

The Colonist.

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NOT TO BE ENVIED.

Grit croakers have for the last few years been bemoaning the condition of the Canadian farmer. They have been trying to persuade him that he is taxed almost to death...

While these croakers have been doing their worst to discourage the Canadian farmer and to make him discontented with his country and his vocation, they have been trying to convince him that if the market of seventy millions were only open to him the drawbacks and the disadvantages of his position would all disappear...

Inquiries have been made into the condition of the farmers who have the market of the seventy millions open to them, farmers who live within easy reach of the great centres of population in the United States, and it has been found that they have been suffering from the very same evils as the farmers of Canada complain of.

According to the returns of the Bureau of Industries for Ontario the decline in the value of farms and farm buildings in this province between the years 1880 and 1890 was 1.83 per cent. According to the census of the United States the decline during these years was in Maine 3.7 per cent., in New Hampshire, 12.7 per cent., in Vermont, 26.5 per cent., in Massachusetts, 12.8 per cent., in Rhode Island, 15.5 per cent., in Connecticut, 21.5 per cent., in New Jersey, 14.6 per cent., in Pennsylvania, 5.8 per cent., in Ohio, 6.8 per cent.

The United States census of 1895, among its other features, shows a great falling off in the value of farm products. Upon this point the New York Journal of Commerce says: "The statistics of farm animals published by the Department of Agriculture tell a melancholy story. The aggregate value of farm animals increased for many years until it reached a climax in 1884 and then declined somewhat, rising again until in 1893 it was a little higher than in 1884. At the present time the value is \$765,580,597 less than it was in 1893."

This is a frightful falling off for three short years, but it is not all. The decline in value has extended to all farm products. The New York Produce Exchange Reporter supplies the following figures showing what a loss there has been between 1891 and 1895:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Value. Rows include Wheat, Corn, Oats, Total, and various agricultural products.

In view of these figures it is not very surprising that thousands of farms in the New England States have been abandoned, and that the occupation of farmers has become unpopular. On this side of the continent we see that the farmers of Oregon and Washington are not benefitting to a very great extent by the market of seventy millions. The price of farm produce in both those States has been, during the last few years, lamentably low, and in some districts we are told that it is next

to impossible for the farmer to get anything at all for his surplus produce. In the great prairie States of the West the farmers get so little for what they raise that the politicians find them ready to accept any scheme, no matter how wild it may be, that will warrant them in hoping for something like a fair price for the products of their farms. The delusive promises of the Populist orators are listened to greedily and believed implicitly by the cultivators of the soil, who, although the market of seventy millions is open to them, are unable to get out of the slough of debt in which they are floundering or to better their condition in any way.

Canadian farmers have their difficulties. Prices are low and times have been hard, but a little inquiry will convince them that they have no cause to envy the farmers on the other side of the international boundary line, who are said to enjoy such superior advantages. The market of seventy millions is not what it is cracked up to be by Grit Politicians.

INDIGNANT GRITS.

It seems that there are envyings and heartburnings and hot indignation among the Liberals of the Maritime Provinces on account of the way in which old Liberals have been slighted and positions given to new men who cannot really be said to be Liberals at all. Here is what the Charlottetown Watchman says of the way in which Premier Blair was secured to be a member of Mr. Laurier's cabinet:

The indignation caused in New Brunswick by the cold-blooded purchase prior to the election of Blair's influence as premier, is deprecated even more strongly, Blair's appointment being severely criticised by the St. John Globe, one of the most pronounced Grit papers in Canada. Its editor, Mr. John V. Ellis, M.P., has fought and raved for Gritism almost to the verge of political martyrdom. But such sacrifices were not sufficient to cancel the Laurier-Blair bargain, consequently Mr. Ellis must stand aside and look pleasant while seeing the reward of a lifetime of hard work conferred upon the man who happened to hold the key of the exchequer of the Province of New Brunswick during the recent election.

The Watchman speaks with refreshing vigor of the way in which Mr. Tarte has been pitchedforked into office over the heads of better and more deserving men. This is what it says:

Another unhappy contract was evidently made with Tarte, who has been elevated in Quebec over the heads of lifelong Liberals. Though defeated, his political remains were resurrected and placed in the Department of Public Works, no doubt according to contract, and a score of the members for Quebec province have been tempted with all manner of offices and emoluments to step aside and allow the contract to be completed. At length a weak brother was found—Mr. Becharand, M.P. for St. John and Ibberville, having sold out to "the Cabinet of Premiers" and received his price.

"The Cabinet of premiers" is good. Its members are beginning to feel that their seats are not nearly so soft as they expected to find them. Present appearances are such that some of them will before six months are over their heads heartily wish themselves back in the positions in which they were monarchs of all they surveyed. Fighting able and audacious Conservatives and "standing off" unreconciled and irreconcilable Grits is not as pleasant work as laying down the law and giving orders to respectful colleagues and submissive subordinates.

THE ATHLETIC WOMAN.

The "new woman" has been the subject of much severe criticism and, if she is what some of her critics describe her to be, she well deserves many of the hard things that have been said about her. It is difficult to admire an unwomanly woman, and it is said that the new woman is unwomanly in a worse sense than being merely masculine or mannish. The new woman is confused in some minds with the athletic woman. They are, however, very different kinds of woman and it is doing the athletic woman a very great injustice to mistake her for the new woman.

The athletic woman can be as womanly in the best sense as the softest, the most domestic and the most modestly reticent of her sex. There is nothing to hinder an athletic woman possessing and exercising all the virtues and all the graces that make wife and maiden lovable and attractive. The sports and the physical discipline she delights in cannot necessarily have any injurious effect on her disposition or her manners. This, we think, cannot be said of the tastes, the pursuits, and the fads of the new woman. If she is to be judged by the books she writes, she is not, to say the very least, attractive. The two kinds of women are thus compared by the New York Commercial Advertiser:

There are indications that this feminine enthusiasm for outdoor life and sports is producing a type of woman radically different even from the type called the "new woman." The new woman is, on the whole, more concerned in the intellectual development of her sex, and with its relationship to the world and to society. She wishes physical emancipation. She wishes public honors and privileges; she wishes to vote; she desires to have a perfect equality between the sexes in all the affairs of life. In consequence, she has changed herself sometimes into a hybrid, which has the best qualities of neither sex. She has abdicated her old kingdom, without insuring the possession of a new one. The athletic woman, on the other

hand, has not taken herself and her mission with owl-like seriousness. She has no mission, in fact, beyond spreading the gospel of golf and of the bicycle. At this period of female development, there can be no better nor more useful gospel. The intense intellectual activity exhibited during the past twenty years by college, business and professional women has tended to sap their physical strength. They have frequently sacrificed the body to the mind. As Sidney Smith said of a worn-out scholar, their souls are improperly exposed. The athletic woman intends to combine muscle with mentality. Just now she has some of the faults of the new woman. She prefers her particular hobby to any man. She is inclined to regard domestic life as a snaffle to her energies. But these are only moods, and when they pass away they will leave her with a sound health capital to back up whatever enterprise she next attempts in—whether it is matrimony or the suffrage.

SOLEMN PREVARICATION.

Here is a specimen of the Montreal Witness's style of misrepresentation: "There seems to be something wholesome about an alteration of power. It is cheerful to note how the Conservative have in a short month all turned Reformers. Their organs are in a very great hurry for the reforms promised by the Liberals. Before the Tupper Government had resigned, the Conservative were calling upon Mr. Laurier to produce his reformed tariff, and now, before his Ministers have had time to do more than take their chairs in their departments, while they are still working day and night supervising the hundreds of orders in council passed in its dying hours by the Tupper Government, the organs are shouting for the reorganization of the executive, which can only be done with the consent of Parliament after it meets."

Everyone who reads the Conservative newspapers knows that what the Witness states is conspicuously untrue. The Conservatives have treated Mr. Laurier and his Government with great consideration. They have not attempted to hurry them, and their criticisms have been exceedingly mild. The only point on which they have been at all urgent is in requiring from the Leader of the Government a definite declaration of his policy, and Mr. Laurier has not paid the slightest attention to their request. At St. John's, where, according to his organs, he was to have taken the people of Canada into his confidence, he repeated one of his pre-election utterances without the slightest variation.

BRYAN'S PROSPECTS.

There are some people who seem to think that the talk of the silver party gaining the day in the Presidential election is mere brag; that there is not the slightest danger of the currency cranks gaining the upper hand in the States. But the Populists and silver Democrats united are greatly more numerous than many people imagine. Bryan's chances of success are very far indeed from being merely fanciful. Calculations founded upon the strength of parties at previous elections show that unless there is a very considerable change of public opinion in the United States Bryan will poll a very large vote.

The calculations are made by States, because all the presidential electors of a State, no matter what their individual opinions may be, vote as the majority of the State has voted. It may be necessary to explain here that the citizens of the United States do not vote directly for the President. They vote for electors chosen to represent them in the electoral college. California, for instance, is entitled to nine votes in the college for President and Vice-President. If the majority of electors in California vote, say for McKinley, the nine representatives of California, no matter how large the minority, must vote for McKinley. And so with all the other States. It is because the vote for President is taken in this peculiar way that a President can be elected by a minority of the voters. When the voting is close it is not difficult to understand that the large minorities in a number of populous States may considerably outnumber the small majorities in a number of other States. In that case the majority in the electoral college does not correspond with the majority of the citizens who voted at the polls. It is to put an end to this paradoxical state of things, as far as the election for President and Vice-President goes, that the Populists favor the election of President by a direct vote of the people.

The New York Sun, which is by no means favorable to Bryan's election, says that the silver men are confident that Bryan can carry twenty-eight States, having in the electoral college 224 votes. The total number of votes is 447. This gives the silver party a majority of one vote. It is more than likely that the silver men are too sanguine, and that their wishes and hopes have to a certain extent vitiated their political arithmetic. But the Sun concedes that Bryan is sure of 168 votes out of the 447 to start with. The New York Times is of the opinion that he will have 176 sure votes. According to this he will need only to gain 48 more votes to have a majority.

There are many states which are now doubtful. If, then, the people of a few of these states catch the silver fever and cast a vote in favor of Bryan, let the majority be ever so small, the whole vote of these states will go for Bryan. It is said that the silver men are making converts in the Eastern States. Suppose they carry New York by a majority of a few hun-

dred. This victory will give Bryan 36 of the 48 votes that he needs to make him President. Allow that Maine goes silver by so few as a thousand votes and that Maryland polls a very small majority for Bryan. These elections would give Bryan 14 more votes in the electoral college—two more than would be enough to make him President of the United States, and silver would then be king.

The reader sees from this that greater wonders have happened in the political world than that the "boy orator" will be elected President in November next. The calculations of the New York Sun and the New York Times may be all astray, and the silver men may be building castles in the air, for there may be elements in the presidential contest of the existence of which they are all entirely ignorant. But there is always this to be considered, that there is a probability that the changes which may take place between to-day and the third of November may be in favor rather than against the Populist cause. In any case it is not wise to regard the predictions of the advocates of free silver as absurd. We have seen that, according to the admissions of their strongest opponents, they have a solid foundation on which to build their calculations and hopes.

There are those who may consider it impolitic in the Times, the Sun and other advocates of sound money and good government to admit that there is a chance of Bryan being elected. But there are many more who do not believe it to be good policy to be continually laughing at the calculations and predictions of opponents. They consider that it is far wiser to look the situation fairly in the face, and to give the other side full credit for the strength they are known to possess. Much more harm, they think, comes of underrating the strength of political opponents than of overestimating it. It is most important that advocates of sound money and of rational government in the United States should know exactly the number and the magnitude of the difficulties that lie between them and success in the momentous contest in which they are now engaged. If they are convinced that it will require all their strength and all the resources of their patriotism to win the election, they will be sure to exert themselves to the utmost and to make all the sacrifices needed. This they would not be likely to do if they were confident of an easy victory.

CHANGED LIBERALS.

Our friends the Liberals speak of conciliating Manitoba as if the electors of Manitoba count for nothing. They seem to think that all that Mr. Laurier has to do is to prevail upon a few members of the Provincial Government and a few leading clergymen and laymen to agree to terms of settlement and the trick is done. But the Liberals should remember that behind the Government of Manitoba and its leading men stand the electors of the Province who are not to be manipulated by Mr. Laurier and Mr. Greenway and Mr. Sifton and the rest, like so many puppets who have no will of their own and can only move when Mr. Laurier, Greenway and Co. pull the strings. Mr. Greenway was told not long ago by the paper which is generally supposed to be his organ, that he dare not meddle with the school system as now established in Manitoba. Has he defied that red-hot patriot cooled down since Mr. Laurier is in office and has in his gift seats in the Cabinet and other good things? Has the editor of the Tribune been listening to the honeyed words of diplomacy and is he being initiated into the sunny ways of patriotism? Not long ago the people were to him and other anti-coercionists everything, now they are, to all appearance, nothing—not worth considering or consulting. The change that has come over these Liberals in a few short weeks is very remarkable.

THE EFFECTIVE WAY.

The Government of Great Britain knows how to deal with socialists and anarchists. It takes no notice of them. They may play their grotesque pranks before high heaven as long and as noisily as they please, but unless they violate the law of the land in some flagrant way they are left severely alone. The Socialist convention now deliberating in London is as free from governmental interference as a convention of Quakers or Christian Endeavorers. The policeman gives them a wide berth, but the eye of the newspaper reporter is upon them. He records their sayings and doings as well as they can be recorded with pen and pencil, and the people of Great Britain have the privilege of seeing how these members of the world conduct themselves when they are assembled to transact what is to them serious business. The spectacle which these free and unfettered Socialists afford the British people is not calculated to cause them to fall in love with Socialism or to wish that Socialists had the management of their public affairs. These men, who do not know how to treat each other with common decency, whose hall of deliberation is a pandemonium, who cannot transact the smallest business without violating every known rule of debate, are not the kind of men to whom society can trust all that it holds most precious. The free British press is doing more to dis-

credit Socialism in Great Britain than could an army of policemen and a host of spies.

In England the Socialists are permitted to do exactly as they like as long as they keep within the laws to which all the people of the British Islands are subject, and they like to act in a way that disgusts order-loving people of all opinions. They see enough of the Socialists when they are freed from all restraints except the restraints of decency and good manners to dislike and distrust them. The Socialist convention has been to the people a most successful object lesson. By the aid of the newspaper press they see how Socialists when free from all trammels act, and they are very far indeed from being attracted by the spectacle. If the British Government had interfered with the deliberations of the Socialists; if it had surrounded them by soldiers, policemen and spies; if it had made the Socialists and their friends feel that they were suspects and outlaws, thousands would have sympathized with them, and would have looked upon them as heroes and martyrs. As it has left them severely alone, the people have come to the conclusion that they are a coarse and disorderly crew.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND.

There is some talk of trying to persuade President Cleveland to allow himself to become again a candidate for the Presidency. It is said that the conservative element in the country, irrespective of party, will give him their enthusiastic support. It appears to be too late to ask Mr. Cleveland to become the forlorn hope of the supporters of sound and stable government in the United States. But if he had any reason to believe that he would do his country good, could save it from disaster by making the sacrifice, there is no doubt that he would accede to the wishes of those who depend upon him and confide in him. He is truly patriotic, and he has unbounded courage. When he sees that it is his duty to pursue a certain course he pursues it, no matter what difficulties and what dangers lie in his path. His career has shown that nothing can deter him from doing what he believes to be right. There is now no indication that he would lead the people of the United States to believe that he considers it his duty to become in the present crisis a candidate for the presidency. In fact very little has been heard of him of late. He has fallen into disrepute among shallow politicians and trading politicians. But thinking men in the Republic, those to whom the welfare of their country is the first of all considerations, hold Mr. Cleveland in very high esteem.

ELWORTHY V. THE CORPORATION.

Chief Justice Discharges the Order of Injunction in So Far as it Applies to Payment for Labor or Material on the Pile Bridge. In his chambers yesterday afternoon Hon. Theodore Davie, C.J., delivered the following judgment in the case of Elworthy v. the Corporation of Victoria. Mr. Jay (Sates & Jay) attended as counsel for the petitioner, while Mr. C. Dubois Mason represented the corporation, there being also present several interested ratepayers. "This is an action brought by the plaintiff as a ratepayer of the corporation to restrain the mayor and aldermen from paying any moneys of the corporation to any person or persons for or in respect of work done on, or material supplied for or in connection with the erection of a pile bridge at Point Ellice, in the city of Victoria, and the present motion is an application on behalf of the plaintiff (upon notice) to continue until the hearing an injunction granted by me on the 28th instant restraining the defendants until a time which is now past from paying any moneys of the corporation to any persons in respect of work or materials on the Point Ellice bridge, or from paying to any person the sum of \$5,200 appropriated by the resolution of the municipal council on the 24th June, 1896, or any part thereof. "As the matter is one of much urgency, I shall at once state the conclusions which the limited time at my disposal has enabled me to arrive at. "The facts giving rise to the proceedings, as detailed in the affidavits, show that a bridge over a portion of Victoria harbor, between Work street and the Indian reserve, Victoria West, and over which a large traffic passed daily, collapsed on the 26th May last by the breaking away of one of the spans, and that since the collapse of the bridge, until recently when the E. & N. railway bridge was by arrangement with the company brought into requisition, it has been impossible to take vehicles between the city and the town of Esquimalt except by a circuitous route of several miles. "It appears that nothing was done by the corporation to restore communication until the 24th June, when the council passed an appropriation of \$5,200 for the purpose of replacing the defunct bridge with a temporary structure, the piles to be driven in rows at every sixteen feet. This work being immediately commenced, was objected to on behalf of obstruction to navigation, and an injunction under Rev. Stat. Can., cap. 92, which enacts that no bridge, etc., shall be constructed so as to interfere with navigation unless (as was not the case) the site thereof has been approved by the Governor-in-Council and the plans approved by the government. "The corporation, notwithstanding the notice from the resident engineer, went on with the work, acting upon the contention that the new pile bridge did not impose a greater obstacle to navigation than a former bridge did, which had been wholly removed and had ceased to exist upwards of ten years ago. "On the 24th July, inst., upon the complaint of the Attorney-General for Canada, an injunction was granted by this court restraining the defendants from further proceeding with the objec-

tionable structure, on the ground that its erection is unlawful.

"The present action is now brought to prevent the corporation paying out any portion of the \$5,200 voted by them for the construction of the pile bridge, or any other moneys of the corporation in connection therewith. "Whilst it is clearly settled law that a corporation will be restrained by injunction from applying its moneys to unlawful purposes or to purposes not authorized by law (Atty. General v. Aspinall, 2 Myl. and Cr. 613; Atty. Gen. v. Mayor of Norwich, 2 Myl. and Cr. 406), yet other considerations arise here. The officers of the corporation, wrongfully as it may be assumed, have been partially, and in some cases wholly, executed. These contracts were undertaken and executed by those engaged therein in good faith, and as valid contracts for the building or repairing of a bridge with a body corporate which has under the Municipal Clauses Act, sec. 50, sub-sec. 122, abundant power to provide for making, preserving, repairing &c., roads, bridges and highways. The persons contracting with the corporation were not supposed to know, neither were they concerned to inquire whether, in their plans for restoring communication, the corporation intended to impede navigation, or whether they had obtained the permission of the Dominion government so to do. Consequently it seems clear that the injunction, so far as it restrains the corporation from paying for work and contracts already done and executed, must be discharged. The corporation cannot be restrained from paying its debts. "The injunction, however, will be continued to restrain the defendants from entering into or further proceeding with any contracts or works in pursuance of their projected pile bridge. "It may be well for the plaintiff to consider what form of remedy he shall seek in this action. His grievance would appear to be not so much against the corporation as against the members thereof. The Mayor and aldermen are trustees of the civic property and funds, and would seem to be liable for wasting any surplus of the property entrusted to them for the same as private trustees would be for wasting trust funds. Since the passage of the "English corporation reform act, 1855" the individual responsibility of aldermanic bodies has been clearly defined by that act and subsequent legal decisions. "Before that act, as pointed out by Vice-Chancellor Estlin in Patterson v. Bowes, 4 Grant's Chancery Rep., 180, a corporate body could be held liable as if it pleased. It could have alienated or destroyed it. The "Corporation reform act," however, defined the purposes to which corporate property was in future to be applied in such a manner as to improve the trust which gave the Court of Chancery jurisdiction to prevent its misapplication; and a number of cases almost immediately arose in which corporate property which had been applied in a manner inconsistent with the provisions of the act, was reclaimed on the ground of trust, and the jurisdiction of the court to compel the restitution of such property was established. "The directors and other officers of the corporation, though constituent members and composed of the governing body of the corporation, are regarded as its agents, and if they are acting wrongfully may be severed from the corporation and proceeded against by the corporation itself for the purpose either of prevention, or correction. "—And the same right attaches to any ratepayer suing on behalf of himself and the other ratepayers of the corporation, to use the name of the corporation.—See also Newcastle v. A. G., R. (1892) App. Cas. 563; A. G. v. Newcastle 23, Q. B. D. 492. "It will be necessary also to consider the frame of this suit. The plaintiff, Mr. Bowes, decides that the Attorney-General is not a necessary party to it, and that the plaintiff should sue on behalf of himself and all other ratepayers, and the corporation as well as the members of the corporation, in their individual capacity would seem to be necessary parties.—(See Morrow v. Connor, 11 Ont. Prac. 423.) As the defendant aldermen are of course themselves ratepayers it follows that they cannot be co-plaintiffs against themselves. The action therefore should be by the plaintiff on behalf of himself and all other ratepayers except the defendant aldermen. "The order therefore will be to discharge the order for injunction so far as it restrains the payment for materials or work already delivered or done, with leave to plaintiff to amend in the manner suggested. "The costs will be costs in the cause."

CHICAGO'S POLICE CORRUPTION.

CHICAGO, July 30.—Evidence tending to substantiate wholesale charges of police corruption is in the possession of the civic federation. A movement is on foot to secure an investigation of the police department similar to the Lexow investigation in New York. The charges, it is asserted, include specific cases of extortion of money from the unfortunate of the city and of the protection of the criminal and semi-criminal classes. Captains, lieutenants, sergeants, detectives and patrolmen are, it is said, included in the roll of dishonor. "Toronto, July 31.—Bishop Dumoulin, of the Niagara diocese, has left for a trip to the Pacific Coast, and will return after the close of the Winnipeg synod, which meets in the middle of September.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair.

DR. PRICES' CREAM BAKING POWDER MOST PERFECT MADE.

A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

That's a name. Trade in the con-ago. It's the closest you would find. In truth with the assu-greatest and Prize

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