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THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion, to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades. Fourth edition Price, \$3 00

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AN UNJUST LAW.

It is comforting to know that there is in Canada at least one daily paper, which, while being Liberal in politics is not afraid to condemn the Dominion Government as strongly as any opponent does when that Government goes wrong. That paper is the Montreal Witness, and all who hope for decency in politics will wish the Witness an ever-increasing growth in power in a country that is being cursed by partisanship. This is what our contemporary has to say of some of the acts of Dominion Ministers. "The Honorable the Minister of Marine has added himself to the number of Canadian politicians who trample on statesmanship [referring to

the handing over of the administration of the St. Law rence channel to a ring of pilots]. The Postmaster-General did it when he showed unjust favoritism towards the country papers, practically exempting them from the postage which he imposed on the press generally, that is, on all dailies and weeklies published in cities. reason he did this unfair thing was because every country weekly has a member of Parliament attached to it. and he did not dare to carry out his scheme in their case. It was a mere politician's reason, and condemns him as a statesman. The Minister of Militia showed his colors when he snubbed the women who were demanding that he should carry out the regulation forbidding the sale of liquor on camp grounds. He knew that liquor had been openly sold at one of the camps. If he did not, he certainly had no right not to know, for it was openly done."

Again, touching on the P. M.-General's iniquitous newspaper law, the Witness says. "During the first three months of last year newspaper postage at a quarter of a cent a pound yielded the country ten thousand dollars. During the first two months of this year, at half a cent a pound, it yielded seventeen thousand dollars. This tax is a great wrong. Not that it is wrong to collect postage on newspapers transmitted through the mails. Quite the reverse, we never could see why news papers should be carried at public expense. Where the imquity and cruelty come in is in the wilful partiality with which this charge is exacted. While metropolitan newspapers are made to pay it, local ones are exempted, not because they have any special claim, but because each of them is the property of or the henchman of a separate member of Parliament These exemptions would be bad enough if they only meant loss of revenue to the Government. If it is right to make newspapers pay their own way, it is wrong not to make them all do it. But a law which gives privileges in a partial way wrongs those who are excluded from them"

Before Mr. Mulock framed his act, this Journal, with a few others, advocated a postage rate on newspapers, but we never dreamed that he could be so unfair as to make one class of publishers pay the whole tax and let another class escape altogether. For a man who started his public career with such good promise and