

no doubt read the reports of the convention with trembling eagerness, and if so they have learned the interesting fact that the pledged membership of the New Party is now over 4,000. This means a vote much larger than that number. If the figures in West Lambton may be taken as a criterion it means something very formidable. In that riding the New Party had only fifty pledged members, but polled nearly eight hundred votes. If the old Parties don't like the prospect, they have the consolation at least of knowing that they themselves originated the new movement by their masterly inactivity on the great moral issues of the day.

MR. MOWAT declares that the Third Party stole all the planks of its platform from the Liberals. We are authorized to deny this charge of larceny, and to say that the planks were obtained honestly. It is true some of them were once the property of the Reform Party, but Dr. Sutherland didn't steal them. He bought them at a sheriff's sale of *unclaimed goods*. By the way, this rev. gentleman has retired from the leadership of the New Party, and the place is now awaiting some truly good man who can devote his whole time to the work. What's the matter with Geo. W. Ross? That earnest Prohibitionist can't feel really at home in the Ontario Cabinet, and, salary being no object, why shouldn't he take the vacant leadership?

WE are anxious that the following interesting deliverance should meet the eye of Sir John A. Macdonald, and be by him communicated to his chums in the Cabinet :

That whenever it shall be duly certified to the President of the United States that the Government of the Dominion of Canada has declared a desire to enter into such commercial arrangements with the United States as would result in the complete removal of all duties on trade between Canada and the United States, he shall appoint three commissioners to meet those who may be designated to represent the Government of Canada to consider the best method of extending the trade relations between Canada and the United States, and to ascertain upon what terms greater freedom of intercourse between the two countries can be best secured, and said commissioners shall report to the President, who shall lay the report before Congress.

This is a unanimous resolution of the Congressional Committee on Foreign Relations. As Sir John will observe, it furnishes him a golden opportunity to give such an impetus to the prosperity of Canada as shall cause his name to be blessed for all time throughout the land, and all the bad and questionable things which he hath done to be gladly forgotten. If he is a wise statesman he will hustle the deputations of protected monopolists out of his office, and proceed to "duly certify" that Canada *does* want this good thing.

SOME highly intelligent papers in the States—notably *America*, of Chicago—are advocating the closing of the gates of Castle Garden on the ground that the country is already overcrowded. The territory of the United States is, according to careful statisticians, capable of sustaining at least one thousand millions of people in comfort. There are now only about sixty millions of inhabitants, and yet, according to these intelligent and thoughtful editors, it is overcrowded. This is an interesting paradox worth pondering over. We think we see through it. God made the United States big enough for a thousand millions, but monopolists with their fences around vacant land have made it too small for a twentieth of that number. The cure would seem to be, take down the fences. The single tax would take them down.



THE politicians on the other side of the line have, as yet, discovered no means of extending the blessings of "Protection" to the working men, but the oppressed Yankee hen is hereafter to be shielded from the competition of the pauper Canadian pullet. The wise men of Washington have put a duty of five cents per dozen on eggs, and there is joyful cackling throughout the land. The egg-consumers over there are also expected to feel happy, and if they can convince themselves that dear eggs taste better than cheap ones, they will no doubt join in the chorus. Meanwhile the common-sense citizens of the country must feel like presenting Congress with an appropriate present of hen-fruit of pronounced antiquity, the same to be delivered with force from the distance of a stone's-throw.



THE VERY LATEST THING IN SPRING HATS.