

of the clerks. His character was notorious, so much so that he really has some reason to complain of those who gave him the opportunity of laying his hands on public money. But he was a political wirepuller and knew the secrets of his party, the heads of which were compelled to pay him with an appointment, and now dare not proceed against him. Meantime Mr. Jarvis, a Post-office clerk, suspected of having stolen money from a letter, is taken through the streets handcuffed before his trial and locked up in a felon's cell, though when he is brought to trial it turns out that there is no evidence of his guilt. The Toronto Post Office appointment was another instance of the evil hold which the underlings of party obtain over its leaders, and which in that case caused the claims of the public service and the just rules of promotion to be utterly set aside. No doubt the leaders loathe the degrading necessity to which they bow; but so it will be while the party system lasts.

We have also had revealed a system of organized roguery in relation to public contracts. That this has been generated in the atmosphere diffused by the present Ministry is a fond fancy of the Grits, who imagine that no political air can be pure without their Cauchon. But it is connected clearly enough with the trade of politics; so much we might have taken for granted, even if a government organist had not appeared as a partaker in the corrupt gains. In this case again, the Government will shrink from dealing with the offenders and put off public justice with securities real or imaginary for the future. And this sort of work is pretty sure to have been going on in the North West on the largest scale. That it opens a wide door for corruption is an evil of the North-Western policy in gravity second only to the expense. We welcome the accession of Mr. Macpherson to the Cabinet, in the hope that his vigilance may support the virtue of the Department of Public Works.

—We are promised a discussion, though not in definite terms a measure, on the Banks and Currency. There are one or