

The Toronto World.

No. 83 YONGE STREET, TORONTO.

Daily World, in advance, \$3 per year.
Sunday World, in advance, \$2 per year.
Telephone: 222, 223, 224. Telegrams: World.
Exchange connecting all departments.
Advertising Office: 83 Yonge Street, Toronto.
Arcade, James Street, North.
London, England, Office: P. W. Large,
agent, 145 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

THIS WORLD OUTSIDE.

The World can be had at the following news stands:
Windsor Hotel, 1001 Front Street East.
St. Lawrence Hall, 1001 Front Street East.
Peacock & Jones, 1001 Front Street East.
Walter's News Co., 1001 Front Street East.
St. Denis Hotel, 1001 Front Street East.
P.D. News Co., 1001 Front Street East.
John McDonald, 1001 Front Street East.
A. McIntosh, 1001 Front Street East.
McKay & Scott, 1001 Front Street East.
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each insertion.

PROVINCIAL ISSUES.

Fear is expressed that the failure of
the Gurney charges may be "blow-
ed" by general charges of mismanage-
ment. In our humble opinion, the dan-
ger is of exactly the opposite kind. It
is that the government, thru the report
of the commission, may escape the con-
sequences of general mismanage-
ment. The Gurney charges were made
in a sensational way, and they had the
merits and the defects of sensational-
ism. Had they been proved up to the
hilt, they would undoubtedly have
caused the downfall of the government.
They were not so proved, and we must
accept the consequences. The govern-
ment stands. But it would be very un-
fortunate if this defeat caused any re-
laxation of vigilance in regard to the
general conduct of the government, or
any weakness in criticizing its policy
on public grounds. The object of an
opposition is not to discredit any par-
ticular man and drive him out of pub-
lic life. That may be a necessary evil
sometimes, but it is to be regretted
rather than desired. The object of an
opposition is to criticize and attack the
general policy of a government, and to
substitute a better policy.

Nevertheless, it would be a misfor-
tune if gross acts of mismanagement
were to escape censure, and this is the
real danger. Take the timber deal in
which Cap Sullivan and Taylor, a high
official in the Crown Lands Office, were
engaged. As a civil servant, Taylor
was a trustee of the people of Ontario
for its timber resources. He had evi-
dently no conception of his duties as a
trustee, and this is really the worst fea-
ture of the case. He thought it was
quite proper that he and Sullivan
should buy a limit from the Province,
from the people for whom Taylor was a
trustee, sell it for \$8000, and pocket the
difference.

The danger is that a case like this
may be overlooked, simply because the
people are tired of the Gurney-Stratton
charges. The judgment in the Gurney-
Stratton case satisfies the bulk of the
Liberals, and they are told that all
other charges are merely "scandal-
mongering." The \$8000 made out of the
timber limit is not scandal-mongering.
It is proved to be the fact, admitted,
and a feeble attempt made to deal
with it by punishing a clerk. The
Kingston Whig, a Liberal journal, edited
by a Liberal member of the legisla-
ture, says: "The McDougall defalcation,
followed by the Sullivan and Taylor
escapes, are enough to arouse the
government to action and a complete
cleansing of the public service."

It is all very well to punish a clerk
who does wrong. But where did Taylor
get the notion that he was entitled
to make profit out of his official posi-
tion? We have before us the pros-
pectus of the Hamilton Cataract, Power,
Light and Traction Company, Limited.
The prospectus sets forth the
privileges that the company has
obtained from the Canadian govern-
ment. It says:

"The management of the company is
in unusually strong hands, the
Hon. John Morison Gibson, At-
torney-General for the Province of
Ontario, being president of the com-
pany.
The franchises controlled by the
company are of long duration and
favorable in their terms. The lease
from the Canadian government re-
ferred to above, runs for 21 years
with the privilege on the company's
part of two renewals for a like
time, making the entire life of the
lease 63 years. It provides for the
payment by the company during the
first 21 years of the equivalent
of \$1.00 per annum per horse-power
developed, which rate is subject
to readjustment should the rates fixed
for the renewals of the lease.

Nobody says it is scandal-mongering
to accuse a clerk of making \$4000 out
of his official position, but we sup-
pose it is nearly high treason to sug-
gest that the Hon. John M. Gibson
ought not to deal in and make profit
out of water power franchises; that
in his capacity of Attorney-General he
ought to be thinking out means of uti-
lizing these powers for the people.

But while we believe that the opposi-
tion ought to discuss and condemn
cases of this kind, we think that they
ought to adopt a broad, general policy
that will cover them all. The patron-
age at the disposal of the government
ought to be sold by auction to the high-
est bidder, as we believed until recent-
ly they were sold. If excepted cases
arise, they should be submitted to the
legislature. Water-powers ought to be
sold for the people, and the legislature

GROWNS AT THE CIRCUS

AND ALL WERE RELEASED

Forty Thousand People See Ringling Brothers' Big Show and Hurrah.

The circus attracted a matter of
forty thousand people for the two
performances yesterday. It is not too
much to say the Ringlings maintained
their reputation for as fine an exhibi-
tion as was ever given under canvas.
In smartness of detail there is nothing
like Ringling Brothers' splendid
aggregation.

The features of the show are a
mammoth pageant, combining enough
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beasts, the bands and the clowns all
contributed to a free show that is worth
seeing.

The circus attracted a matter of
forty thousand people for the two
performances yesterday. It is not too
much to say the Ringlings maintained
their reputation for as fine an exhibi-
tion as was ever given under canvas.
In smartness of detail there is nothing
like Ringling Brothers' splendid
aggregation.

The features of the show are a
mammoth pageant, combining enough
educational features to warrant the
immense crowd which lined the streets
to witness it. The gorgeous chariots,
the graceful horses, the display of wild
beasts, the bands and the clowns all
contributed to a free show that is worth
seeing.

WATERFRONT

There is endless trouble in inspecting
steamers, but one eye thinks of
inspecting the wharves," said Harbor
Master Postlethwaite when speaking of
the Lorne Park accident. "It might
have been a serious matter if the cat-
er had been a little deeper."

He thought there was little danger of
overcrowding excursion steamers of
this season. Their capacity was limited
by law; if this was exceeded the ves-
sel owners were liable to a very heavy
fine. The police had the number of
passengers allowed to every boat, and
it was their duty to see that the limit
was not exceeded. Or, of course, if
they did not do this, then the crowd
would dip there; then the crowd got
frightened and ran to the other side.
When a boat got swinging like that
she was very liable to go under, espe-
cially as most of this type of vessel
were very little water. But then the
engines, too, would tend to ballast the
boat, and, after all, there never had
been any accident.

"Not a bit of danger of overcrowding,"
said Manager Solman of his Island
Steamship Company. "Why look at the
more people they carry the safer they
are."

One official, who knows whereof he
speaks, thought Mr. Orr was not far
wrong when he criticized the over-<