

EPIGRAMMATA.

TO NORTH-WEST MIDDLETON.

GRIEF takes command of all, from colonel to cadet,
For Middleton retires with General Regret.

TO CHAMBERLAIN.

You have Canada's heartiest wish, Joe,
For success in your work ; don't forget
That we can't hope to catch any fish, Joe,
If the Yankee cuts holes in our net.

TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

Free trade with the States you must try, man,
If you want to grow wealthy forthwith ;
That it's true we can just show you why, man,
If you think it's a mischievous-myth.

THE FORCE OF EXAMPLE.

If the newspaper press is a great public educator, as is often claimed, we confidentially expect to see something like this before long :—

CHALLENGE.

Glasgieson, the clothier, does not wish to obtrude his private affairs upon the notice of the public, but as his neighbor Gleeton has seen fit to allege that Glasgieson's \$2.00 pants have not a wider circulation than the inferior goods of the said Gleeton, Glasgieson hereby challenges Gleeton to submit his books and accounts to a committee of three experts to be named by the superintendent of the Street Car Company for decision of the following points:

1. Glasgieson declares that he sells more \$2.00 pants every day than does Gleeton.
2. That his profits—notwithstanding that he makes a regular habit of selling below cost—are greater than Gleeton's.
3. That as a result of success in business he eats better dinners, wears better clothes (his own make), and drives a better private rig than does the said Gleeton.

Gleeton is expected to accept this challenge at once, or let the pant-buying public draw their own conclusions.

REPLY.

Mr. Gleeton, the leading clothier, presents his compliments to the public, and begs to say that Glasgieson's challenge is simply a red herring to blind the eyes of the *vox populi*. However, in so far as the points to be decided are of interest to the pant-buying community, he accepts Glasgieson's challenge squarely. He may be allowed to observe, however, that the question of profits, being of no concern to the public, might as well be left out.

REJOINDER.

Mr. Glasgieson observes with pain and regret that his neighbor, Gleeton, is trying to crawl out of the test. The question of profits is material part of the enquiry, as it is well-known that Gleeton is accustomed to give away pants just to make it appear that he is doing a larger business than Glasgieson. The goods thus given away he takes back again allowing rebates upon them, so that they do not really go into circulation at all. The sales book, however, will show the circulation exactly, and Mr. Glasgieson therefore insists upon the original terms of the challenge.

REPLY.

Mr. Gleeton does *not* intend to sneak out of the contest. On the contrary he is only too anxious to have it decided, and all he asks is that the enquiry may go back

over the business of the last ten years, and be thorough in every respect. As Mr. Glasgieson insists upon it, Mr. Gleeton waives his objection on the matter of profits, though he begs to repeat that it is hardly decent to drag that before the public.

REJOINDER.

Mr. Glasgieson has only to say in reply to the shuffling answer of his neighbour, that his challenge has been framed and placed in his front shop window where it will remain until it is either accepted or declined. The public may read it and judge for themselves.

REPLY.

Mr. Gleeton does not care about having anything further to say to a challenger who backs out after making a challenge. He has accepted Mr. Glasgieson's challenge squarely. What more can he do?

REJOINDER.

Another meaningless and equivocating reply has been made to Mr. Glasgieson's challenge. Gleeton is evidently afraid to come on. We await his final answer.

REPLY.

It is quite clear to Mr. Gleeton's mind that Glasgieson has been indulging in bounce from the beginning. We are too busy handing out our matchless \$2.00 pants to our thousands of customers to bother further with him.

REJOINDER.

The final answer has come. Gleeton at last frankly admits that he cannot meet Mr. Glasgieson's challenge. Let the public draw their own conclusions. Finally, Mr. Glasgieson offers to give a pair of fine tailor-made all wool \$2.00 pants to any man who will guess where he got this brilliant idea of challenging from.

A TAKING BAIT.



R. BLAKE was fishing with a very taking bait when he championed the cause of Ireland in Ireland the other day, if what he was fishing for was the Irish vote. "Many are the past services," says the *Irish Canadian*, "he has rendered the cause of truth and justice, but this service by Edward Blake to the Irish people is the 'crowning of the edifice.' He has placed the children of the Irish nation

the world over under a deep debt of gratitude—and we in Canada can only repay him in one way. Hereafter let our people give to him in political action a reciprocity hearty and full." This is swallowing the minnow at a gulp. One of these days the "children of the Irish nation" will find out that to the minnow are attached a hook and line, and that Edward Blake does not angle to feed fishes but to catch them.

ETERNAL FITNESS OF THINGS.

At Ottawa, swelldom has a naughty-way of conducting itself.