

## THE CIVIL SERVICE AND ITS WORK.

By F. A. Dixon.

The public generally, outside of Ottawa, misapprehend the civil service, and, through want of thought, or, perhaps, a certain ungenerosity, ignore the extensive work which it carries on for their benefit; it is only just that they should be reminded. Cabinets alter and Governments change, but the daily work of service, involving the prosperity, safety and convenience of the public, never ceases, but moves on with perfect regularity and precision, in all its countless ramifications, throughout the length and breadth of this enormous country. Everywhere, to its remotest corner, justice can be had, and no crime is too small to escape the search of its agents, whatever the cost and trouble. A small body of able men here in Ottawa have devised and control this admirable system, framing

the laws that define and punish offences against person and property, and organizing and directing the instruments and institutions through which they are enforced; in addition, they act as the general advisors of the Crown in all legal matters.

For the safe navigation of its great water highways and seas, and the protection of its vast fishing interests, with all that is implied of detail, the country looks to the civil servant, and is not disappointed.

From ocean to ocean and across the oceans, to and from all the civilized world goes the priceless correspondence of the country; gathered up from city, town and village, and in all out of the way spots of bush and prairie, by careful, faithful hands, and watched over like king's treasures, under wonderful systems, devised and supervised by—the civil service clerk.

Railways, the public property, are built, maintained and operated in all their manifold complications, and other railways, of thousands of miles

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