

THE TRUE WITNESS

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
The Post Printing & Publishing Co.,
 AT THEIR OFFICES:
761 CRAIG ST., Montreal, Canada.
 Subscription, per annum, \$1.50
 paid strictly in advance. \$1.00
THE POST PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO.,
 761 Craig Street, Montreal.

Every paid up subscriber
 to THE DAILY POST or
 TRUE WITNESS will receive
 one of our splendid Litho. Pic-
 tures, grouping Gladstone
 Parnell, O'Brien and Davitt.

WEDNESDAY.....FEBRUARY 22, 1888.

It is stated that the Hon. Alexander Mac-
 kenzie is about to retire from public life
 owing to ill-health and a desire for rest.

OTTAWA civil servants must shut up on Home
 Rule, by order of the British Government. And
 so we are to have a taste of Balfourian coercion
 in Canada.

If a combination of men to control the
 production and arbitrarily raise the price of
 a universal necessity of the people be not a
 conspiracy under the law, it should quickly
 be made so.

For the consolation of the Canadian share-
 holders in the burst-up Dominion Cattle Com-
 pany we would recall what Phil Sheridan
 once said of Texas: "If I owned Texas and
 hell, I'd rent out the former and live in the
 latter."

AMERICAN opinion of Lansdowne is well
 and tersely expressed by the *Troy Times*,
 which says:—"The Dominion will not miss
 him. On the other hand it will hear the
 news with complete equanimity. It has not
 in years had a more unpopular representative
 of British sovereignty at Ottawa."

THE *Montreal Times* publishes a Leap Year
 list of gentlemen in that town eligible for mat-
 rimony, styles them "shining marks for Cupid's
 arrows," and tells the ladies to go for them.
 After reading the list we have come to the
 conclusion that the "eligibles" are a spurious lot
 if they don't put a head on the editor.

BALFOUR has had to abandon the prosecu-
 tion of newspapers for publishing the proceed-
 ings of "suppressed" branches of the
 National League. This shows how thor-
 oughly coercion fails to coerce, and is only the
 beginning of the backdown the Tory Govern-
 ment will be compelled to make along the
 whole line of its cruel and foolish policy.

No more convincing proof of the wisdom
 and thrift with which Ontario has been gov-
 erned by the Liberals, in comparison with
 the corruption and waste in Quebec under
 the Tories, could be given than the statement
 of the treasurer of Ontario. He could boast
 of a surplus of nearly seven million dollars,
 while this Province is nearly twenty millions
 in debt! Such is the penalty we are paying
 for the luxury of Tory local government.

GLADSTONE LIBERALS have won a splendid
 victory in the South-west division of Lon-
 don yesterday. Mr. Causton, their candidate,
 was elected by 3,638; Beddall, Unionist, 2,444—
 a Liberal majority of 1,194. At the general
 election the Liberal majority was 113, the
 figures being 2,566 and 2,453. This is, per-
 haps, the most significant proof yet given of
 the strength with which the popular tide has set
 in favor of Home Rule in England.

THE way the sugar combines rob the people
 is shown by the report of the year's opera-
 tions of the Sugar Refining Company of Hal-
 ifax, Nova Scotia. It has paid \$100,000 of its
 mortgage debt and 13 per cent of a dividend,
 besides adding between \$30,000 and \$40,000
 to its reserve account—all out of one year's pro-
 fits. Such is the Canadian Tory idea of
 Canada for Canadians.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN met Balfour face to face
 in parliament, according to his promise, and
 after pinning the Secretary's miserable lie,
 showed conclusively how his brutal admis-
 sion of coercion had utterly failed to subdue
 the National League or intimidate the Irish
 people. The Tory game is up, and we should
 not be astonished were Lord Dufferin's recall
 the first move in a reversal of a policy which
 has covered the government with confusion,
 shame and disgrace.

THE reception tendered to Mr. Sullivan,
 M.P., in London, marks an epoch in the
 struggle for justice to Ireland. It is no longer
 the British nation which is keeping Ireland in
 misery—but a political party. When that
 party is driven from power, as it will be in
 the natural course of events, Ireland will ob-
 tain her rights, and the national feud which
 it is the interest of the Tories to perpetuate,
 will be brought to an end. Mr. Parnell
 echoed the same sentiment in Parliament, and
 it cannot be long before wisdom and justice
 will triumph over stupidity and fraud.

It is time that our people and our govern-
 ment awakened to the danger of permitting
 origin nations and English "philanthropists"
 to dump upon our shores the social wreckage
 of their congested cities. The \$20 which the
 law says every immigrant must have before
 being permitted to land is no obstacle, for

the parish guardians in the old country
 willingly give £5 a head to get rid of their
 thieves, vagabonds, paupers and prostitutes
 forever. We are glad to see an effort made
 in our city to counteract this evil, which has
 already assumed threatening proportions.

"DEVELOP our mines and let our timber
 stand," says a Toronto paper. This shows how
 little some people know of the practical aspect
 of mining in Canada. It is safe to say that
 more timber is destroyed by miners and pros-
 pectors for mines than by any other agency.
 The first thing these people think of is how to
 clear the ground quickest. Fire affords the
 most available, effective means, thus the timber
 disappears. The miner must follow the lumber-
 man, or there will be no lumber.

We are glad the Society for the Protection of
 Women and Children has taken action against
 the Labor Commission revelations. It is
 evident that excessive work and cruelty are not
 the only offences for which the factory system
 is responsible. Immorality, hitherto only
 suspected, is now fully proved. It only needed
 this to clinch the demand for the enforcement
 of a stringent Factory Act. If that which has
 been passed at Quebec is not stringent enough,
 it should be amended. As for jurisdiction, Mr.
 Mowat has put the Ontario Act in force and it
 has not been disallowed.

T. P. O'CONNOR in the *London Star* shows
 the reverse of sympathy for the dynamiters.
 He says: "If these men had succeeded in their
 purpose it is probable that they would have
 killed more friends than enemies of Ireland.
 The masses of the English people are on our
 side. A bomb thrown into any single quarter
 in any part of England or Wales or Scotland,
 where the working classes dwell, would in nine
 cases out of ten destroy men and women who
 sympathize as strongly as any Irishman or
 Irishwoman with the sufferings and hopes of
 Ireland."

ELSEWHERE we reproduce another letter
 by Mr. Charles Thibault in reply to an Ot-
 tawa traducer of the Irish and French Cana-
 dian people. Mr. Thibault presents and
 array of facts and figures which show him to
 be thoroughly conversant with his subject,
 and quite capable of disposing of the stories
 of these persons who seem to be never weary
 of slandering two races whose great crime is
 that they are Catholic. This is not the first
 time the Irish have found able defenders
 among French-Canadian literateurs, but we
 feel especially grateful to Mr. Thibault for
 his clever and convincing letter at this time
 when efforts are being made to detract from
 the fair fame of our people.

AN inspired Ottawa despatch attempts to
 confuse the public mind concerning the terms
 of the fisheries treaty. It contradicts the
 Washington reports in every particular. We
 venture to assert, notwithstanding, that when
 the text will have been made public it will
 be found to agree substantially with the American
 view. That concessions have been made by
 Canada is admitted, and that no reciprocal
 trade concessions have been made by the United
 States is also admitted. Canada therefore must
 have got the worst of the bargain whatever the
 details may be.

ALL those who dote upon royalty will hold
 their heads higher than ever since John L. Sul-
 livan has come out squarely in defence of his
 friend, the Prince of Wales. To an interviewer
 the other day, he said with that delicious mag-
 nanimity which so well becomes him:—

"I would like to speak a word for my friend,
 the Prince of Wales. I see they have been
 scoring the Prince pretty heavily in the press for
 his alleged misconduct at the Opera Comique. I
 wish they would let up on him. I would con-
 sider it a personal favor. The Prince is a
 splendid fellow, a bang-up brick, and lately
 down on his luck. I'm not down on him, be-
 cause I know old ladies will be old ladies the
 world over; but hang it, I never pass by the
 Castle without thinking if Albert Edward were
 only king, he would stand a fight in the banquet-
 ting hall."

SINCE the days of the union a terrible ven-
 geance has always dogged the steps of the
 men who were guilty of shedding Irish blood.
 From the days of "carotid-artery cutting
 Cathleen" to the present, every man who
 took a hand in coercing Ireland has either
 died, gone mad, or broken down. Even their
 abettors and instruments have had a miser-
 able fate, and as Lansdowne can testify, a
 nameless horror walks beside them every-
 where. The cables to-day say Balfour went
 bareheaded in the bitter cold through London
 streets like one demented, after a cabinet
 council meeting on Saturday, followed by
 detectives. As was written of the mu-
 tiners:—

"This be their fate forevermore—
 To sail with an outpoken curse,
 Nor find content on any shore
 Within the haunted universe."

THERE has been a great religious, or rather
 Evangelistic, revival, as they call it, going on
 at Ottawa for several weeks past. We are
 therefore not astonished to read that a man,
 evidently crazed, attempted to murder his own
 child and, when asked his reason, said he wanted
 "to sacrifice her to God." This sort of
 dementia is not uncommon during revivals,
 and brings to mind the horrible case of Free-
 man the Pecosst fanatic who murdered his
 child with a knife, pleading afterwards that he
 was commanded to do so by the Lord, and the
 manner of Abraham. We have seen some-
 thing of Ottawa revivals, and cannot say they
 have done any lasting good. Lord Cecil set
 the city wild with religious fervor twenty years
 ago, but after he went away his converts fell
 back into their old ways of sin, and the sect to
 which he belonged, which could not find a
 place of meeting big enough, has found ample
 space for a long time in a small hall on Sparks
 street. The reason is obvious. Intense excite-
 ment is always succeeded by reaction, and the
 more pronounced it is in one direction, the
 greater is the recoil. The reformation which
 is likely to be lasting is that which comes by
 steadfast conviction and stern resolution. Hys-
 teria is not a manifestation of the Holy Spirit,
 nor are the highly wrought feelings of a mass

of people, conscious of their sins and in terror
 of judgment, under the spell of a powerful
 preacher and the contagion of animal magne-
 tism, religion in its true sense.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY FELLOWS, of New York,
 has determined to indict Jay Gould and Russell
 Sage before the grand jury in the matter of the
 Denver Pacific and Kansas Pacific railways
 trust. The charge against these millionaire
 operators is that, holding \$3,000,000 of Denver
 Pacific railroad bonds in trust for the Kansas
 Pacific bondholders, they wrongfully converted
 the securities which they thus held as trustees.
 Under the New York law such an act is grand
 larceny, and the punishment prescribed is im-
 prisonment and fine, the former not less than
 five or more than ten years, and the latter not
 exceeding the value of the property misappropri-
 ated and 20 per cent. additional. As the
 offence alleged occurred eight years ago, the
 amount called for in case of conviction would be
 \$5,500,000. It is a good sign when millionaire
 railway wreckers are laid hold of by the law
 and compelled to give an account of their opera-
 tions. The American people are waking up to
 necessity of looking sharply after this most dan-
 gerous class of criminals.

BALFOUR's achievements in Ireland have
 been summed up as follows: He has been
 just six months coercing Ireland. He has in
 that time prosecuted nearly one thousand per-
 sons, of whom 500 were sent to jail. Men have
 been prosecuted for carrying tar barrels, for
 cheering released prisoners, for lighting bon-
 fires and for refusing to sell beer to Balfour's
 officers. Within the last two weeks 298
 "Balfour criminals" have been arrested. Of
 this number 151 were prosecuted for light-
 ing tar barrels or bonfires, assembling
 with bands, holding meetings or other-
 wise expressing joy at the release
 of a Coercion act prisoner or sympathy with
 an arrested neighbor or evicted tenant. Fifty-
 five were prosecuted for rejoicing at Wil-
 liam O'Brien's release alone, seven were pro-
 secuted for making speeches, sixteen for at-
 tending a meeting of the National League in
 a proclaimed district, forty-one for alleged
 boycotting and intimidation, sixteen for
 stopping hunting parties, six for relating
 ballads who were seizing stock, seven for
 rioting and two for making gestures at the
 police, which was a cross between a laugh
 and a boo. Among the number were four
 priests, three members of Parliament, one
 editor and eleven women and girls. And yet
 coercion is a dead failure.

THE SUIT AGAINST THE HON JAMES
 McSHANE.

We are informed on the very best authority
 that the action taken against the Hon. J. Mc-
 Shane, in the *Laprairie* election case, will not
 again appear in the courts. This news will be
 received by his friends, and even the political
 opponents of the hon. gentleman, with the
 greatest satisfaction. Since Mr. McShane
 became a Minister of the Crown he has shown
 fair play to all classes of the people, and he
 has shown an energy and decision in his
 official duties that reflect credit upon himself
 and his countrymen.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament will assemble at Ottawa next
 week. Did that Parliament truly represent
 the people, we would regard its assembling
 with the hope that the many wrongs and im-
 positions under which the country is suffering
 would be remedied. But we have no such
 hope. A subservient majority, elected by
 wholesale fraud and corruption, will sustain
 an unprincipled minister whose last thought
 will be to lift those burdens from the people
 which were imposed to perpetuate his power.

Everybody knows that nothing will make
 a ministry faithful but fear of an independent
 Parliament, but when we see the houses of
 Parliament the tools of the ministry, either
 revolution is at hand or liberty is at an end.
 Fortunately we possess in our Federal consti-
 tution a safeguard against the encroachments
 of a tyrannical and unscrupulous government.
 As it is, the establishment of monopoly and a
 system of taxation whereby private persons
 are permitted to combine for the purpose
 of fleecing the people in return for liberal
 contributions to the fund for debauching the
 electorate, has created widespread discontent.

But parliament will give no heed to the cry
 of the people. All the placemen at Ottawa
 and their business allies care about is to con-
 tinue the system out of which they are richly
 providing for themselves and their relatives,
 amassing huge fortunes and appropriating the
 national resources. History has made us too
 familiar with such experience to hope for a
 change without violence. "We are a band of
 steel," said Sir John Macdonald at Quebec,
 and well do the people realize it. So long as
 discontent finds an easy refuge in the neigh-
 boring country, resistance to robbery in the
 name of Government will be feeble. But
 there are indications accumulating every day
 which show there are limits to such govern-
 ment. The greatest of these is that farming
 has ceased to be profitable in Canada. In
 this sentence we have written the doom of
 Canada, if a change be not speedily brought
 about. And when we find that a hopeless-
 ness, almost amounting to despair, is the pre-
 vailing feeling among the workingmen the
 picture needs no deeper shading.

Yet these things are the natural results of
 causes apparent to all. Whenever a man,
 entrusted with the functions of Government,
 thought more of preserving his own power
 than of the good of his country, he invariably
 sought to corrupt the people.
 What is the history of Sir John Macdonald?
 From the beginning to the present day it has
 been naught but trickery, fraud, debauchery.
 He has reduced political corruption to a
 science. After laws have been passed for-
 bidding bribery of the individual, he boldly
 enters a constituency with the wholesale
 bribe of a railway, a canal, harbor improve-

ments, etc. And for fear these
 should not prevail he debauches the
 judiciary and appoints his own creatures to
 return as elected to parliament whomever
 he nominates. In this way he has secured a
 majority in the parliament which assemblies
 at Ottawa next week. These precious repre-
 sentatives will meet, dine, glorify him,
 get drunk as usual, pass laws of
 his creation for the better riveting
 of the chains of restriction and
 monopoly, divide the taxes of the people
 among themselves under all sorts of lying
 pretences, and, when a certain number of
 weeks have passed, they will be dismissed to
 make good the plunder of the session. There-
 fore for the parliamentary blessings we are
 about to receive may the Lord make us truly
 thankful. For twenty-one years we have seen
 this rascally programme annually performed
 with little variation, and now on the eve of
 its twenty-second presentation we turn from
 it with loathing. With a partisan Senate and
 a corrupt Commons parliamentary institu-
 tions at Ottawa are a roaring farce.

THE CURSE OF KERRY.

The record of Tory misgovernment in Ire-
 land is dreary reading, but perhaps the most
 sickening part of the story, barring Clanri-
 carde's infamies and the dragonings of
 Woodford, is to be found in the coercive
 annals of Kerry. United Ireland points out
 how this police ridden county heads the list
 in agrarian crime, and also in the record of
 eviction, which bears to agrarian crime the
 relation of cause to effect. At the same time
 the police tax in Kerry has been growing in
 proportion with eviction and crime. In the
 four years, from 1884 to 1887, the extra police
 tax of Kerry amounted to £32,386 11s 3d, or
 \$162,000! Kerry is one of the most im-
 poverished counties in Ireland, and these
 four years the severest since
 the great famine. Side by side with this
 evictions are going on continually, human
 beings being driven from their homes at the
 rate of a couple of thousand a year. "Surely,"
 exclaims United Ireland, "the wonder is that
 the criminal record of Kerry is not worse.
 If this goes on, if bands of young men con-
 tinue to be cast adrift from the farms on
 which they and their fathers worked, to wan-
 der idle and revengeful through the moun-
 tains, if the unhappy farmer striving to
 wrest a living from a barren soil is to see
 himself harried on one side by the rack-
 renter and on the other by the collector of
 the ever-growing police-tax, if the people are
 to know the benefits of the law only in the
 shape of the ejectment-issuing County Court
 Judge, and the travelling Coercion Stipen-
 diary who sends to jail the member they
 elect to Parliament, the editor who pleads
 for them in the press, their priest if he ven-
 tures to protect them or raise his voice on
 their behalf, the shopkeeper or blacksmith
 who refuses to be the body-servant of
 the policeman who breaks their heads, and
 every tenant-farmer who does not
 touch his hat to the emergency-
 man occupying his evicted holding—if
 this goes on it is hard to see how it is to end
 for Kerry except in the whole population
 taking to brigandage en masse. Talk of Bul-
 garia under the Pashas and Bashi-Bazouks!
 Beside Kerry under Balfour, with its extra
 police-tax and its extra-policemen, its emer-
 gency-men of the field and its emergency-men
 of the judicial bench, its rack-rentings, its
 bastonings, its imprisonings and its evictions,
 Bulgaria was a model of freedom and good
 government!"

SOLD AGAIN!

Sir Charles Tupper went to Washington
 declaring he would never consent to the sur-
 render of Canadian rights, but it seems he
 only followed the famous example of Donna
 Julia in "Don Juan," who—

"Swearing she would never consent, consented."
 From what has been made known of the
 treaty agreed to by the Fisheries Com-
 missioners, it is evident that England has
 added another of those peculiar diplomatic
 triumphs to her record by which she
 sacrifices this country to the exigencies of
 Imperial politics. Everything the Americans
 demanded has been conceded and, in the
 words of Mr. Chamberlain spoken before he
 left England, "Canada must submit." For
 the rights conceded to the Americans we
 receive absolutely nothing in re-
 turn. A more dimly humiliating
 surrender could not be imagined short of ab-
 solute abandonment. Practically it is aban-
 donment, for it will be impossible to exclude
 American fishermen from the inshore fish-
 eries without again raising the whole question.
 The one thing Canadians care about—a mea-
 sure of reciprocity—has been refused. One
 of the great means, by the use of which we
 could have hoped to gain from the United
 States some concession in the way of trade,
 has been given away forever.

But we are not astonished. From the be-
 ginning of these negotiations THE POST antici-
 pated no other result. Since Cornwallis
 taught the British that discretion was the
 better part of valor in dealing with Ameri-
 cans, the representatives of England on this
 continent have emulated the example of
 Davy Crockett's moon with touching
 fidelity. All Uncle Sam has to do is to raise
 his gun, and the British lion sings out: "Is
 that you Sam? I know you are a dead shot.
 Don't fire and I'll come down!" Such has
 been the history of British diplomacy on this
 continent, and Canada has had to stand and
 deliver. After this let us cease talking about
 belonging to the greatest empire the world
 ever saw, and bragging of the protection of a
 flag that never protects. It is plain that
 homeforth Canadians have no use for the
 circumlocution office at London. Why
 should they submit their cause to English
 statesmen when repeated experience has de-
 monstrated that it is certain to be surrendered.
 The same experience has satisfied the Ameri-
 cans that they can do what they please with

Canada and England will not raise a hand to
 prevent them. They know that British
 statesmen have long abandoned the idea of
 opposition to their claim of domination over
 this continent. England's heart is in the
 east, not the west.

To Canadians who love their country and
 long to see her great, glorious and free, this
 latest surrender is beyond everything humili-
 ating. It is a plain declaration that we have
 no rights the United States need care to
 respect, none that England is not prepared to
 sacrifice. Surely this ought to teach our truly
 loyal countrymen that it would be better at
 once to come to a final understanding on all
 questions with the Great Republic and share
 in its independence and progress than to
 continue in the condition of a Parish
 among the nations, to be bullied
 and robbed whenever our big neighbor
 covets anything that is ours. Eng-
 land will not fight for us; we
 cannot hope to successfully go to war on our
 own account, so what is the use of our claim-
 ing any rights or presuming upon a rivalry
 when loss and humiliation are foregone con-
 siderations.

It is urged that Canada ought to make some
 sacrifice for the good of the empire, then why
 not make the sacrifice complete at once and
 end all chance of discord and danger forever?
 If every time the Yankees choose to pick a
 quarrel, England is ready to placate them by
 surrendering a slice of Canada, what sense is
 there, what comfort can there be, in being
 devoured piecemeal? All these concessions,
 however, only go to prove that England looks
 to the absorption of this country by the United
 States as its manifest destiny. But meantime
 we, as a people, are undergoing a process
 of exclusion and isolation from the benefits
 of American progress. Sensible men perceive
 what the inevitable result must be and hence
 arises the agitation for commercial union.
 They want to enjoy in their own day and
 possess the advantages now which they are
 convinced will come in time to this country
 when the bars are let down and a just,
 reasonable commercial system will prevail all
 over the continent.

INDUSTRIAL SLAVERY.

Reading Roman history, our compassion is
 excited for the slaves who were driven to un-
 remitting toil in chain-gangs. Coming to
 our own times, we can all remember how the
 sympathies of the civilized world went out to
 the negro slaves in the South.

But can it be said that, with all our boasted
 enlightenment and humanity, slavery has
 ceased? Perhaps, here in Canada, we but
 follow in the footsteps of the much lauded
 Anglo-Saxon, with whom, according to the
 Englishman Warner, slavery has existed from
 remote time, in some form or another, down
 to the present day. While other people
 made slaves of alien people, our Anglo-Saxon
 enslaved his own. It is related that they
 conducted slavery in the most detestable
 manner. Parents sold their children,
 relatives their kindred, whom they deported
 to Ireland for sale, the youth of both sexes
 being taken to the ships in droves, tied by
 ropes. In colonial days Bristol city did a
 flourishing business in sending kidnapped
 English children to the plantations. Sir
 John Hopkins improved on this by enslaving
 the Africans. But the character of our Anglo-
 Saxon friend has not changed. In his factory
 system he has continued his old game. A
 Hochelaga cotton factory operative testified
 before the Labor Commission in this city the
 other day that children were taken into work
 there at 8 years of age. He had known the
 factory to work 13 hours a day. There
 were children working there now bare-
 foot! Just think of it, O ye Christians
 of Montreal! In such weather as we
 have had this winter! He further stated
 that children were sought for in the Sague-
 nay district by agents of the factory, and
 the promises made by these agents were not
 always fulfilled. Sometimes the work is car-
 ried on from 6 25 a.m. to 9 p.m. Boys with
 bare feet have to pass through a passage con-
 taining snow. They earn so little money
 that they cannot afford shoes! Not one
 quarter can read or write! Other witnesses
 corroborated the above testimony, one man
 stating that the children worked from 6 30
 a.m. to 9 p.m., with only 45 minutes' inter-
 mission, and that he often saw the foreman
 kick the boys. Fines are also imposed
 which exceed a child's earnings.

In yesterday's *Post* we read that a girl
 employed in one of the factories in this city
 has taken proceedings against a man, also
 employed in the same factory, whom she
 charges with having dragged her along the
 floor by the hair, struck her in the face, and
 otherwise abused her. The man was her fore-
 man, and took this means of chastising the
 girl.

Is there a man or woman with a spark of
 humanity who can read these sworn state-
 ments without shame and sorrow? Or can
 we say that the factory system of to-day is
 much of an improvement on the slavery prac-
 ticed by the Anglo-Saxons or the apprentice-
 shipping of the Bristol merchants? Rather
 may it not be said with truth that the
 instinct for enslaving the poor and the help-
 less is as fierce, as cruel, as inhuman in these
 days of snivelling sanctimoniousness as it was
 in the times concerning which we have quot-
 ed Warner.

Economists, following the lead of Herbert
 Spencer, are fond of praising industrialism,
 as they call it, as a vast improvement on mil-
 itarism. But Frederick the Great rightly
 estimated these gentry when he said that, if
 he wanted to ruin a country he would put
 an economist to govern it. This in-
 dustrialism, under the control of men
 bent solely on amassing wealth away
 into the millions, has developed
 into the white slavery described before the
 Labor Commission. And, be it noted, the
 men who gave this evidence begged to have

their identity concealed, so much were they
 in terror of the vengeance of their masters.

There was a time in our country when the
 industries now crowded into the cities were
 carried on with dignity, health and "soft
 all over the land. Every village had its
 skilled mechanics, and honest, independent
 labor found a ready market at every cottage
 door. There was not only a chance, but a
 certainty for every mechanic and work-
 man securing a generous livelihood and
 laying away something for a rainy
 day. Handicraftsmen knew their business
 in those days, and every cross-roads almost
 had its sturdy industry. Our young men
 and women did not wander off to cities, nor
 did agents of factories invade remote dis-
 tricts to enslave little children.

Now all is changed. Combined capital has
 crushed individual industry out of existence,
 and herded the workers together in huge
 mills, where they become automatic attend-
 ants on machinery. Places where there is
 a want of everything that makes life worth
 living—air, sunshine, human kindness,
 liberty, character, independence, even prop-
 er rest, food and protection from the snow
 and frost of winter.

Hunger goes with bare feet, want with
 nakedness, vice with ignorance. Crime,
 disease, death fill up the back-ground of this
 diabolical picture of modern industrialism.
 On the other side we see the smooth-faced,
 oily-tongued—economists let us call them—
 patting their sleek round bellies and joining
 in a hymn of praise to God that they were
 born in these happy days of industrialism,
 big dividends, syndicates, watered stocks,
 combines, protection and the National Pol-
 icy!

What is it Carlyle says of "the Supreme
 Scoundrel of the Commonwealth, who, in
 his insatiable greed and bottomless avarice,
 had long hoodwinking the poor world, gone
 'himself, and led multitudes to go, in the
 way of human baseness; seeking temporary
 profit (scrip, first-class claret, social honor
 and the like small wares), where only eternal
 loss was possible, and who now, stripped of
 all his glidings and cunningly devised
 "speculations, swung there an ignominious
 "detected scoundrel; testifying to all the
 earth: 'Be not scoundrels, not even gilded
 "scoundrels, any one of you; for God, and
 "not the Devil, is verily king, and this is
 "where it ends, if even this be the end of
 "it!"

But behind this dismal picture we believe
 there is a profound sense of justice and god-
 ness in our people if it could only be brought
 to bear on this problem. It will not, however,
 be brought into play by companies that insure
 virtue and honesty, as they would a store-
 house or a steamboat. This is the sort of
 honesty that skips across the border for fear
 of detection, and the company pays the in-
 surance. In like manner, when stocks are
 too big, prices falling in a glutted market,
 fires take place. Away in smoke goes the
 product of the toil of the barefoot children—
 enough food and clothing to make the poor,
 pale weaklings comfortable for life. But the
 companies pay the insurance and everything
 is lovely.

At Hamilton the other day, the *Times* of
 that city relates, a minister of one of the
 churches lamented that an epidemic of diabol-
 icality, unprecedented in its character, had
 prevailed in Canada during the last nine or
 ten years. He mentioned, amongst effects,
 bribery in elections, forgery and theft in con-
 nections with banks and other financial insti-
 tution. The preacher did not attempt to
 give any reason why the people of Canada
 should have been more dishonest, on an aver-
 age, from 1878 to 1888 than from 1868 to
 1878. He did not say that the preachers had
 been less able and earnest, or the devil more
 active, in the later period than in the earlier.
 There is a very obvious explanation, however.

The Tories came into power in 1878 and
 established the system out of which has
 grown industrial slavery. Another preacher,
 Canon Dumoulin, at St. James Cathedral,
 Toronto, last Sunday, speaking of the ap-
 proach of Lent and the time for repentance,
 said in effect: Read the records in the daily
 papers—how they startle one, even in our
 own fair city. The court lists contain every
 species of crime, even the most degraded
 crimes that brought their curse on Sodom
 and Gomorrah—and yet our city is far-
 famed for its purity. By the Labor Com-
 mission, now in session in a neighboring city,
 facts were revealed that should shame the
 perpetrators into oblivion, and the law
 should pronounce no mild penalty. This
 state of things, and in a Christian professing
 country, would degrade a heathen civiliza-