

hand to give the attention to butter making required to turn out a choice article. As long as the grain crop is the primary consideration on a farm, and the dairy only of secondary importance, we cannot establish a reputation for gilt edge butter. It is only by the establishment of creameries that our dairies can compete with other countries in the markets of the world, and it is surprising that the creamery system has not been hitherto more generally adopted in Canada. The number of creameries in the United States, and their growing popularity, as well as the success of the few which have been tried in Canada, warrant the statement that butter factories possess manifold advantages over the ordinary processes of butter making, and even over cheese factories. The number of new creameries starting this spring shows that our dairy-men are beginning to appreciate this method of manufacturing butter and that they are determined to give it a trial. It is worthy of notice that the oldest creamery in Ontario has never sold any of its make at a lower price than 22c. Let us hope that this is the beginning of a new era in our butter trade, and that our Canada will soon be completely studded with butter factories.

#### THE CAREER OF "BOSS" TWEED.

We have already commented upon the trial and sentence of that prince of corruption, W. M. Tweed, of New York, and have shown how, the infamy which at last overtook this millionaire, was a fitting punishment for the enormity of his frauds. His death, which took place a few days ago within a felon's cell in the city which he plundered, comes to emphasize still more strongly the lesson to be gathered from his remarkable but despicable career, and was doubtless (for he was but 55) hastened by the disappointment and depression, not to say remorse and shame of his long confinement.

In his youth a chair-maker, Tweed made a little money by patient labour, but speculated in Wall Street and lost it; still, its loss did not disgust him with that region of speculation, but rather whetted his appetite for gambling. He began to turn his crafty skill towards municipal plunder, hiding his schemes beneath a mask of geniality, and even of philanthropy. He joined an engine company in the Seventh Ward of the city, a political force in those days, and through the influence of this organization he was elected School Commissioner, Alderman, Sheriff, and finally sent to Congress.

Many millions of dollars were stolen by the Tweed Ring; and Tweed is supposed to have received six millions. These

ill-gotten gains he distributed with a lavishness that was princely, and in ways that sometimes almost compel one to admiration, if it were possible to forget that it was stolen money with which he was thus generous. Not a few of his old friends have been saved from bankruptcy by his assistance; and while many young men were helped into business by his kindness, they were spoiled, too often, by the dangerous example of the success and power of a dishonest man.

At last, in 1871, he was arrested on a civil suit upon a charge of malfeasance, and gave bail for \$1,000,000, and a few weeks later upon a criminal charge of fraud, and released on \$5000 bail. It was not till 1873 that he was tried, and after various delays found guilty of fraud and sentenced to twelve years imprisonment on as many different counts, and to a fine. In 1875 the Court of Appeals found this cumulative punishment illegal and ordered his discharge, and in December of that year he escaped. He was found in Cuba under the assumed name of John Secor, brought back to New York and again lodged in gaol. Litigation was then resumed which cost Tweed nearly all his fortune. At last, in 1877, it was arranged that he should, on condition of being released, give up all the property he had remaining, and make a clean breast of the operations of the ring. He bore testimony against his accomplices, which was startling. But before his testimony was complete he died. It is well to remember, here, two potent agencies in the exposure of the Boss and his associates. The *New York Times* was bold in denouncing them, and published list after list of their robberies, making charge after charge against them, till even the most apathetic among New York's respectable citizens were aroused to the danger. The satirical pencil of Nast, in *Harper's Weekly*, was another tireless agent in the pursuit of the great swindler. His fat cheeks, his beady eyes, his white tie, the huge diamond in his shirt bosom, were made familiar to the millions and infamously so, as features in the appearance of a municipal culture.

Tweed's career was for a time dazzling; and his success did infinite harm as an example to ambitious and speculative young America, of what wealth might be secured by unscrupulous intrigue. His operations were so bare-faced, and any attempt to punish him so long delayed, that the standard of morality was sadly lowered, and many an imitator in other spheres took heart of grace. The result of the great uprising of the respectable voters of New York to wrest the government of that city from the hands of the Ring, has been the in-

creased supervision of municipal affairs by the taxpayers, and the election of an improved class of representatives, there and elsewhere, to municipal offices.

#### BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

An important meeting of this large interest was held in Montreal on Thursday of last week. Eighteen manufacturing and jobbing houses sent representatives, who proceeded to consider the question of shortening credits, and other matters affecting the interests of that trade. Mr. Holden, of Messrs. Ames Holden & Co., was chairman; and Mr. Pinkerton, of Messrs. Pinkerton, Whitham & Co., secretary. The other firms represented were Messrs. James Linton & Co., Jas. Popham & Co., Wm. McLaren & Co., Fogarty & Brother, G. L. Rolland & Co., R. McCready & Co., James McCready & Co., G. Boivin, Young & McGauran, Slater & Perry, W. Stafford & Co., Perry & Cassils, M. Donovan & Co., Geo. Forbes and Mul-larky & Co.

After some discussion the following resolutions were carried, although there were some present who appeared unwilling to give in their adhesion to the first named:—

That all Spring goods shipped previous to the first day of March, shall not date later than that day, and that all Fall goods shipped previous to the first day of September, shall not date later than that day.

That all goods sold from the first of March to the fifteenth of June, and from first of September to first of January, shall date four months from day of shipment.

That Fall samples shall not be carried by travellers in the Province of Ontario or Quebec before the fifteenth of June, nor Spring samples before the first of January.

That all trade discounts on boots and shoes be abolished, and that the cash discount be 5 per cent. in 30 days from date of invoice.

The meeting then adjourned till Monday of the present week, at which date the following additional firms were represented: Messrs. J. & T. Bell, R. Smardon, Leggat & Johnson; and it was resolved that the first resolution should be changed in date to 1st April and 1st October, in so far as it referred to the Maritime Provinces, for the reason that the seasons there were later than in the West, and also that goods required longer time to reach their destinations.

Resolved further: That any firm or any party signing and agreeing to these resolutions, and who shall infringe any of the same, shall be liable to a fine not to exceed \$500, said fine to be imposed by an investigating local committee appointed for the purpose, and to be named hereafter. There shall be two local committees, one for the Province of Quebec and one for the Province of Ontario.

So far, good. But while we are glad to see so large a gathering for friendly conference it seems to us that much of what was accomplished at these two meetings was, unfortunately, undone by the last resolu-