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MR. EDGAR'S TASK IN SOUTH ONTARIO.

Not the least difficult of the tasks before the Brown-Simpson candidate in South Ontario is involved in his own candidature. He has to show not only that he is better able to represent the Riding than his opponent, Mr. Gibbs, but that he is better qualified to represent it than any of the local "Reformers" over whose heads he has been shoved by the sheer force of wire-pulling. For if he cannot show that he is superior to them, the question will naturally arise—"why "has he been imported, since we have "local men as good as he?"

Of local men, there is Mr. James Holden, a gentleman of ability and good standing in the community, who has fought the battles of the Party in the Riding for many years both as a common soldier and centurion, and in 1872, as leader of the forces against Mr. Gibbs. He is therefore better known among the people than Mr. Edgar; he has more at stake in the constituency, and he will probably be serving the district as president of the local railway, and as a local man of business when Mr. Edgar is serving himself in a far Government office elsewhere.

The same may be said of Mr. Carmichael, of Oshawa, a local merchant of repute and good business and social standing, and a "Reformer" who has rendered signal service to the Party for many years.

So, too, with Mr. Trueman P. White. The thriving village of Whitevale will speak for itself when the future explorer is searching in vain for Edgarville. Mr. White is a miller of considerable means and deservedly a very popular man among the farmers. He, too, has led the Party in many fierce fights, and they will not lightly see him go down, however. Men worthy their best steel will meet them, and the electors will not lack for opportunity to become conversant with the reasons which make it a matter of public urgency that the Incapables who are now in office should be rejected therefrom.

SOUTH WELLINGTON.

The disgust felt at Mr. Mackenzie's "to set their faces against such a "wretched state of things."

What is Mr. Edgar going to do about it? How is he going to reconcile the anti-corruption homily we have quoted with the Big Push letter written on the same day? He cannot plead that corruption is the practice of his Party, for that would be to surrender the whole case. He cannot argue that Mr. Brown was driven to the use of corrupt funds by the corruption of his opponents, for the plea that the devil must be fought by fire is both illogical and un-Reform-like. The only course we can see open to him is "to abuse the other "side"—to cast the Pacific Scandal at his opponents and make a determined stand on the *tu quoque*. This course, it is true, is generally accepted as evidence of a weak case, but as a Reform witness said the other day in the *Herald* case, "men who "expect to be beaten in an election gen-"erally don't care a d—n."

A TERRA INCOGNITA.

A week or two ago the Brant *Union*, commenting on the shooting of the burglar Fleming by Mr. Bascom, which happened near Cainsville the night of May 23rd, declared that there existed in the County of Brant a band of desperadoes who, in the opinion of the Union, had committed murders, which planned and made arrangements there for many wicked deeds that were done elsewhere, even at a considerable distance. Hamilton, Brantford, London, and Sarnia were spoken of as regular rendezvous of the gang, and both the Petitt robbery in the County of Halton and the Monaghan murder in the County of Lambton were set down as their work. The shooting affair near Cainsville, on the Hamilton road, is so remarkable an episode that the story will be interesting if it proves to be true, and tails in it which may well command more of public attention than they appear to do on a cursory glance. A young man mentioned three masked men entered the residence of Mr. G. Brock, gardener, on the Brantford road, two miles north to Brantford, by breaking in the back door. Mr. Brock gave battle to the thieves. Two days afterwards Mr. Brock came up and shot and burnt by her husband, her life was a shocking agony; in fact the only plea that can be entered on behalf of Ward is that he wilfully murdered her torture even though the means he adopted were cruel and barbarous beyond description. He left him for dead, but the brute deceived her back to life to be a tormentor of her husband. When she lay sick in bed, he would jump on her and pound her unmercifully. When she got up and crawled about the house doing her work, he would approach her as if to kiss her, and when she turned her face to be kissed, he would hit him a blow in the mouth, he would spit on her and fell her to the earth. It was in Christ that this friendless girl endured these and other tortures which cannot be mentioned for weeks and months, hoping against hope that some day or other the brute would die out of him. At last, a good angel, for in this case only a good angel could have acted, seemingly prompted him to put an end to her indescribable misery. How he made away with her, the Brampton *Conservator* tells us in his own words:

"This morning (Friday), before daybreak Sheriff Sheppard left his residence with the goal to take the prisoner to the station and thence to Kingston. The villain offered no resistance whatever, but quietly allowed the officers to place the handcuffs upon him, and he was ready to start in a short time, but he requested the sheriff to allow him a short for escape presented itself he was ready to take advantage of it. He was accordingly allowed to go into the room, and in a short time he was missed. Search was made, and he was found in a small shanty, only 25 feet from the house, with his throat cut from ear to ear, and he was bleeding very profusely. The sheriff and his assistants at once took him back to the house, and Dr. Jeffers was called in, who dressed the wound, and he was then placed in a chair, and he was able to walk from the chair to the bed. He was able to speak, and he said he was sorry for what he had done, and he was willing to die, and he was willing to be hanged, and he was willing to live and be hanged, and he said he was willing to live and be hanged, and he said he was willing to live and be hanged, and he said