

other journals, whether self-sustaining or subsidized by the Government, the community cannot afford to see it crushed in the interest of the Machines. Alone it is independent of the Roman Catholic power; alone it is free from the electoral exigencies which constrain party organs to countenance Provincial raids on the Dominion treasury; alone it can be trusted to speak when party organs are kept silent by their fear of votes. From fear of advertisers it may not be free, but from fear of votes it is; and this is a great thing. If the *Mail* chooses to kill itself by folly or infidelity to principle nobody will mourn it, but we must not let it be killed. Above all we must not let it be killed by methods which would turn the Press into a scene of unbridled ruffianism and mutual butchery. Has nobody any remnant of regard for the honour and interest of the profession? We heartily congratulate the gentleman of the *Empire* who was discharged by the magistrate for want of evidence. Had he been proved to have acted as a spy on his fellow-journalist for the purpose of ruining a rival journal he would have borne an unsightly mark for the rest of his days. Even apart from the point of professional honour, a man had better let anything which is not very wicked or very dangerous pass than poison social confidence and stain his own character by playing the spy.

The spectacle of Liberals in the New World hypocritically grovelling before political fetiches, of which the Old World has almost grown ashamed, could hardly fail to produce a generous reaction in less politic breasts. The Young Liberals of Toronto and the National Club of Montreal, of course, have been compared to the three tailors of Tooley Street, but the record of the three tailors of Tooley Street as originators of great movements is by this time such that nobody need be ashamed of the comparison. The worst part of the survival of the old Grit Machine is that it is training up a generation of young Liberals in compromise, subterfuge and prevarication. No young man who has imbibed Liberal principles can sincerely believe that they sanction defence of religious privilege