

# THE LOCAL ELECTIONS.

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BY A PROTECTIONIST.

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May I ask the reader to consider with me the important and interesting matters of which these few pages speak? They are plainly stated; great pains have been taken to say nothing but what is strictly accurate, and are what every resident of Ontario should be well informed concerning.

It is now nearly four years since the Mowat Government came before us for re-election. I believe I am warranted in saying—in directing your attention to the fact—and in asking you to remember and examine if it be not so—that that Government have fulfilled every promise of that date, and have, which is rare in the history of Government, more than fulfilled them, a number of new works, not then proposed, but very valuable to the people of Ontario, having been since inaugurated, some of them already producing excellent results, and others, promising equal advantages, about to come into full working condition.

It is natural (though, I think, considering the capacity of the Opposition, not very patriotic) that the gentlemen comprising it should desire to take the Government positions themselves. Let us see what their organ says for them—what cogent reasons and solid arguments it finds to support their cause. Their organ is the *Mail*, which gives almost every day in the year an article in their support, frequently in this manner: It names a number of ancient celebrities who have nothing to do with the question; adds a string of more modern and equally celebrated characters who have never thought or spoken of it; mentions, it may be, something concerning the wars of Europe or the elections in the States; and, while the reader is very undecided as to what it is all about, suddenly informs him that Mowat is a tyrant—not telling you how; and that an outraged and long-forbearing country must no longer endure him—not telling you why; winds up with nine or ten sentences of pure abuse, unadulterated with any meaning whatever, and ends the article. My readers must not think this is a burlesque, though it sounds as such. It is as correct a description of many of the articles in the *Mail* against the Mowat Government as I can give. And the full, clear and decided proof that it is so is simply this—that although