



The gravest beast is the Ass; the gravest bird is the Owl;
The gravest fish is the Oyster; the gravest man is the Fool.

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TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1892.

ONE singular feature about the chorus of execration with which the memory of the late detested Jay Gould is assailed, is that the condemnation is largely called forth by the sole redeeming trait in his character. Whatever his faults or crimes, Jay Gould was not a canting hypocrite. He made no humbugging pretence of regarding himself as a steward holding his wealth in trust for the community he despoiled. He did not go through the farce of attempting to compromise with Heaven or humanity by posing as a social benefactor and donating a percentage of his stealings to churches, missions, colleges or music halls. He did not seek to cloak the rascality of his transactions by any such pitiful pretext of having the benefit of society in view, as marks the acts of the Carnegies and Rockefellers. Therefore he was to that slight extent a better, or, at least, a less utterly despicable character than some other arch-millionaires whom the world has pretended to sorrow over at their decease.



AULTY, indeed, is the reasoning which makes the lack of charitable or public bequests in his will the principal reason for holding the deceased robber up to execration. For it is admitted on all hands that he was a robber, that he accumulated his enormous wealth dishonestly, and in ways injurious to the community. This being the case, how could the injustice of the mode by which Gould's wealth was acquired be in any respect affected by the distribution he chose to make of it? Is a

pirate, highwayman, or slave-dealer a less villainous character because he may devote a small proportion of his gains to charitable uses? Would the *Globe* and the *World*, in writing of a robber of this class, justify and emphasize their condemnation of his misdeeds on the ground that he made no religious or public bequests? Hardly. And yet, if the disposition made of wealth is

to modify our judgment upon the unjust accumulator, why should not the charitable burglar and the pious brigand be entitled to urge the same plea as the munificent millionaire of the Carnegie type?

PREMIER THOMPSON has completed the organization of his Ministry, and the changes made are comparatively few. The most notable feature is the taking in of Mr. Clarke Wallace, of West York, who has received the position of Comptroller of Customs. Mr. Wallace's only qualification for a Government post is that he is an Orangeman and has shown a disposition to kick. It is hoped that his appointment will reconcile the brethren of the lodges to an Ultramontane Premier, and, if accompanied with the scattering of a few minor favors and promises among the more noisy and obstreperous of the heelers, it will probably have the desired effect. Bro. Wallace, by the way, was one of the "devil's thirteen" who voted against the Jesuit bill, which was a very effective way of letting the Government know that he wanted something.

THE vicious principle of sectional representation is carried out to a greater extent than ever in the new Ministry. It might be supposed that the Catholic element were sufficiently represented by Thompson and the Quebec Frenchmen—but race has to be considered as well as religion so the Irish Catholics must have three representatives. Only one of the lot, J. J. Curran, of Montreal, could by any possibility have been thought of for such a position but for the claims of race and religion. As to Costigan and Smith, any intelligent, self-respecting Irish Catholic would prefer to remain unrepresented in the Cabinet for all time rather than to have two such ignorant louts elevated to conspicuous posts where they only display their unfitness and incompetency.



PUBLIC meeting of influential citizens, and others who would like to pose in that capacity, held in the City Hall last week, listened to enthusing speeches, and passed resolutions in favor of developing the manufacturing industries of Toronto. There was also a strong feeling in favor of bonusing manufacturers, and exploiting those "magnificent natural resources" of which we have heard so much at the expense of the people. It's of no use, gentlemen! Human gullibility is boundless, and it is therefore possible that a few self-seekers may succeed in inducing the stupid public to sub-

mit to fleecing for their benefit, but so far as any substantial development is concerned, your extravagant schemes are bound to fail in the end, just as the N. P. has failed. We can manufacture more now than there is any market for, and if we could double or treble the extent of our manufacturing industries it would only result