

A PHILOSOPHICAL COCKROACH

A cockroach sat on an editor's desk,
 With a cynical smile on his face,
 And watched the editor make grotesque
 Black marks on a clean, white place.
 "Dear me!" said the cockroach, "I can't see
 Why he should labor so constantly,
 For he doesn't accomplish a single thing
 With all his writing and scissoring.
 Paste and scissors,
 Scissors and paste
 Think of the energy going to waste!"

The editor listened, but didn't reply,
 For he had too much to do;
 But he said to himself, "One can't deny
 There's much in the point of view.
 One cannot measure his neighbor's worth
 By the gash he makes in the face of the earth,
 And I strongly suspect that he may be
 Perfectly right in his judgment of me.
 Paste and scissors,
 Scissors and paste—
 Think of the energy going to waste!"

Then the editor smashed the cockroach flat
 With his scissors, and buried him deep
 In the pot of paste, and remarked, "Now that
 I consider is getting off cheap.
 The critical faculty, as we know,
 Is a dangerous thing to have, and so
 I've forwarded you to a better land,
 For the sake of society, understand."
 Then the editor took up his pen and said,
 As he looked at the cockroach lying dead,
 "Paste and scissors,
 Scissors and paste—
 Think of the energy going to waste!"

*Chicago Journal***A MONOPOLY IN PAPER MAKING**

 NE of the things which is creating discontent in Canada generally is the way in which manufacturers have been forming "combines," in order, if possible, to prevent competition in their respective lines of business, and to secure greater profits to themselves at the expense of their customers. The result of a general extension of this system of "combines," will be to interfere injuriously with the business of the merchants and retailers, who have to obtain their goods from the practical monopolists who control these "combines" and eventually reduce the traders to the condition of an inferior and servile class. Unfortunately, the question of trade and commerce has been made a party one: one side declaring a "National Policy," and the other for the greatest practicable approach to Free Trade. The consequence is, neither view can secure a fair discussion, free from political heat and rancour. For this, the organs of both parties are mainly responsible. Their proprietors, however, stand a chance of having the subject brought

directly to their notice in a way which will touch their pockets; and so they will have to regard it from another point of view than the party political one. Under the operation of the N.P., paper manufacturing is one of the industries which has been somewhat extensively promoted; and with the consequent competition, prices have been reduced to the customers. THE PRINTER AND PUBLISHER (the new printing trade magazine in Canada), in its October issue, refers to a recent meeting in Montreal of some sixteen paper manufacturers, where it was decided to advance prices. Now, the proprietors of this new trade magazine are, we believe, advocates of "protection." But they see that a "simple agreement" such as was proposed, is never adhered to; and as the paper manufacturers also realize this fact, they admit "that the only way to put the business on a satisfactory basis is the formation of a pool, a trust, or a consolidation of the companies." Observe the careful avoidance of the introduction of the word "combine;" which is especially obnoxious just now, on account of the way in which the American coal mine owners are combining to raise the price of coal. The N.P. might be tolerated, with home competition; but if combines, or pools or trusts are not forbidden by law, they will soon reduce the population generally to the condition of the locked-out Carnegie Homesteaders. As for the paper "combine," it is just possible that without regard to politics, newspaper proprietors might establish a limited joint stock paper mill of their own. *Renfrew Mercury.*

DENIES THE IMPEACHMENT

THE solicitors of the *Ladies' Pictorial* Company write that the statement published in the last issue of PRINTER AND PUBLISHER connecting that Company with the Exquisite Toilet Co., "the one being a branch of the other," is not correct. A representative of PRINTER AND PUBLISHER called at the offices of the Exquisite Toilet Co. and were referred to Mr. Wrigley, of the *Ladies' Pictorial*. This gentleman issued the advertising for the Company under the name of the Wrigley Advertising Agency. He admitted that he was not doing a regular advertising agency business, and stated that he was in the employ of the *Ladies' Pictorial* Company, and that the Exquisite Toilet Co. was a branch. It was on his authority the statement was made.

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