

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe must belong to "the beggarly class of camp followers" denounced by the Montreal Witness, for he deliberately states what he must know, or at any rate ought to know, is grossly untrue with respect to the case of Dr. George Duncan, Superintendent of Quarantine for this Province. "During the late general election," he says in his letter of the 15th instant, "Dr. Duncan is accused, and, in fact, he does not deny it, of having permitted a suspect with his guardian to leave the hospital where the suspect had been recovering from the smallpox to go to vote for the Conservative candidate in the City of Victoria, and to otherwise take part in the contest on behalf of the late government."

There are several inaccuracies in this sentence, but the words we have italicized form a statement which is wholly, and to all appearance, maliciously untrue. The man who was permitted to go to the polls was not "recovering from smallpox." He was, for anything that the Doctor or anyone else knew to the contrary, as healthy a man as there was in the city on that day. He never had the smallpox. He was in the condition described by the Globe's correspondent—he would be a patient and not a "suspect." He was in the suspect station—not the hospital—because he had been in contact with a person who was supposed to be suffering from smallpox and the contagion might be in his clothes or the disease might be incubating in his system. His isolation at the request of the Mayor was simply a matter of precaution and the city health law gave the Medical Health Officer power to release him whenever he saw fit.

It is not a little significant that the Ottawa Evening Journal contained the same false accusation in precisely the same terms, word for word. Any man of sense must see that the accusation of the Globe and the Evening Journal is a most serious reflection on Dr. George Duncan's professional character. To release a patient recovering from smallpox to send him where he would be certain to come in contact with numbers of persons is a very serious crime, and the man who should commit it would make himself liable to severe punishment. It is a crime which no medical man who had the least principle or a character to lose would dream of committing. The editors of the papers we have named, who are both men of intelligence and honor, must see that by publishing the slander contained in the words we have quoted, they have done Dr. Duncan a very serious injury, and we are sure that it is not necessary for us to remind them that it is their duty to make him such reparation as lies in their power. They, no doubt, have been deceived; and we could, we think, point to the man who has abused their confidence.

MR. CUNNINGHAM'S LETTER.

We cheerfully publish Mr. Thomas Cunningham's very amusing and characteristic letter. Our volatile correspondent, as he proceeds, seems to have forgotten the subject of his letter. We take the liberty of reminding him of it. It is a question of veracity between him and Mr. Coste, Chief Engineer of Public Works. Mr. Cunningham attributes words to that gentleman which he denies having ever uttered. We knew of Mr. Coste's denial when we published what Mr. Cunningham calls our "attack" on him. Mr. Cunningham's quarrel, then, is with Mr. Coste and not with the COLONIST. We may add that we have seen nothing in his letter to convince us that Mr. Coste is wrong and that he is right. When Mr. Cunningham takes

THE CONSERVATIVE WAY.

Some of our Grit friends, wanting to find an excuse for dismissing the deputy ministers, assert that their office was declared to be political by Sir John Macdonald. It is not likely that Sir John ever made such a declaration, for it is denied, and denied very emphatically, by his action. When he took office in October, 1878, he found in the departments the following deputy ministers:

- Z. A. Lash—Justice.
- J. M. Courtney—Finance.
- James Johnson—Customs.
- L. Vankoughnet—Indian Affairs.
- C. E. Panet—Militia.
- Wm. Buckingham—Interior.
- J. L. McDougall—Auditor-General.

In addition to which Mr. Trudeau, the deputy of the Minister of Public Works (which then included Railways and Canals), was well known to be of Liberal sympathies.

All these men were retained in office as a matter of course, except Mr. Buckingham, whose appointment was irregular, and he was offered another position in the civil service, which he would not accept.

"Of the others," says the Halifax Herald, "Courtney, Panet and McDougall remain until this day. Mr. Lash resigned in 1882 to take a better position in Toronto. Mr. Johnson was superannuated at his own request in 1892 at the ripe age of 76, and Mr. Vankoughnet resigned his office in 1893, but for reasons wholly outside of politics. Mr. Trudeau, who remained a deputy of the Minister of Railways till 1892, was then superannuated at his own request, having held office since 1859. That is how the late Conservative government treated the deputy ministers whom they found in office installed by the preceding government. And we venture to say that though no one ever doubted the political sympathies of these men, they proved perfectly trustworthy and loyal to the new administration. Occasionally there may have been differences of opinion between them and some of their ministers, just as there is liable to be between ministers and deputies of the same political faith, but on the whole the deputies appointed by the Grits, going along as well under their new masters as they did under their old ones. And why not? Why should political differences prevent men from doing their duty? Certainly we have not reached the point where it has become impossible for masters of one political faith to work with employees of another? If we have, we are in a pretty bad state, one calling for immediate reformation.

The Toronto Globe, it seems, had had new light on this subject of dismissals, for in its issue of the 16th inst., commenting on the rumors from Ottawa, it said:

A MODERN MIRACLE.

What the inhabitants of cities on this side of the Atlantic must regard as almost, if not quite, a miracle is about to be wrought in the city of Glasgow. The government of that great city is to be carried on without the expense of a penny to its inhabitants. Taxation in Glasgow is to be a thing of the past. The occupation of the assessor is gone and its inhabitants, of all ranks and conditions, will be no longer troubled by visits from the tax collector.

Glasgow, it is to be remembered, is not a mean city. Its public services are all on a liberal scale and some of its public works are magnificent. It has smooth and clean streets, fine parks, handsome squares, a splendid system of sewers; it is well lighted; it has an efficient police force, and its health department is in good working order. It has in fact everything that a well governed city ought to have, and all its institutions are of the best.

How, it is asked, can all these institutions, services and works be maintained without money? But there is money and plenty of it. The Corporation gets money enough from its waterworks, its gas works, its street cars, its electric light plant, its sewage farms, and other money-making works to run the city without calling upon the ratepayers for a penny. This is truly wonderful. What kind of aldermen or city councillors has Glasgow had that they have been able to bring about this glorious state of things? Have they had no constituents, no dependents, no friends looking for contracts, no poor relations? How is it that gas and light and water have been made to be not only self-sustaining but to yield a revenue to the civic treasury? Has there been no one to intercept the rawbawes on the road? Have there been no leakers? Is the boodler unknown in Glasgow? Is there a city in Canada or the United States in which such a state of things as we read of in Glasgow could, under any conceivable circumstances, be brought about? We do not believe there is. The kind of aldermen they

WHELAN AND PACAUD.

Ten Thousand Dollars That Had Been Handed Over "to Pay Boodlers With."

The Political Feat Which Hon. Mr. Tarte is Prepared to Do Over Again.

As a result of the Tarte-Grenier libel suit, so far as it has gone, new light is thrown upon what is known to fame as the Whelan-Pacaud affair. We were first introduced to this "affair" in the course of a trial wherein Mr. Whelan, who had been the contractor for the building of the Quebec court-house, was accounting for the sums he had received from the local government in respect of that work.

Mr. Whelan traced all the money, including \$10,000 which he said had been used "to pay boodlers with." Pressed for details, he asserted that the cash had gone to Mr. Ernest Pacaud, to prevent him having my item struck off the official list of the budget last session.

It appears that there had been an award of \$140,000 to Mr. Whelan. This sum was placed in the estimates to be voted by the legislature. Mr. Pacaud is said to have represented that it might not go through, and Mr. Whelan, as he declared, gave Pacaud the money to ensure its passage.

The evidence created a sensation. At once Pacaud, who is to-day the right hand man of the federal administration in Quebec, made a statement. He asserted that he had certainly seen Mr. Whelan. "I told him," he added, "that I was afraid the opposition" would create a big row, and he knew that they were complaining very bitterly of him.

At the Fall of the Leaf. Why do the leaves fall? "Bless me, I don't know," you answer; "I suppose because it is one of nature's arrangements."

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MR. CUNNINGHAM REPLIES.

TO THE EDITOR:—In an editorial in the Columbian of 15th inst. there is a pointed reference to something which has appeared in your editorial columns which reflects on myself by calling in question the truthfulness of my report of an incident which occurred in Ottawa on the 14th September at an interview between the Hon. Mr. Tarte and his chief engineer, Conservative leader and representative of the Fraser river reclamation movement. I have not had the pleasure of reading the editorial in question, only the extracts which are quoted by the Columbian.

As a rule I am not in the habit of noticing unfriendly personal criticisms, nor would I trouble you with the matter at all were it not for the importance of the subject involved. I am afraid that you have permitted ultra loyalty to party to get you into making an unwarranted attack upon one who has ever been friendly, and sometimes useful, to the COLONIST and the parties whose cause it has championed with undoubted ability, but often imprudently.

Had Mr. Coste, the engineer in charge of the department of public works at Ottawa, been governed by the principles which you have evidently adopted in the discussion of public affairs, he would not have made the honest confession that the engineering operations at the mouth of the Fraser had been a blunder from first to last. You would have covered it up, would have permitted the blundering to continue just as long as the misguided Dominion government could be prevailed upon to put up the cash, and when that failed you would not have hesitated to fasten the blame on an innocent third party.

Judging from the results of the late election, I believe that the day is past when the struggling settlers in the Fraser valley, who are contending against so many difficulties, will tamely submit to have their homes desolated and the country ruined by bogus engineering. Nor is the true interest of any political party served by bolstering up and defending the gross incompetency which has prevailed at the mouth of the Fraser during recent years.

This is a serious business. We are facing a problem which will tax the engineering ability of the foremost hydraulic engineers on this continent. On the public engineering of the Fraser river depends the agricultural prosperity of the very best portion of this province. Hundreds of enterprising farmers have already been ruined by these misadventures. Within a radius of three miles from where I sit I can count nine vacant farms which were the happy homes of nine prosperous and worthy families only four years ago, and this section of the valley is not an exception to the general condition of affairs. Those who still cling to their farms are financially exhausted and have neither feed, seed nor credit; and all this suffering comes nor from any fault of their own and could have been averted had the present government who have had influence espoused the cause of the farmer and insisted on remedial measures.

The unprecedented freshet of 1882 left the Fraser with numerous new bars, formed by snags and stumps lodging in the bed of the river; hundreds of acres of land were washed into the stream, and from then till now not a bar has been removed nor has any attempt been made to clear the channel and restore the river to its former dimensions. The disastrous food of 1894 added still more to the obstructions, and would have resulted in loss of life and destruction of property of enormous value had it not been for the heroic and timely exertions of the provincial government. What did the Ottawa government do for the suffering people who were so suddenly overwhelmed by that awful calamity and were made beggars by the loss of property which had taken years to accumulate and which represented many years of patient toil and privation? Nothing whatever. Although the government had several vessels moored in Victoria at the time such a wheel was turned nor a settler rescued by any Dominion vessel. Nor was there a dollar contributed for the relief of the unfortunate victims by the Dominion government who had compassed sea and land to attract many of those poor sufferers to occupy these lands.

It is true that large sums have been voted year after year for the improvement of Fraser river but how has the money been expended? In clearing the river of accumulated debris and drift and assisting the stream to secure its own channel? No, not a dollar—all has been frittered away at the Sand Heads and hopelessly sunk by incompetent humbugs. No more of this sort of thing can be tolerated even at the risk of bringing down the wrath of the mighty COLONIST. We of the Mainland mean business and are determined to have this country made safe for the industrious agriculturalist, no matter what political party may be in power. Our motto is country first and party fealty afterwards. Our turn has come, and you will do well to recognize the fact that I would, in fact, do the same thing again under the circumstances.

But it seems that he did not know for months afterwards whence this "power" came. He had no idea how Pacaud secured it, or for what reason it was given to him. Pacaud's story conveys a very contrary impression. The particulars so long in coming will be threshed out at the trial next month. It is important that they should be fully ventilated, for the country ought to know precisely what sort of an operation it is that one of our Federal ministers regards as a "political feat," and is prepared to do over again.

CYANIDE PROCESS BULLION.

ONE THOMAS CUNNINGHAM, Dewdney, Oct. 20, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR:—I see from a paragraph which has appeared in your paper of late date and copied in other papers that a bar of bullion taken out by the cyanide process has been brought down from Cariboo and the secretary of the Cariboo and Williams Creek Consolidated Mining Company, Ltd., the bar weighing 31.61 ozs. in gold and silver being 607 fine and worth about \$400.

Later on in the paragraph it is stated that nearly all the gold and silver is saved at a cost of one cent per ounce. Great credit is due Mr. S. J. Marsh, who has been the means of making arrangements with the government to lease the reduction works at Barkerville and also with my company, the Cassel Gold Extracting Company, Ltd., in regard to the patent right of the process. I wish to explain one or two errors which no doubt have been made unintentionally by Mr. Hawes, or either, his statements have been misconstrued by the reporters.

In the first place, with regard to the capacity of the mill. It should be understood that there are not five stamps at the government reduction works, the plant being only an experimental one, employing one automatic stamp capable of crushing four tons of material per day when in operation. It is, however, the intention of the company to increase the capacity of the plant.

Now, the difference between one stamp working and five stamps will also make an alteration of considerable importance in the cost of the recovery of the metals. Whereas with one stamp nearly as many men are required to operate with five stamps. Therefore on the basis of the latter the cost of milling would be very materially reduced, and I should estimate the total charges for the plant would not exceed from \$8 to \$9.50 per ton, instead of \$10 as stated.

It should also be remembered that in the experiments now being conducted a great deal of data has been issued to the people sending in ore, which also increases the cost incurred in handling the ore, and a clean-up of the world is run before other samples can be put through means an additional charge against treatment.

There is another point I might refer to, that is the fineness of the gold bar. In practice in other parts of the world it has been found desirable to refine the precipitate produced from the solution of cyanide containing gold by means of sulphuric acid in lead lined tanks, the cost of refining being about one cent down to a certain extent with the gold. These means have not been adopted just yet at Cariboo, but will be later on. With such the fineness of the bar will be brought up to about 880. A great many parcels of ore have been successfully treated at the Barkerville plant, and this will, no doubt, add to the attention given to quartz mining in Barkerville.

In conclusion I would like to state that the Cariboo and Williams Creek Consolidated Mining Company, Ltd., have the honor to express their appreciation for the show a great deal of enterprise in introducing the MacArthur-Forrest process, and the government of British Columbia have also rendered every assistance in their power in the CRAW'S NEST PASS RAILWAY.

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair. DR. PACAID'S CREAM BAKING POWDER. MOST PERFECT MADE. A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

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