

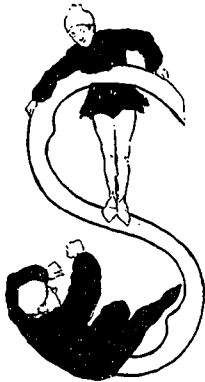
"There is a pleasure in being mad which none but madmen know."—Dryden.

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SHOULD the government of the ancient and highly respectable city of London, England, permit such unseemly sights in the streets of that city as was the procession of last week? Surely not. It is difficult for one to imagine hundreds of half-naked and starving wretches forming themselves into a body and parading the streets of the dear old town in imitation of that glorious spectacle, the coronation procession. We fear that England is becoming much too liberal—we might say, too lax—in allowing

such privileges to the commonality. What if these miserable persons do starve and freeze by thousands—should the respectable members of society be offended by having such types of degradation pass in review before them! It is disgusting to any refined and prosperous person to be compelled to behold those unfortunates upon whose heads and hearts they have climbed to higher things. The poor are becoming altogether too bold. We may next expect them to demand that the prison and poor house be built opposite to the mansion. What wretched taste! London should really enact more stringent laws.

CAN the Bench of Canada, can the Press of Canada, can the people of Canada, any longer refuse to recognize, or pretend that they do not recognize the fact that the appointment of Canadian judges has come to be a matter of pure politics? With the recent elevation of Mr. A. L. Sifton to the Chief Justiceship of the Territories well in our minds, we think not.

Mr. A. L. Sifton was, until recently, unknown to all but his relations and neighbors. But his brother is a Cabinet Minister at Ottawa; so to-day he is a judge.

We believe it to be a good thing for the morals of the country that we should all recognize the fact that judgeships are obtained more through influence at headquarters than through personal merit. It is good for the

reason that it will stop the ridiculous hypocrisy that has been considered necessary on the parts of Bench, Press and Public.

Mr. Sifton's brother—for so the people will always think of him—may be a good enough lawyer, but he has not shown this to be the case, consequently he should not have been appointed to so high a position. Why did not the Hon. Clifford arrange for his appointment to a University chair? By arranging such an appointment, Mr. Sifton would have been following quite as good a precedent as that that he has followed. Mr. Sifton's brother might in that case have had the distinction of keeping out of Canada a second Huxley or a second Tyndall.

THE HON. MR. BLAIR finds himself in a position that is not calculated to excite the envy of his most ambitious opponent. Public opinion, in the matter of subsidies, has now so grown in strength that it deserves the name, opinion. This is something so new in Canada that the Minister can find absolutely no precedent by which to guide his course.

Heretofore, whenever a group of capitalists decided that the time was ripe for the exploiting of the country, they boldly made their absurd demands, without fear of causing the Government any inconvenience in the granting of them, for the Government had no public opinion to satisfy. But now, for the first time, in the case of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, we find a Government face to face with an alert ward, under whose eyes it must perform its duty as trustee in a proper and business-like manner.

We Canadians have at last awakened to the fact that we have been robbed by corporations with impunity. We will have it no more. We have discovered, after years of guileless infancy, that if anyone desires to run stage-coaches or other vehicles on which we pay our fare, there is no possible reason why we should build the oaches, roads and hostleries, then transfer them to the transportation company, and pay our fares besides.

Our gullibility in the past must be attributed to our youthful ignorance. We believe that we have now outgrown our swaddling clothes and have cut our eye teeth.

THE new *News*, of Toronto, has at last made its appearance, and the first impression that it has made is decidedly good. The paper is clean, dignified and solid. It marks a long step for Canadian journalism, and the step is in the right direction. We may in time have a pretty good daily paper service, but what we chiefly need is quality, not quantity. May the time soon come when all of our dailies will follow the example set by the *News* and abandon "party."

We believe that, under the new management, the *News* has cancelled its dog license. Now, if some of the other dailies would do likewise, the city would be happy.

To the *News*, THE MOON, as an old, established paper, presents her compliments. May she have long life and prosperity. We feel sure that she will have both.