

# The Free Press, LONDON, ONT.

Thursday, December 23, 1886

## THE LAND FOR POOR MEN.

One of the points made by the opponent of Mr. Meredith at the nomination was that the Local Government ought to put the public land more freely at the disposal of poor men, who desired to settle upon them. It was complained that at present no facilities of this kind are given. A man working at a bench may not wish to keep on at that. He may wish to work on the land, and make a home for himself as a farmer. Mr. Meredith expressed sorrow that no chance was now given to such a man under the law. No man, no matter how well he may be recommended, could get the land together with the help that is needed to enable him to tide over the first year in the wilderness. And it is a grievance that this matter has been so long lost sight of by the Mowat Government. The Sandfield Macdonald-Carling administration did a great deal in this way. They set apart large parcels of land in Muskoka, the best of it in that region, as Experimental Townships. The land was divided into lots, and each lot had a log house built upon it, and a certain part of it was put under the plough. Then any poor man who thought that he could do better there than in a workshop in the cities, was invited by the Government of which the Hon. Mr. Carling was a zealous member, to come in and try his luck, and work his way according to his best intelligence. He was given every chance to make a home and raise his family in independence, and at the end of two, three or four years he was expected to pay back to the Government, as he earned it, the money that had been laid out in building the house and clearing the first few acres. The plan worked very well so long as that Government stood, and Mr. Carling had scope to develop the large ideas which then prevailed on the land and kindred matters. We say kindred matters, because the plans of Mr. Carling embraced other schemes, equally beneficial to the country, namely, the advance of public money to the poor settlers to drain wet lands, by which whole townships were reclaimed, and the erection of the fine benevolent institutions, of which the London Asylum is an example. These were the plans of Mr. Carling, as the Minister of Agriculture and Public Works in Sandfield's Government, during 1867-71. When Mr. Mowat came in, in 1881, there was a check suddenly put to them. Mr. Mowat carried on the drainage, because he could not help it. The people of the wet regions demanded it, and he could not resist their demands. But all the policy of the previous Government which he could check or reverse, he did, and among the plans which Mr. Mowat did away with was that of the Experimental Townships. There was no longer that freedom of the land and encouragement to settle upon it which had been held out by Mr. Carling. But instead the land was sold out to timber speculators, to strip it at their sweet will, and the settler was knocked about at the mercy of the agents of the large timber firms. This has been the policy ever since carried out by the Mowat Government. The timber merchants, usually big moneyed men, get many exclusive privileges. In the back part of Addington County some of the settlers have tilled for fifteen years, and over, and have not yet been able to get their patents. They are left under the iron heel of the landholder, and to him they must go, to his favor they must be indebted, before they can get the deed of their lands. The result is that many of them are weary and disgusted, and ready to move off to the States or the North-West or anywhere, where more justice can be had than under the present system at Toronto. These crying evils have long been known to Mr. W. R. Meredith, and no man is better able to deal with them, and give the poor settlers their rights as men, or has a larger sympathy with them, in their struggles, than he. He has thus a claim upon the hearty support of the poor man, which we trust will not be withheld from him on the 23rd of December.

## PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

A Grit paper says of Mr. Blake, that "he is a man who does not promise more than he means to perform." That may be so. But what has he ever promised? What does he promise now? He tells how pure and good he is, and commends the Golden Rule; the *Globe* assures us he has "a serene soul," etc. But what of all that? Are there not thousands as pure, as good, as serene, and as well living? That is not the only requirement in a public man. The people would like to know what Mr. Blake could do, differently from what the present Government is and has been doing all along. To say that he never makes promises without meaning to perform them is nothing, unless it can be shown that he has made any pledges and carried them out. On this point we may fairly ask for explanations. What policy has Mr. Blake ever laid down except that which was destructive? How has he ever proposed to better the condition of any section of the people? He has not only made no promise himself, but has opposed everything that the Liberal-Conservative Government has brought forward. He opposed the National Policy, and does so still. He has told the people of the Maritime Provinces that he would, if he had the power, "sweep it away." He opposed the C. P. R. at its inception. He has never said one word in

its favor since its completion. True, his Lieutenant, Mr. D. Mills, went so far as to say in his paper, the *Advertiser*, that "time would vindicate the wisdom of Mr. Carling and his colleagues in that particular." But the next day he recanted, and now says in effect that the C. P. R. is a mistake, and should never have been passed forward. Mr. Blake has declared that it is not his business as Opposition leader to make promises of what he will do if he got into power; that his mission is "to criticize," merely; or in other words to pick holes in the coats of those in power, to find fault with everything. Therefore, our Grit contemporary is perfectly non-committal in saying that Mr. Blake never makes a promise without meaning to perform it. He never makes promises of any kind as to what he would carry out if he obtained power.

## GROSS JOBBERY & FAVORITISM.

Toronto papers do not discuss the Parliament Buildings job except to gloss it over. One of them suggests that a paper would not be allowed to be circulated in Toronto. Why? Because the job is a Toronto scheme purely, demanded by the city, but not asked for by the country, and which the country will derive no benefit from.

One of the greatest scandals of the Parliament Buildings job is the advance of \$1,200,000 in the total cost over the sum set apart by the Legislature. Ought a single Minister or Ministry to deal thus with the public money, and be held accountable? Mr. Farke, by the "scratch of a pen," puts under the hammer thousands of square miles of our best timber territory, without the sanction of the people's representatives. This is a grave wrong. The Minister should have no such dictatorial authority. But Mowatism goes much beyond that. In the Buildings case, after the House had granted \$750,000, the Commissioner of Works, Mr. Fraser, takes it upon himself to let the contract on a \$2,000,000 basis, and this after pledging himself not to exceed the lesser sum. This is deliberate deception on the part, as well as a piece of the most wanton and unauthorized extravagance.

But probably the worst feature of the whole case consists in the Mowat Government's designating the particular quarry from which the stone shall be taken for use in the Parliament Buildings. The Specifications distinctly say that the stone for "the base of entire structure and facades of the entire superstructure" shall be "executed with Credit Valley Sandstone." It is a most suggestive fact that the Credit Valley Quarries are owned and controlled in all their business relations by a supporter of Mr. Oliver Mowat, one of "the greatest of the Grits," viz., Mr. Kenneth Chisholm, member for Peel in the Legislature. In this way Mr. Mowat has nominated Mr. Chisholm, M.P.P., as the supplier of stone, thus shutting out competition. What do the stone quarry owners of Frontenac, of Perth, of Thorold, Queenston, and Beausville, think of such glaring and brazen favoritism? What does the country think of it? The amount of "boodle" involved in this single stone "deal" is estimated at \$200,000—all fixed so as to drop into the pocket of one man, and that man a servile supporter of the Mowat Government.

Despite these facts, the Toronto journals maintain the "conspiracy of silence" regarding the particulars of Mowat's job.

## THE "MILCH COW" AGAIN.

Mr. T. W. Anglin has been on an electioneering tour to Nova Scotia. He is reported to have said that if Blake were in power he would be willing to give them more money for their railways, and relieve all their necessities. A very direct bribe, it will be seen. Mr. Blake, through his henchman, "says money" to the electorate of Nova Scotia. He has probably seen a great light on the "better terms" question. When in former years the Nova Scotians applied for more favorable consideration, Mr. Blake cried out against it. They were abused as "bloodsuckers on the Dominion," and "poor Ontarios" was called the "milk cow" of the other Provinces. Now, it seems Mr. Blake is ready to do the milking of Ontario in order to bribe over the allegiance of the sea Provinces. Such is Grit consistency.

## THE SCHOOL BOOK INQUIRY.

The *Gleaner*, discussing the school book monopoly, says:—  
"Some idea of what this ten years monopoly is worth may be had when it is stated that Messrs. Warwick & Sons, of Toronto, offered to print the entire set at ONE-HALF THE PRICE now charged, and at the same time allow the trade printer ten cents off, if the monopoly enjoyed from the other firms was secured to them. Messrs. Nelson & Sons have since sold their right to the monopoly to Messrs. Copp, Clarke & Co. for no less a sum than \$12,000."  
"It was in connection with this matter that G. W. Ross, when in the pay of Messrs. Gage & Co., visited this country in order to try and induce the Inspector and trustees of different school sections to adopt the "Gage Series" in Gleanery. This was immediately before he became Minister of Education, but having been so recently in the employ of Gage & Co. he was scarcely likely to be independent in making an arrangement with that firm whose money was still in his pocket."

## "NO, D. M."

When the half-breeds were in want of seed corn to plant their fields, and sent to Ottawa asking for some, who was it that harshly said—"No, D. M.," and sent that back as an answer to the half-starving men? That piece of heartlessness was perpetrated by the then Grit Minister of the Interior—Hon. David Mills, who now poses as the friend of the red man. In view of such as he it is no wonder that the poet exclaimed "Lo! the poor Indian."

## HOW IT AFFECTS LONDON.

It is when the matter is brought home that the citizens of London may realize how injurious is the system of convict labor, fostered and encouraged by the Mowat Government. If anyone will take the trouble to look into the Ontario Public Accounts for years past, he will find under the heading of the London Lunatic Asylum account after account from H. A. Nelson & Sons, of Toronto, for brooms, woodenware, etc. These accounts aggregate thousands of dollars, and as the goods supplied by this firm were made by cheap prison labor, and could have been obtained from houses employing honest labor in the city of London, it is hoped that those who are interested will bear this fact in mind when they go to the polls on Tuesday next. While Mr. Mowat intimates no intention of doing away with this evil, Mr. Meredith makes it a plank in his platform that this injurious and unfair competition shall cease.

## WHAT IS BOODLE?

The *Advertiser* says:—  
"There is a vast difference between the legitimate trade of furnishing food and clothing to unfortunate lunatics than there is in membership of Parliament obtaining timber limits at nominal values."

The trade of furnishing the Asylum or other public institutions with food and clothing is legitimate when tenders are properly called for these things. We have no name for it, when they are procured from political favorites at prices to the public unknown. But this is precisely what Mr. Hyman calls "Boodles." Whether or not it was "filthy" in that gentleman to call public attention to such matters in this city we leave others to decide. But as to the question of timber limits, we have to say, that when Mr. David Mills presented Messrs. Opok and Sutherland, political friends of the Grit Government, with 200 square miles of timber territory at any and every point which they might select in the Saskatchewan country, every honest man had a distinct opinion concerning it. In a word, it was not "legitimate." It was a gross piece of corruption. What right had Mr. Mills to give away large tracts of the public domain, after his party had been overwhelmingly condemned at the polls, and on the eve of the resignation of the Mackenzie Government. Mr. Mills has never given an explanation of that matter acceptable to any honest man. It was a clear case of "Boodle."

## COULD DR. RYERSON KNOW?

Writing in 1876 the late Dr. Ryerson said:—  
"Some sincere friends of the school system have expressed apprehensions lest under the new regime it might be brought within the pernicious influence of political party. I do not share in such apprehensions. I have every confidence that the administration of the school system will be strictly impartial and patriotic, and will accord in spirit with its inauguration and re-inauguration since 1840."

Such were the expectations of the father and founder of the school system in this Province. But he did not rightly estimate the supreme baseness of those who after his decease were to administer its affairs. Had he done so, had he known that a "Reform" Government would have banished the Protestant Bible from the Public Schools, and have substituted for it mutilated selections, made still more offensive by carefully devised omissions, he would never have sanctioned the placing of the educational trust in the hands of any who could carve and hack it to suit. Whom? Not the Protestant parents, for they never demanded that the Bible should be shut out from the schools. Can it be possible that Dr. Ryerson in his present state is conscious of the infamous use to which the school system, of which he was the father and founder, has been put by professing "Reformers?"

The *Globe* complains that the "Tories are working up West York." Yes, it is easy work now, for the people are so enthusiastic in support of the "wicked Tories" that the canvassing books are overflowing with the names of those who are turning their backs on Gritism forever.

If the Bible is an inspired Book, why should Mr. G. W. Ross take upon himself to "mutilate" it, to the disadvantage of the school children? Is he to set himself up above that which is written?

The *Advertiser* tells its readers that the Book of Common Prayer, which has been in use in the Protestant Episcopal Church for more than two hundred years, is a "mutilated" affair.

The banner to be inscribed to the honor of the member for Bothwell is to read "Mills and Mutilation."



**MOST PERFECT MADE**  
Prepared with strict regard to purity, strength, and wholesomeness. Dr. Price's Baking Powder contains no alum, or phosphate, or any other injurious substance. It is sold in all the leading cities, and is the best for all purposes.



**ROYAL BAKING POWDER**  
Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kind, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight alums or phosphates powders. Sold only in cases—ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 WALL STREET, N.Y.

## W. DODSON

begs to call attention to his  
New and Complete Arrangements  
for supplying the citizens of London and vicinity with all kinds of

## Sausages

cut by steam power, and prepared by a first-class German maker. The following goods and

## MEATS,

will be found always on hand:—

## Braunschweiger Sausage

Libelwurst - - - - -

Blood - - - - -

Pork - - - - -

Ham - - - - -

Frankfurter - - - - -

Bologna - - - - -

Prime Knas Beef.

" Mutton.

" Lamb.

" Veal, Tripe, etc.

" Pork.

Turkeys, Geese, Fowls, Rabbits, Venison, Lamb, Ham, Bacon, &c.

123 DUNDAS STREET, CRONIN BLOCK.

## Bryce's Bazaar,

123 DUNDAS STREET, CRONIN BLOCK.

## SANTA CLAUS'

Headquarters.

Japan Baskets containing 1 and 2 pounds of

## GOOD TEA.

Price, 50c. & \$1 Each

## JOHN MOULE,

Grocer, next door to Post Office.

## ROBT. GREENE'S

\$3 Men's All Wool Overcoat is a marvel to all who see it, and a comfort to the man who buys one. Note the place:—138 Dundas street.

## EPPS'S

GRATEFUL-COMFORTING

## COCOA

21st-anti

## ROBT. GREENE

Does not sell dry goods. Ready-made Clothing is his line; \$15, 000 worth to choose from—138 Dundas street.

## STORAGE

FOR ALL KINDS OF MERCHANDISE

Slater's Storage, 13th YORK STREET.

**THE GREAT RUSSIAN McDonalds**  
THE HATTER, FURRIER AND CLOTHIER.

## The Crystal Hall

always to the front with the largest and best stock of Fancy Goods in the Dominion

## IMMENSE AND ATTRACTIVE CHRISTMAS

Before making your purchases of Christmas Presents, call and examine the extraordinary display made by

## W. J. REID AND CO.

Fine French Bronzes, New Antique Brass Goods, Hennecke's Terra Cotta Statuary, Dresden Figures, Parian Marble Statuary, New Bohemian Vases, Marble Clocks, Royal Worcester China, Etruscan China,

Doulton Ware, Venetian Ware, Rich and Chaste Epergnes, Tete-a-Tete Sets, Fish and Game Sets, New Tea, Toilet & Dinner Majolica and Wedgewood. A magnificent display of Library and Parlor

To avoid confusion we will display during the Sale an immense stock of Mottos, Souvenirs, M. Antiques and Souvenirs, Motto Mugs, an endless variety of Small Wares as

traces, etc., etc., on tables ranging at 10c., 15c., 25c., 30c., 50c., 75c., \$1. Goods on these tables sold at double the price.

## W. J. Reid & Co., Dundas Street, London

## NEW JEWELRY STORE,

No. 260 Dundas St., THREE DOORS WEST OF BARKWELL'S DRUG STORE.

## BANKRUPT STOCK—GROCERIES

THE STOCK OF D. DODD & SONS, of 50c. (fifty cents) in the dollar, offered for sale at the premises, 210 Dundas Street, at Bankrupt Stock.

Commencing Saturday Morning.

This is a great inducement, and taken advantage of by everyone. Christmas Presents, Choice Cakes, Souvenirs, Old Ale and Porter, and every article in the General Grocery line. Remember and place—220 and 230 Dundas St.

J. S. ROSSER & SONS

## BERLIN WARE

—AND—

## Crown German

CHEAP

## At BRUNTO

195 Dundas Street

## KMAS BOO

A choice selection of Christmas G

JUVENILES, ANNUALS, BOOKS AND SETS.

A large range of "The Post" in padded cloth, and the "hambro" 24 would call special attention to

## THE "BELLS" SE

Of poems, elegantly illustrated with original drawings, by the best illustrators, New York and Boston, fully printed on the best plates, printed in brilliant colors, gilt on the inside of the covers, and the series contains the following:—

"The Bells," by Edgar A. Poe, "The Land's End Mountains," by Bishop He

Next before Christmas," by Clement "The Cotton's Saturday Night," by H. "The Deserted Village," by Oliver "Lady Clare," by Alfred Tennyson, "The Rhine," by Caroline E. Norton.

Also a large stock of photographic snap albums, pocket-books, and fancy illustrations, framed autographs, suitable for Christmas presents.

## E. A. TAYLOR

180 DUNDAS STREET.

N.B.—A great variety of Christmas beautiful designs.

## ROBT. GREENE

\$5 Tweed Suits for men warranted to wear well one.

## Thos. Con

BUTCHER

Wholesale and retail in Beef, Mutton, Veal, etc., always on hand.