

“before the elections. Another story I heard was that
“the hens of a Conservative friend of mine in the
“west, influenced by the general reaction consequent
“upon the election, announced their intention of laying
“more eggs, larger eggs, fresher eggs, and more to the
“dozen than ever they had done before.”

Spiteful? Yes: “You may all remember that the
“Hon. George Brown caused to be hauled to prison
“five of the employees of his establishment, under the
“provisions of an old statute passed years and years
“ago when the rights of men were not so acknowledged
“as they are now, when men were not allowed to ask
“a fair day’s wages for a fair day’s work. I myself,
“though Minister of Justice, had supposed that that
“act was not in operation in a country of equal liberty
“like this. It was an old statute of England, passed
“in the early part of the reign of George III., and I had
“not thought that in the Province of Ontario, in the city
“of Toronto, in the midst of all our intelligence and
“advancement of the age, it would be enforced. On
“the day that I heard that this cruel act, this act of
“oppression, had been enforced, I gave notice in
“Parliament of a Bill that would prevent the continu-
“ance of outrages of the kind which had been per-
“petrated. That act was passed at once, both sides