

A HOLLOW VICTORY.

Col. Prior had the proud satisfaction to-day of being a practically beaten man. The other day he openly made the statement that if he did not get a majority of at least 500 he might as well retire from politics. His actual majority is 107, and therefore judging by his own standard he is utterly discredited as a politician. When he could do no better than that, with all the peculiar advantages he enjoyed, he certainly could not take any great amount of gratification out of his victory, and the subdued tone of the "rejoicings" indicates what he and his supporters really feel on the subject. Yesterday's very modified success was a sure forerunner of defeat at the general election, which must come on within a few weeks. On that occasion Col. Prior and his colleagues will not have on their side some of the peculiar influences which greatly affected the result yesterday. Moreover, the opposition organization, which failed at a few points yesterday, owing to lack of time, will be perfected, and that will mean a large number of votes. Those who examine the returns will observe that in the portion of the city which is free from the direct interference of officialdom, and is in a position to cast a free and independent vote, Mr. Templeman received a large majority. The other portions of the city would have likewise given him a majority only for the interference spoken of, and for the influence of certain allies of the government party whose "wings" will be clipped next time. The Liberals are disappointed, but they have every reason to feel encouraged by the result of the contest. The most disgraceful feature is the failure of Victoria to send officially to Manitoba the message which should have been sent to strengthen and encourage her in her fight against wrong, but we have no doubt Manitobans will discern the fact that though nominally the verdict of Victorians was against them, virtually it was in their favor. Beyond a doubt, the great majority of the intelligent citizens whose votes were untrammelled pronounced against coercion and against the course which the Dominion government has followed. Manitoba may be quite sure from yesterday's vote that Victoria's sympathy is actually with her.

PUNISH THE REPEATERS.

It appears that in spite of the warnings given, some persons yesterday voted more than once. One Government street merchant was heard to boast last evening that he had thus repeated his vote for Col. Prior, and inquiry to-day has shown that he did vote at least twice, at the court house and in Victoria West. At the latter place he took the oath. It is well known that there were other cases, and it is further known that electors were deliberately advised by an officer of the Conservative association, and by other prominent workers for Col. Prior, that they could vote as often as their names appeared on the list. These advisers were of course as guilty as the men who actually committed the offense. It is evidently necessary that the men who thus violated the law should be prosecuted and punished in order that the practice may be stopped. It is of course an unpleasant duty to proceed against a fellow citizen, but in a case of this kind it is a plain duty to do so. It would be a most unfortunate thing for the community if any set of men within it were left under the impression that they can get away with defiance.

BROKEN UP.

There is not much comfort for the government party to be found in the Ottawa situation. Sir Mackenzie Bowell cannot have any chance of reconstructing his ministry, and it is equally certain that no other man on the Conservative side can form a new ministry. There is only one method of solving the difficulty apparent to the ordinary observer, and that is the calling in of Mr. Laurier. The endeavor to patch up the rents in the government party could succeed by nothing short of a miracle. No such spectacle has ever before been seen in connection with Canadian politics as that presented when Mr. Foster stood up in his place and said the seven ministers had resigned because they could not longer follow Sir Mackenzie Bowell's leadership. Sir Richard Cartwright seems to have been right when he said Premier Bowell's part in the affair had been the only honorable one. The old man was mistaken in his policy, but he did not deserve such scurvy treatment as he has received from the bolters. It seems probable to entertain the idea that these men are likely to receive any consideration at the hands of the Governor-General. They can have no pretension to command the confidence of the country.

AN UNFORTUNATE RAID.

It is unfortunate that Dr. Jameson and his men should have so rashly invaded the Transvaal and precipitated the present South African trouble. The foreign population of the republic—the Uitlanders, as they are styled—are most outrageously treated by the Boers, but the invasion by the South African Company's force was a very unwise way of trying to find a remedy. The Boers are a narrow-minded, bigoted and selfish people, and the men who have done so much to develop their country have undoubtedly suffered grievously under their tyranny. No one can justly find fault with them, however, for defending

their republic against an attack from a force of outsiders, whose interests in the dispute was but secondary at the best. The almost certain result of such a raid might have been foreseen, as it has not benefited the Uitlanders, and it has brought serious trouble on all parties concerned, including the mother country. If Dr. Jameson is excused, as to-day's dispatches seem to show he will be, the situation in South Africa will be one of great danger and difficulty. The possible complications are too many and too formidable to be contemplated without disquietude. It is hard to say what the end of it all will be.

PECULIAR STATEMENTS.

Rev. Canon Beauland makes these rather astonishing statements in a letter to the Colonist:— "Now, it is perfectly well known that 'entirely unsectarian' education is abhorrent to the Roman Catholic conscience; as abhorrent as 'entirely Catholic education' would be to the conscience of the framers of that statute. I say, then, that it is as great an injustice for a temporary majority to force upon the Roman Catholics in Manitoba such an education, as it would be for the Roman Catholics of Quebec to insist upon state education in that province upon purely Roman Catholic lines. In the first paragraph the reverend gentleman makes assertions directly contradictory to those of Cardinal Sattoli, the representative in America of the head of the Catholic church. Who is the best authority on this point, Mr. Sattoli or Rev. Canon Beauland? As to the second paragraph, it is only necessary to say that the 'temporary majority' in Manitoba has not proposed to interfere with the liberty of conscience of Catholics in any way."

DESERTING THE SHIP.

The following members of the present house of commons have taken refuge in the senate: Messrs. Adams, of Northumberland, N. B.; Baker, of Missisquoi, Que.; Boyle, of Monck, Ont.; and White of Shelburne, N.S., Mr. McKay, one of the Hamilton members has been appointed an inspector of customs, and Mr. Bain, of Soulanges, has become a postoffice inspector. This great flight to shelter of government members is the best possible evidence that there is a general expectation of a complete collapse on the government side. The Bowell ministry can hardly be reconstructed out of the present wreck, and Tupper the Elder could have no prospect of any better success.

A COLONIST FALSEHOOD.

The Colonist is this morning says: "Several days have elapsed since the exigencies of election day required 'the men who supported Mr. Templeman' to manufacture and circulate the above telegram, and Mr. Laurier has not yet been called in." It is needless to say that the Colonist's insinuation as to "manufacturing and circulating" a telegram is a direct falsehood. Many of the Colonist's readers have seen the original of the telegram referred to, which is still preserved in the Times office. Any who chooses can see it at any time. And if any person should still entertain a doubt he can refer the matter to Mr. Christie, manager of the C. P. R. telegraph office, who will readily certify to its genuineness. It might have been thought that while the Colonist considered falsehood a useful weapon during the contest, there was no good reason for employing it afterwards. Unfortunately our neighbor's bad habit of lying has become so much a part of its nature that it cannot live without lying.

THE REAL REASON.

Minister Foster's statement in regard to the government trouble at Ottawa shows a certain lack of candour in an occurrence unparalleled in the history of any country constitutionally governed. Only last Thursday the Governor-General addressed to parliament the speech put into his mouth by his advisers, giving declarations on various matters of policy to which all those advisers had subscribed. On Saturday half of the ministers resigned, and this was the explanation offered on their behalf by the minister of finance:— "There is no disagreement between ourselves and the premier upon any question of public policy, trade or the constitution with regard to which action had been already taken or in respect to which an attitude had been assumed by the government under the present premier. We retain our firm belief in the principles and policy of the Liberal-Conservative party, with which we are in entire accord, and of which we are in common with others remain exponents so far as our ability admits. We have lost none of our confidence in the sound and healthy condition of the Liberal-Conservative party or of our belief that it embodies the policy which a majority of the electorate consider essential to the continued welfare and progress of the country; or our faith that under firm and prudent leadership it will come back triumphant at the polls."

"Though with many misgivings we finally agreed to enter the government under Sir Mackenzie Bowell, in success under Sir John Thompson, we have nevertheless unitedly and loyally striven to the best of our ability to make it strong and efficient, and it has been with growing regret that we have seen our efforts result in a measure of success less than that for which we hoped and striven. We are of opinion that the Liberal-Conservative party ought to be represented by the strong government possible to be secured from its ranks. That necessity was never greater than under the existing

circumstances, and we believe that such a government can be formed without delay. This we have repeatedly urged upon the premier, with the result that we found ourselves face to face with parliament having a government with its members incomplete, and with an assurance that the present premier could satisfactorily complete it.

"Under the circumstances we thought it our duty to retire and in this manner pave the way, if possible, for the formation of a government whose premier could command the confidence of all his colleagues, could satisfy the Liberal-Conservative party that its strongest elements were at its head, and impress the country that it had a government which was united and had power to govern. We affirm with the utmost sincerity that the action we have taken has sprung from no personal feeling of dislike or of personal ambition, but has been solely dictated by our own wish to sink minor considerations in the presence of our great desire that the best interests of our party and country should be duly conserved."

Those who had any idea that the Bowell ministry as it was constituted was a fit and proper body to govern this country should carefully study this statement and find how poorly they over the province. Col. Prior was backed by the prestige of his being a minister of the crown; and also by many leading representative men of great weight, and yet if 100 more votes had been cast against the Liberal party many times could have been brought out by the Liberals, we are told, but their organization was not as complete as it should have been—the new minister of agriculture would have been left at home. The hand-picking of the well known names and the fact that when the contesting parties next test their strength it is quite safe to prophesy a complete Waterloo for the Tories. We cannot but congratulate our noble friends at the capital upon the noble fight and manly conduct of their principles, and through our old friend and fellow-worker in the Reform vineyard we are very successful there is every reason for believing that when the general election comes round he will be able to smite at the editorial paragraph in this morning's Colonist headed "Honesty the Best Policy," where that paper, after working itself into a fever heat of consciousness, gives expression to the opinion that "with no personal ends to attain and no personal ambition to gratify," etc., Really that is on a par with the equally self-laudatory remarks of the Colonist on the anniversary of its last birthday when it innocently declared it had never been "nursed" in the arms of the fact that to-day, in its thirty-eighth year, it is found clinging eagerly to the government breasts from which it has obtained its chief support all along.

Very little work has been done on the new postoffice during the past month. What is the reason? Probably our representatives or the contractors, Elford & Smith, will explain.

The Conservative government at Ottawa is hopelessly broken up. Look out for another election in a few weeks.

The Uitlanders of the Transvaal have come out of the "ruction" with a very poor reputation. They seem to have been in their account and then left them in the lurch in the most cowardly manner. The Boers have now claimed admiration when compared with the Uitlanders.

It is now said that if the Bowell government is reconstructed Col. Prior will be appointed minister of militia. In that case nobody will be inclined to doubt his being a cabinet minister, but his chance of promotion seems very remote, and in any event the people of Victoria will not forget that the attempt was made to impose upon them with a "fake."

Col. Prior must have been perpetrating a joke at the Colonist's expense when he wrote to the editor of that paper as follows: "The paper has been conducted in such a manner that whilst it did everything it could to forward the Conservative interests it never in any way can have wounded the feelings of my opponents, being always free from personalities and abuse." The statement could not well have been further from the truth.

In a letter which appears elsewhere, some very natural questions are asked in regard to the conduct of the road superintendent for the Victoria and Saanich district. A road superintendent's duty is to superintend the roads and keep them in order, not to do political scavenging for any party or combination of politicians. The fact that in places the roads have been allowed to go to ruin while this official was off electorizing is a nice commentary on the way in which our lands and works department is conducted. Where do the provincial government find warrant for taxing the people of this province to provide political agents for the vile combination at Ottawa?

Nelson Tribune: The Colonist maintains that British Columbia will be represented in the Dominion cabinet by the appointment of E. G. Prior to the controllership of inland revenue; that a controller of inland revenue will have "as much say" in cabinet meetings as a minister of finance, or a minister of public works. In 1887 the department of inland revenue and the department of customs were merged in that of trade and commerce, and from that time have been in charge of controllers, who are under the general instructions of the minister of trade and commerce. They are merely officers, not ministers, and are removable at pleasure. More orders-in-council can not give them authority that is not given them in the act creating the offices. Were the Colonist an upright newspaper it would be above defending such absurd contentions; but it is not an upright newspaper; it is merely a party organ.

THE CONTEST IN VICTORIA.

The result of the polling in the Dominion election at Victoria on Monday placed Hon. Col. Prior at the head of the poll by a majority, so far as can be learned, of 107 votes, the total polled being: Prior, 1,504; Templeman, 1,451. From whatever point these figures are viewed there can be no questioning the fact that the Liberals scored a magnificent victory, and further that the mercantile metropolis and capital of British Columbia is now a Liberal city. We saw the seeds of Liberalism planted there in 1886, but the stalwarts grew from about a baker's dozen to about 300 in 1887, when for the first time in the history of the constituency the Liberals raised the Reform standard on the Tory stronghold. But still the seed kept on increasing in its growth and in 1891 the vote increased to 440. Then there were two Tories, Thos. Earle and Col. Prior in the field, the former receiving 1061 and the latter 1049; whilst the Liberals Messrs. Templeman and Marchant, polled respectively 440 and 409. The seed of Liberalism was good and sound; the soil was a fertile one, and in 1896 the city gave to the Liberal candidate, Mr. William Templeman, a majority—that which elected his rival, the Controller of Inland Revenue, back the corporation limits and Methosin. From a Liberal vote of 499 to 1,451 in less than five years is assuredly a big stride. The gain is over 1,000 votes. For the Tory member there was a gain of 485 votes, Mr. Templeman thus leading Col. Prior in point of fresh strength by over two to one. This is indeed an encouraging outlook for the Liberals of Victoria, as well as for Liberalism all over the province. Col. Prior was backed by the prestige of his being a minister of the crown; and also by many leading representative men of great weight, and yet if 100 more votes had been cast against the Liberal party many times could have been brought out by the Liberals, we are told, but their organization was not as complete as it should have been—the new minister of agriculture would have been left at home. The hand-picking of the well known names and the fact that when the contesting parties next test their strength it is quite safe to prophesy a complete Waterloo for the Tories. We cannot but congratulate our noble friends at the capital upon the noble fight and manly conduct of their principles, and through our old friend and fellow-worker in the Reform vineyard we are very successful there is every reason for believing that when the general election comes round he will be able to smite at the editorial paragraph in this morning's Colonist headed "Honesty the Best Policy," where that paper, after working itself into a fever heat of consciousness, gives expression to the opinion that "with no personal ends to attain and no personal ambition to gratify," etc., Really that is on a par with the equally self-laudatory remarks of the Colonist on the anniversary of its last birthday when it innocently declared it had never been "nursed" in the arms of the fact that to-day, in its thirty-eighth year, it is found clinging eagerly to the government breasts from which it has obtained its chief support all along.

When Mr. Snider if he were thrown on his own resources. During the last floods hundreds of dollars' worth of damage have been done to our roads which might have been avoided had the ditches and culverts been opened as they should be. We could have pointed out one instance in particular on one of the hills on the West Saanich road, where part of our money was expended in graveling, a work that was greatly needed, as the places was almost impassable at the time. The ditches, however, were not kept open, and as a result a good deal of the money expended has been thrown away, for the water overflowed and ran down the centre of the road, carrying away the gravel, leaving a deep water course and the hill all but impassable as ever.

In this instance all this waste could have been saved by five minutes work in opening the ditch. And thus it is all through the district. During the forenoon the last summer the main West road to Saanich was blocked for two days by fallen timber, and at the present time it is unsafe to drive at night owing to the small trees which have been borne down by snow and are overhanging the road. Where was our road superintendent last summer? Where is he now?

In the first case he cannot say that he did not know, for it was brought to his knowledge, but still the road remained blocked. In the second case there is no excuse, for it was his duty to attend to these matters. No doubt there was one thing he did not neglect, and that was to draw his salary. How long will we have to stand passively by and see our hard-earned money washed away in the floods and our roads ruined through the incompetency and negligence of our road boss? And how long will we have to pay \$125 a month for the privilege? But let him beware, for there is an end to all things and the taxpayers' endurance will not last for ever.

A TAXPAYERS' COLONISTIC ORIGINALITY.

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There are several other very original things in that extremely funny editorial.

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To the Editor:—The Liberals lost yesterday, but they lost in a good cause and put up a splendid fight, with fearful odds against them in the shape of heaps of money, a strong party vote, and the adoption of every unfair device which unprincipled opponents could adopt. Backed up by the votes of the finest, unprincipled and unscrupulous newspapers that it has ever been the misfortune of a community of fair-minded people to have inflicted upon them. The attitude of the Colonist in regard to this campaign has been nothing more or less than that of a paid party heeler and there were swarms of them around Col. Prior in this fight in one of the lowest American precincts. Such a thing as a fair reference to its opponents is something that Liberals will look for in vain through its columns, because the management never thought of such a thing themselves. Col. Prior in his letter to paper must have had a great laugh to himself when he penned the lines congratulating it on its fairness to his and its opponents. This is the first joke I ever heard of the Colonist perpetrating, and it is really good enough for Punch. But the Colonist fans itself with the perfect glow of conscious virtue this morning, and really thinks it has been the soul of honor. Dear me! If such a paper cannot fall to be a source of strength to the party or man it supports, I am of opinion that that party or man has not much of a reputation to lose. Col. Prior evidently has changed his opinion since he took stock in the former attorney-general's paper, the Daily News, which was started for the sole purpose of having in Victoria a "fair and impartial newspaper."

The Liberals went into the fight for a good principle; they have established that principle by a fair and gentlemanly fight, and the Colonist and its heeler cannot prove otherwise. The cabinet minister bawled before the idea of foregoing a great principle affecting the people of the Dominion. What is the result? Col. Prior has come out of the fight badly battered and his party scared terribly. It has cost the party an immense sum to procure by fair means the short space of time with the package little instance will suffice. The Liberal committee got word late in the afternoon that there were twenty-five voters in the back room of a certain saloon which could be had for \$2 a piece. The Liberals lost the messenger to go to some one. Whether the messenger went or not, it is certain the men voted, and it transpired that the party who voted them raised the price by four bits a head. It was not the Liberal party that voted these men.

NEGLECTED ROADS.

To the Editor:—Many of the people of this district would very much like to have the duties of our road superintendent defined. Does he draw his salary from the province or is it his duty to look after our roads or is it his duty to act as canvasser for votes not only at the local but at the Dominion elections? If the latter is his duty we cannot complain, for the most critical would fail to find any lack of energy displayed or time given, and as such he is undoubtedly a most faithful servant and deserves every praise.

If, however, it is, as some of us have the audacity to think, his duty to attend to our roads as his little duties, then we as taxpayers have reason to be dissatisfied. To see \$125 monthly paid out to a man who does not do his duty is rather rough on those who have to pay, and especially as this is principally a farming district and there is not one in fifty of the taxpayers in this district who begins to make that amount. Nor

would Mr. Snider if he were thrown on his own resources. During the last floods hundreds of dollars' worth of damage have been done to our roads which might have been avoided had the ditches and culverts been opened as they should be. We could have pointed out one instance in particular on one of the hills on the West Saanich road, where part of our money was expended in graveling, a work that was greatly needed, as the places was almost impassable at the time. The ditches, however, were not kept open, and as a result a good deal of the money expended has been thrown away, for the water overflowed and ran down the centre of the road, carrying away the gravel, leaving a deep water course and the hill all but impassable as ever.

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it. Perhaps we shall now get a "real cabinet minister" when there is such a demand at Ottawa, according to the Colonist's admission, for cabinet material.

VICTORIA MARKETS. Retail Quotations for Farmers' Produce Carefully Corrected.

The usual dullness after the holiday trade has been noticeable in the retail markets during the past week. Prices remain the same with the exception of those for fresh butter and eggs, which, owing to the better weather, have been coming in rather freely, causing a reduction in prices.

Table of market prices for various goods including Flour (Ogilvie's Hungarian, Baker's), Sugar, Butter, Eggs, and various oils and meats. Prices are listed per ton, bushel, or hundred pounds.

Palpitation of the Heart Defined.

Palpitation of the heart is perhaps the most common symptom of heart disease, and is defined as pulsations that are perceived by the patient. It comes on in paroxysms, with intervals of more or less freedom from attack. The heart may begin to beat violently, it may pound against the walls of the chest, the vessels may throb in the neck, the eyes become suffused and the head aches; or on the other hand, the heart may be very feeble and very feeble, so that the pulse may consist only of a series of rapid and almost impalpable waves.

BEES FOR USE IN WAR.

A Theory That They Will Be Employed to Carry Messages Between Armies. It is more than likely that the next great European war will be signalized by some altogether remarkable innovation in the way of carrying military dispatches. The carrier pigeon, which for centuries has been a quarter of a century back are certain to be superseded, perhaps by storks, pe haps by sparrows. Experiments have already been tried with both these birds, and with a fair degree of success.

TWO SALMON TO BE BUILT IN ALL STEAM WHARF.

San Francisco, Jan. 8.—The necessary building and machinery work can be satisfactorily done at Alameda wharf and will be completed in about a week.

THE OLD MICHIGAN CHIEF.

Are One and All Troubled by Sour Cures.

Kidney troubles of those of any age, fever, and generally so in the vigor of life, unwarmed by distress parts. Much of it is due to disorder of the American Kidney. Relief is secured by distressing cases. It is not a six-hour cure for this one purpose. Sold by Deak & Hisco.

RISKS ON THE WATER.

Another Catastrophe Little Girl's Cleveland, O., J. across Tinker's Creek. The electric north the electric

BOWELL PACK. The Task of Form Has Failed and Given to Give Ministers Are in Conflict the Governor-General Afternoon

Senator Kaubach Floor of the Senate Afternoon

Ottawa, Jan. 8.—In Adolph Caron said further information that the prime minister. Excellency, Mr. Laurier formation was satisfied not agree to an adjournment. Bowell will like after making his statement. Premier Bowell is trying to patch up his cabinet. Political rumors about him are being spread. Bowell is the sole subject of Mackenzie Bowell is with his appointees and when this is done Senator Kaubach floor of the senate to-day in the department, and it is understood after making his statement to-night. He recommend anyone to the premiership. At one o'clock to-day except Premier Bowell, Hall, and are now at Aberdeen. Senator Kaubach floor of the senate from 1872. From 1885 to 1895 he was one of the advocates of confederation. His age was 62 at Lunenburg, N. S.

IT HAD A FAVORABLE REPORTS OF QUIET BEING THE TRANSVAAL H. London, Jan. 8.—Here have been flatly reporting that President Kruger has returned to England. There was no general recovery in American with other markets, business in them being covering. It is reported syndicate will yet in subscriptions for States. The gold price will probably to low their original of gold is expected to get the Cape and South Paris bourse was letter closing firm. The general outlook the continental bourse. The amount of from the Bank of today was £7,000,000. New York, Jan. market to-day out of influences that have. The speculation was with other markets, of business showed. The London cables sion in European fractional declines ties at that centre.

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