#### A Political Discourse.

OPEN LETTERS TO FRED.

Continued from yesterday's Telegram. That I am a conscientous denoting the FREE man is absolutely proven by your assertion that I cannot tolerate "my own" governments in wrong doing and unless and until the whole electorate imbibe the same feelings-Heaven help us! To submit to man's oppression and believe resulting circumstances to be incurable is a blind fatalism which spells destruction. In this case you would do well to take my advicepull off your coat and help bare armed to pull this old country through instead of being a parasite on public charge. There's absolute need for a fixed number of public servantsthey are really producers-but outside of this there's a whole army fitted in and should be kicked out immediately. The present government has gone so far in this and in many other matters that we cannot but conclude past governments all have done far better than we had before realized, and if we can only get one of the old and condemned quality returned we shall do exceedingly well. "Ho! Ho! You see a chance— a recompense for hurling insultsname your man."

Certainly: Ability, foresight, and honesty.

"And you have no job in view!" he said, mockingly. "Public job I mean." "And fatten on public expense?" "Yes, if you care to put it that

You will. "Grant the plea and let it stand as

That man make men his prey Recause he must.

"Is that your poetry, I asked?"

"Whose is it then?" "I don't remember."

"You believe in its earnestness and truth." "Facts to prove its truth are universal."

"And you really believe the author meant it?"

"Most certainly." God! I said reverently, why should this old world be better than it is as long as egotistical intelligence seize upon anything and everything high and noble and abuse its meaning in such a devilish fashion!

And here mind you the fellow began to assume an air of bragadocio on the assumption that he was getting one befogged and outwitted. A silence fell and he whistled ab-

sentmindedly. "Come now," he said, looking at his watch, "you will admit that you are not much higher in classics than

myself. You can't tell me the author

of those lines, can you?" "I can indeed."

"Who was it?" "Cowper." "Now you know his name show him more respect by refusing to be no longer a party to bringing his well meant utterances to shame and disgrace. Will you premise?"

"Name them." "That you show good reasons for

"I will on conditions."

your disgust and disrespect for Mr. By insinuation, I said, you're a foul

I haven't mentioned his name in this conversation. If you mean that because I assail the government of which he is a member I assail him also then you are undoubtedly right. But will you try to understand that I assail the whole personnel of such an erring government on common grounds. Even Mr. Coaker would satisfy me if he could do but half of that which he so loudly promises from time to time, but his record is flat faffure. He has had the ten years of grace asked for in which to perform miracles and if he ever does turn water into wine he has a monppoly of the private tap at the bottom of the firkin, and there! New since you put him in my mouth I mean to say just a word or two more and for ome of it I shall quote from local history. History, says he (Mr. Coaker) has had a greater share in the financial collapse of this country than any other person living or dead. If that is respect he is welcome to it. If on the other hand it spells disgrace it's a close-fitting garment of his own making, which you with your absence of logic and blind sacrilege can never alter. He winced visibly. Then silence

followed. "Why don't you go into politics?"

he queried. "Because, I replied, in many ways am not qualified."

"You can criticize, why not be able "Now I needn't tell you I am an ardent admirer of Mr. Coaker's abilfty, yet there are ways in which you are his superior, still I could not re-

spect you much for that." "No? Name one way in which I ex-

"In breaking promises." "What about your promise pologize if you insulted me?"

"And your retirement if you irfitated me?" I said. "Let us cool down! We've both

"There should, however, be k space in the dictionary now or

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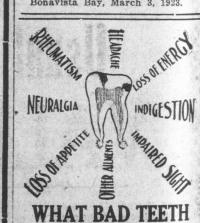
"Remember—Our store is on the other side of the street."

ch would, he replied."

ok here, I said, we had be our minds, that I give up all her ws and you thereby give of yo to the tottering weakness use. That I despise you for a wish to enslave for minds goes without saying. On the other hand if you in fighting for cause could but state vour doubt, where a statement of political facts leads to defeat, and forestalling present results at the polls I think you would be wise to pocket a dea, issue and watch the inevitable out come of warped and twisted logic.

Just as water cannot be prevent from running level, so facts bei facts their straight invincible rul can at best only be delayed. The longer natural facts are delayed the greater the momentum thoy gather when they start to come, f strike home they must and often with violence. Natural facts are nation of men can hold them in che indefinitely. Study natural fact speak them and them alone, for the public nor yourself can eventually benefit by any other brand. Nature is inexorable! Here natural facts apply to work. Legions of men-shaped forms dart round perseverance co ner on their way to get jobs on Easy Street, but if they only used their brains in the way that God and nature intended they would most cer tainly stumble on the fact that there's a man's job in this world for ever man if we hope to pull her through If one of us dies that doesn't matter because numbers and necessity are absolutely the same thing. So if you shirk your duty as a producer some one else has to work the harder an how do you feel to know that you indolent attitude generally places a still heavier burden on those wh were already staggering under their load? Extravagance brings just the same results. Whether you believe or not it is an absolute fact that t extravagance of your governme encouraged the nation-wide cry and in fact the need for nation-wide support. A vicious circle was again created out of which, with impending disaster lurching forward upon us, hope was raised for a return t power in the coming election. Now if you cannot see those facts just shi your eyes and feel them; for yo really can do this.

Your old friend, JET BENSON. Bonavista Bay, March 3, 1923,



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