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Newspaper Life and Newspaper Men.

By J. H. FLETCHER.

FROM the earliest days of my boyhood I had a great fondness for newspapers. About the first money I ever owned I invested in a subscription to a newspaper. That paper was THE EXAMINER, owned and edited by the late Hon. Edward Whelan. I loved the paper, read every word of it every week, and came to believe that its editor was the greatest man that lived on the Island. And I am still of the same opinion. As I grew older I became a Liberal of the Liberals. I could not see how a sensible man could be anything else. The Liberals of that day were the friends of the people. They had given the country all the measures of reform it ever had—Responsible Government, Free Education, the Land Purchase Act, Manhood Suffrage, etc. And the gaining of these measures cost them many hard and heroic struggles. But they stood by the struggling poor through abuse, misrepresentation, religious fanaticism, contumely and reproach. Why then shouldn't a farmer's son stand by the men who stood by the poor and the oppressed?

I am now convinced that I was a bigotted and narrow-minded Liberal, for I loved everybody who called himself a Liberal and disliked everyone who did not. I thought everything the Liberals did was right, and everything the Tories did was wrong, for I felt that do good thing could come out of Nazareth.

In after years when I saw the very men who opposed Coles