

**INCONSISTENT LIBERALS.**

Those who have faith in the consistency of Liberals will be surprised that Aldermen Marchant, Macmillan, Humphrey and Cameron refused to allow the by-law redistributing the wards to be submitted to the people. These gentlemen are continually talking about the power of the people—they profess great respect for the will of the people—yet, when they were offered the opportunity of referring a measure in which the people are deeply interested to the electors for sanction, they would not embrace it. These four aldermen considered themselves wiser than the majority of the electors of the city. By their action they showed that they considered themselves better qualified to decide what was good for the citizens than were the citizens themselves. Although the referendum is one of the principal planks of the Radical platform the red hot Radicals of the council refused to take advantage of it when they had the chance. Alderman Wilson was the only Liberal in the Council whose action was consistent with his principles. He has faith in the people, and was willing in this matter of the distribution of the wards to abide by their decision; and so had the Mayor and Aldermen Williams, Partridge and Tarks, who, although Conservatives, saw that the measure before the Council is one which ought in fairness to be submitted for sanction to the people at the polls. And they were right. The redistribution by-law is one upon which the average elector is as competent to pass an opinion as the average alderman—more competent in fact—for the average elector would most likely have no other motive in voting for or against the by-law than the general welfare of the citizens, whereas the average alderman might have private and personal reasons for casting his vote one way or the other. The by-law is one of considerable importance, and it is reasonable that every elector should have the opportunity of showing in an influential way what he thinks of it. If the referendum is required at all it is with respect to a measure affecting the representation of the electors in the City Council. But the Radical aldermen we have named when they had the power to redistribute the wards without consulting the electors were determined to exercise that power to its full extent.

**A THREATENED FAMINE.**

Happily in most civilized countries the danger of suffering from famine is reduced to a minimum. The means of intercommunication are so numerous and so effective that the good harvest of one district can be made to supply the deficiency caused by the bad harvest of another and a distant district. The defective means of communication was the principal cause of famine in old times when highroads were few and bad and when railroads were unknown. In India and China, even in our own day, the people of one part of the country were dying of hunger while the people living only a comparatively short distance from them had more food than they could consume. The failure of the rice crop in Orissa, in 1865-66 caused the death of 1,250,000 persons, or one-fourth of the population. But railroads have been constructed in India since that time, and there is little fear of any part of that country—great in extent as it is—suffering so dreadfully for want of food. The region that is now said to be threatened by famine is a vast stretch across the northern portion of the great peninsula, from the Punjab on the west to the Upper Burmah, containing nearly half the population of the Indian Empire. If this report is well-grounded, there will be one hundred millions of persons suffering from scarcity of food. It is to be hoped that this is an exaggeration, for if such an immense population as this cannot get enough to eat there can be little hope of extending to them anything like adequate relief. The latest advices from India inform us that distress already exists in Northern India, and that unless the rain comes soon it will be greatly extended and intensified. The telegram of the 9th to the London Times says: "Food stocks are already low in Upper and Central India, and the high price of grain causes much discontent. The California wheat now shipped to India will to some extent relieve the pressure of the situation. A denial is given to the rumors that the Indian Government intended shortly to raise a loan to provide for famine relief expenditure. The Government is, however, sanctioning expenditure on wells and on short provincial railways in order to assist distressed population. The well-stocked district are sending grain to the areas affected by scarcity in which there are as yet no signs of rain. The impression is gaining ground that grain dealers have ample stocks for the present but are bent on forcing up prices—hence grain riots. Statistics just issued show that the exports of Indian wheat have been decreasing of late years to a considerable extent." It is devoutly to be hoped that nature will extend relief to the region threatened with famine in the shape of copious

**AN EXPLODED SLANDER.**

Grit editors and small politicians, during the general election campaign, considered Sir Charles Tupper fair game. They vilified him in a way that disgusted decent Liberals, and they retailed old lies and slanders that had been expounded years ago as if they were the unquestioned truth. Among the slanders was Mr. Robert McConnell, editor of the Halifax Chronicle. He wrote and published an open letter to R. C. Weldon, M. P., and Charles H. Cahon, M. P. P., in which it was asserted that these two gentlemen had made statements to the effect that Sir Charles Tupper had been engaged in a corrupt transaction in connection with a Canadian loan. In order to make it appear that he believed what he had written to be the truth, Mr. McConnell challenged any of the parties who felt injured by the statements he made to prosecute him for libel. Sir Charles Tupper promptly took Mr. McConnell at his word and prosecuted him for criminal libel. In the preliminary proceedings, although many witnesses were examined, Dr. Weldon among the rest, Mr. McConnell failed to prove that either he or Mr. Cahon ever made the statements attributed to them. "They had not even heard of the transaction in bonds referred to in the open letter, and in fact it appears that no issue of bonds were floated under any such circumstances as were mentioned."

The case was delayed from time to time on one pretext and another, but at last Mr. McConnell found that the only course left him was to retract. Here is the retraction that was published in the Halifax Chronicle of the 19th inst.:

Referring to the open letter which appeared in the Morning Chronicle of the 25th February last, the editor and proprietor of this newspaper desire to explain that it was not thereby intended to make any charge whatever against Sir Charles Tupper; that they have no information or knowledge in their possession to justify the making of such charges, and that they regret the publication of the letter in question, so far as the same in any way reflects upon Sir Charles Tupper.

**THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.**

In an article on "Journalism as a Profession," in the October number of the Westminster Review, Mr. Fred. Wilson thus descants on the importance of the Press:

"All classes and conditions of people chant its praises, utilize its services and strive to promote by patronage its increased usefulness. Kingdoms and governments depending not at all infrequently on its power, extend their patronizing sanction; statesmen recognizing in it an integral part of the machinery of politics, court its power, employ its influences; commercialists find themselves helpless without its assistance; financiers are impotent when robbed of this implement; the worlds of fashion, society, and art would scarcely exist in its absence; the trades and professional classes would be stranded without its medium; and the working people, and even the vagrant, would find life devoid of much of that which at present makes it tolerable, were there no such thing. In fact it is almost impossible to imagine a state of civilized society without a public press; and it is therefore not in the least to be wondered at that people prize it inestimably, endeavor in their humble way to protect its interests and so help to sustain an important feature of their national, parochial, social and domestic life. Such great reforms have been effected, such great improvements made in every direction, that at the present moment the pitch of perfection must have been arrived at, and that future enterprise is almost impossible."

This seems a great deal to say in favor of the importance and the usefulness of the newspaper Press, but if the reader thinks carefully over what Mr. Wilson says he will see that he has stated nothing but the plain and demonstrable truth.

**A DISCORDANT NOTE.**

La Patrie, the paper owned and edited by Mr. Beaugrand, one of the ex-mayors of Montreal, is not remarkable for the loyalty of its utterances. It sometimes leans towards annexation and at others it exhibits a yearning for independence. Mr. Beaugrand is very French indeed, and altogether republican. He seems to be impatient of British rule. He has taken offence at the decoration of the statue of Nelson on the anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar, and he exhibits his displeasure in a rather truculent manner. But there is no harm in Mr. Beaugrand. He is a good citizen and at bottom a worthy man. He has his hobby and at times he rides it vigorously. People smile at the exhibition which he makes of himself, but there are very few indeed, even among his French-Canadian compatriots, who seem inclined to follow his example. Intelligent French Canadians, as a rule, know when they are well off. They are convinced that they would not be so free as they are now—have so much of their own way—under either the French Tri-

color or the American Stars and Stripes, British rule is to them pleasant. They, in fact, hardly feel that it is a rule at all. They are almost completely self-governed, and when Mr. Beaugrand talks of the "British yoke" they must be puzzled to guess what he means. They know that there is no yoke on their necks, and when they compare their condition with that of the citizens of France, either at home or in any French colony, they see that they have reason to congratulate themselves that their lot is cast among a people who thoroughly understand what liberty means in practice as well as in theory.

**THE NEW REGIME.**

The working of the new spoils system which Mr. Israel Tarte is doing his best to establish is well illustrated by what he has done at Arnprior, Ontario. In that town, as in Victoria, the Dominion Government are erecting a structure which is to serve the double purpose of custom house and post office. It was being built under a Clerk of Works, Mr. B. V. Stafford, who is an experienced builder and contractor. Mr. Stafford has in some way given offence to the powers that be, or, as is more likely, there is in the town an influential Grit who has applied for his position and whom it is considered not exactly safe to refuse. However that may be, Mr. Stafford the other day got the grand bounce. This was not because he was incompetent or unfaithful, for we read that Mr. Adams, the Government Inspector, on the very day that Mr. Stafford was dismissed examined the work and expressed himself thoroughly satisfied at the way in which it was carried on. It is the Arnprior Watchman, the Grit newspaper of the town, that bears this testimony to Mr. Stafford's efficiency.

When Mr. Stafford the builder and contractor was dismissed, another Clerk of Works was ready to take his place. And whom did the Government appoint as Clerk of Works? What had been his occupation? This is a conundrum that every sensible man in the country would have to give up; and the more sense he had the more likely he would be to guess wrong. The man appointed by the Government to superintend the erection of the Arnprior custom house and post office building had been a dry goods clerk. "He," writes a correspondent of the Ottawa Citizen, "has always been a clerk in his father's dry goods store, and he lately got a few ticket agencies. He has never had any kind of experience in building or architectural work of any kind. His experience would not enable him to tell basewood from pine. He knows nothing of stone, mortar, lime or any building material."

But he, or perhaps his father, is a good Grit, and sound Gritism with the new administration makes up for all deficiencies and disqualifications. This is how appointments are made under the new regime.

**THE "CHANGE" ASKED FOR.**

There were voters previous to the last election who at a loss for an argument to justify their voting for the Liberals declared that "the country wants a change," "it is time we had a change." This was the silliest and stupidest pretext that was ever resorted to to make inconsistency and caprice appear reasonable; and the people are beginning to find this out. The advocates of change for the sake of change have been successful. They now have the change they longed for. How much the better are they or the country at large for it? We are quite certain that there is not one man in ten in any province of the Dominion who honestly believes—whatever he may say—that the change of Government is now, or is likely to be in the future, an improvement.

The new Government has done nothing whatever to benefit the country, and there is no indication that the administration of public affairs is now purer, more energetic or better in any way than it was under the Conservatives. In matters of policy the Liberals are wholly wanting in originality. They have even to subsidizing the butter trade and making provision for cold storage imitated the trade policy of their predecessors. In the matter of conciliating Manitoba they have, it must be admitted, departed from the course followed by the late Government. But is the departure here an improvement? Has the abandonment of the line of action pointed out and provided for by the Constitution, and the adoption of a policy of systematic bribery, been a change for the better? We do not believe that the people of Canada will say that it is.

It may be said that it is too soon to look for results; that the Government have not been long enough in office to show what they can do. We are far from admitting that this is the case. Placing a man with Mr. Israel Tarte's record at the head of one of the great spending departments of the Government and attempting to bring about a settlement of the Manitoba school question by corrupt means are acts which warrant any discerning man coming to conclusions unfavorable to the character of the administration. The Government that shows such a tendency as is indicated by these acts in the first few months of its existence is not likely to improve as it gets older. The old saying, "A new broom sweeps clean," is familiar to all; and no one who has any regard for the

truth can say that the Liberal new broom is in any good sense sweeping clean, or, indeed, that it is clean itself. Those who believed that the change which they helped to bring about would result in giving the country purer and more vigorous government must be already disappointed, and nothing has yet been done since it has been effected to warrant the conclusion that its consequences in the future will be in any respect better.

**BEGINNING TO DOUBT.**

There are many indications that intelligent men in England are beginning to find that the policy of free trade is not suited to the circumstances of the country in these days. There is a note of distrust of the infallibility of free trade in the following extract from an article in the London Times of the 3rd instant:

There can be no doubt that commercial rivalry has assumed for some years back an aspect which did not enter into the contemplation of the Cobden at the time of the abolition of the Corn Laws, and which was not apparent even at the much later period when, about twenty years ago, Fawcett expressed his confidence in the ultimate and not distant victory of free trade principles all over the world. We have now to deal with protection as a settled policy definitely adopted and steadily pursued by the more powerful nations, no longer content with a defensive attitude, but avowedly adopting aggressive tactics, appealing boldly, and, as it seems, successfully to popular sympathies and advancing with the help of a vigilant and enterprising diplomacy.

The Saturday Review is more outspoken. In a recent article on a trade topic it said:

To sum up, all the arguments on which the policy of free imports was based have been destroyed by the events of the last fifty years. Unless we wish ourselves to be destroyed for the sake of a theory we must re-write our political economy and revise our tariff.

**MURDERS AND ACCIDENTS.**

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 27.—Mrs. Carrie Whalen, of this city, murdered her year old infant this morning by throwing him into the Centre street race-way. She then attempted suicide by jumping in herself. The babe was drowned and its body is still in the race-way. The mother was rescued and taken to the city hospital and will recover. It is thought she had been made insane by poverty.

RICHMOND, Mo., Oct. 27.—Mrs. Eva Winner, wife of Jesse Winner, and her two children, a girl aged three and a boy aged eighteen, were murdered last night. The woman's head was cut with an axe and the throats of the children were cut and their spinal cords severed. Bloodhounds are being used to trace the murderer.

YONGE, Pa., Oct. 27.—The terribly mangled bodies of Levi Beck, a young farmer, and a man named King, of Brooklyn, were found to-day on the tracks of the Pennsylvania road. The men had evidently been killed last night while walking on the tracks. Their bodies were found about a mile apart, and it was impossible to identify them except by their clothing, so badly had they been mangled.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 27.—The body of Mrs. Albert H. Post, of Chester, Pa., was exhumed to-day. It was in almost perfect state of preservation. An autopsy showed that death had been caused by poison.

**LATEST QUOTATIONS.**

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—Wheat—Receipts 345,000 bushels, sales 4,725,000; futures 6,000 bushels. Spot strong, No. 2 red 82½¢; No. 1 Northern N.Y. 78½¢; No. 1 soft, No. 1 hard 80½¢; No. 2 soft, No. 2 hard 77½¢. Options opened firm on cables and ruled quiet until the afternoon when prices advanced sharply on the reported continuation of the Indian drought and purchases of several California car-cases for Australia. Cash wheat at Minneapolis recovering, closed 2¢ to 2½¢ higher; May 79½¢ to 81½¢, closed 81½¢; December closed 77½¢.

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—The leading feature of the market follows: Wheat No. 2, Oct. 68½¢; Dec. 70½¢; to 71¢; May 75½¢; to 76½¢. Corn, No. 2, Oct. 23½¢ to 23½¢; Dec. 24½¢ to 24½¢; May 28½¢; to 28½¢. Oats No. 2, Oct. 17½¢; Dec. 18½¢; to 18½¢; May 21½¢; to 21½¢. Mess pork, \$8.90; Jan. \$7.50. Lard, Dec. \$8.62½; Jan. \$8.87½. Receipts flour 16,000 bushels; wheat, 230,000; corn, 675,000; rye, 26,000; barley, 240,000. Shipments flour, 18,000; wheat, 21,000; corn, 317,000; oats, 494,000; barley, 232,000.

**TRIALS AND TROUBLES.**

**When Inferior Dyes Are Used.**

The Diamond Dyes Make Work Easy and Pleasant.

It is admitted by all that the good wife and mother has, in her management of home affairs, many trials and tribulations. These trials and troubles are very frequently increased when the mother or daughter makes use of some of the many deceptive and worthless package dyes put up for home dyeing. Merchants who sell such dyes are certainly deserving of public censure and condemnation. The women of Canada who should never be deceived, it is cruel and heartless to do so. However, the case is plain to those who know; the greedy dealer thinks more of his big profits than he does about the welfare and happiness of his best customers.

All troubles and losses in home dyeing are avoided when the Diamond Dyes are used. By their use, work is well and quick; they give the colors as bright and clear as the sun; and they are so easy to use that even a child can use them. The Diamond Dyes are perfectly satisfactory, and they are so easy to use that even a child can use them. The Diamond Dyes are perfectly satisfactory, and they are so easy to use that even a child can use them.

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**FALL UNDERWEAR**  
JUST RECEIVED.  
**B. Williams & Co.**  
Clothing and Hatters. No. 97 Johnson Street.

**You won't feel the Wind**



even tho' you're out all day, when you have your clothing interlined with **Fibre Chamois**. Because it is a complete non-conductor of heat and cold, and preserves the natural warmth of the body, keeping out every breath of raw air and frosty wind. What's more, the waterproof Rigby process makes it impenetrable to the driving sleet or an all day's rain.

Prepare to enjoy thorough comfort outdoors in all weather by seeing that this popular interlining is put in all your ordered clothing, and only by the ready-made garments which have the **Fibre Chamois Label**. It only costs 25 cents a yard, and will provide a healthful warmth of which nothing can rob you.

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—AND—  
**MASSEY-HARRIS BICYCLES**

**I MAKE MAN.**



THE GABRIEL MUDRYAN  
This extraordinary...  
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The new discovery...  
HEAVY FIRE IN MASSACHUSETTS.  
LAWRENCE, Oct. 27.—The Washington Mills, one of the largest cotton and dress goods manufacturing firms in the city, were badly damaged by fire which broke out half an hour before midnight. Every fire engine in Lawrence was on the grounds for several hours, and it was not until 1:30 that the flames were subdued. The fire started from spontaneous combustion among wool, and at an early hour yesterday morning the stock in mill No. 4 was still burning furiously, but all danger of the fire spreading was past. It is estimated the loss to the Washington corporation will be \$65,000 and may possibly reach \$75,000; fully insured. About 4,500 operatives are employed by the plant when it is running to its full full capacity, and all will be thrown out of work for ten days.

**SUFFERING FROM CANCER.**  
BOSTON, Oct. 27.—John L. Sullivan, ex-pugilistic champion, is the victim of cancer. The trouble has developed in the right hand, and Dr. Calvin, of the Emergency hospital, upon whom Sullivan called for treatment, declares that it is a dangerous cancer. Dr. Calvin, who has operated on the hand, says that unless Sullivan takes great care he will lose his arm.

**Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes.**—Dr. Agnew's use for the Heart gives perfect relief in all cases of Organic or Sympathetic Heart Disease in 30 minutes, and speedily effects a cure, in a peculiarly effective manner. Shortness of Breath, Smothering Spells, Pain in Left Side and all symptoms of Diseased Heart. One dose convalescence.

Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

As Well as Ever.  
DEAR SIR,—After suffering for two years from acute indigestion I tried B.B.B. I took only three bottles, which made me as well as ever I was. I highly recommend B.B.B. to all dyspeptics.

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