely new colorings, the best value ever shown in the city, at per yard 12 1-2c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c and 40c.

Scotch linoleums—4 yards wide, extra heavy quality, in choice tile, block and floral designs, worth regular 65c yard, special per square yard 40c.

Floor oil cloths—The largest range of patterns in the city, 1 yard to 2 1-2 yards wide, special per square yard 25c, 35c and 40c.

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## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, at the next session thereof, for an Act incorporating a company under the name of the Chatham, Wallaceburg and Lake Erie Railway Company, with power to construct and operate a railway extending from the city of Chatham through the Townships of East Dover and Chatham and the Gore of Chatham to the Town of Wallaceburg, in the County of Kent, Province of Ontario; and also extending from the said city of Chatham in a south-easterly direction through the Townships of Raleigh and Harwich to a point on Lake Erie; also extending from the Town of Wallaceburg to the Town of Petrolia in the County of Lambton; with power to build and operate docks, wharfs and elevators and to generate electric power for lighting and motive purposes, and to make running arrangements with other railway companies.

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Toronto, Feb. 19, 1903.

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Farm in Township of Raleigh, 50 acres. All cleared. Good house and barn, \$1000.00.

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Ten acres in suburbs of Chatham, \$1500.00.

Valuable suburban residence, 11 rooms, with seven acres of land. Good stable, \$3000.00.