

with a copy of their reasons. They, who fawned upon him twelve months ago, left him without saying so much as good-bye. They do not say to his face that he was incompetent to lead them. They allowed him to find that out later. They told the House of Commons the story of their desertion, and a wretched story it was. No one sympathizes with them. No one can respect them. They are politically lost, and their treacherous conduct should keep them out of politics forever. If they are ruined politically and socially, as they ought to be, the lesson will not be lost.

What does the Postmaster-General think of his organ writing such treason about the seven colleagues he has embraced? There is another paper, published in West Bruce, and called the Kincardine "Review," a Conservative paper. This paper hardly draws the conclusion from the action of the bolters that the Finance Minister desires should be drawn. But, not to discount this choice morsel, I will quote it directly:

The crash that was inevitable has come, and now we must get to work to clear away the wreck. Premier Bowell is to-day the most picturesque figure in the whole Administration. In his hands he holds the key of the situation. The gang of cut-throats and rebels that he had in charge has gone out on strike, after having failed to get him to resign. * * * We are almost sorry now that Sir Mackenzie, having got rid of a section of the malcontents and mischief-breeders, cannot remain at the head of the Conservative party, but he cannot do it, pledged, as he is, to remedial legislation.

Seven of his Ministers have resigned, and the idea was to get Sir Charles Tupper to take his place, when the seven could come back under the new Premier. Now, we take time by the forelock, and protest against any Bowell Ministers being placed in any new Cabinet formed to evade the pledges given in favour of the Roman Catholic minority.

Then after some further reference to that subject the article proceeds:

We have had too much of the Tuppers, Haggarts, Ouimets, Carons, Montagues and the other peanut politicians who have risen to high places in the ranks of the Conservative party. Let us not deplore any extremity into which the Government can fall, if we can get rid of such men by it. We have had enough of them. Let us try some other material now. Surely, the womb of the Conservative party has given forth hundreds of men better fitted to command the fortunes of the most progressive political elements in Canada. Looking back at the past, we are constrained to remark, that we should not have expected anything else than what has happened. For the past ten years the petty politicians of the party have been crowding out the men who would have developed into statesmen. Until last week we had an aggregation of men who could run a circus all right, but not a country. The party stood by, and, with a self-complacency that was criminal, saw those fellows advance step by step to places of power and prestige. Since the party refused to get up and slay them can we not rejoice in secret that they have turned on each other after the example of the cats of Kilkenny?

You observe, Mr. Speaker, how frequently the feline race affords illustrations on an occasion of this kind. The article proceeds:

For the past year they have done nothing that we could honestly and sincerely applaud.

There have been some speeches as we sometimes hear in this House, but not honest and sincere. The article proceeds:

Now they have done something that challenges our admiration.

What do you think it was?

But our glee is tinged with regret that they did not kill themselves long ago. But we should not expect too much of them. They dilly-dallied in everything, even in their self-destruction.

The sentiment this writer gives expression to, is an echo of one that is attributed to certain enemies of a Prime Minister of England, Lord Castlereagh, on the occasion of his death. unkind enemies remarked that the only useful public act in his life was the cutting of his own throat by himself. The writer of the Kincardine "Review" will have reason to regret, I presume, that the victims have recovered from their only pretended attempt of self-destruction. I will not exhaust the patience of the House further.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Read the other letter over again.

Mr. MULOCK. Since the hon. gentleman wishes some more extracts, I will proceed. I will only trouble the House with a couple more. One is from the Toronto "World" of yesterday; and this, Mr. Speaker, is not what a Conservative member said, this is what the editor himself said yesterday. To-day he is applauding and endorsing the utterances of the Finance Minister when the Minister of Finance said that the sole and one reason for the withdrawal of the seven gentlemen from the Cabinet was because a portfolio remained vacant from the 8th July last until 4th January. They wish the public to believe that is not a true statement. Before this utterance of to-day by the leader of the House, this article was published. It is entitled "The Ottawa Crisis."

The most remarkable political crisis known to Canada reached a point of settlement last night. A movement was begun on January 2nd, the day Parliament met, to depose Sir Mackenzie Bowell from the Premiership of Canada.

The movement was begun to depose Sir Mackenzie Bowell from the Premiership of Canada. How did the editor of the "World" discover that fact?

An hon. MEMBER. By his wits.

Mr. MULOCK. That is a very good source of information, and I have no doubt his wits guided him correctly on this occasion. And if so, how does it harmonize with the statement of the Finance Minister? The article goes on to say:

Two days after, the movement came to a head, and seven of his Ministers sent in their resignations. Last night six of these Ministers agreed