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J. J. Rossiter

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("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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Lo! The Poor Toiler

WHILST some of our contemporaries are jubilating over the "unparalleled prosperity" we are enjoying, every commodity is advancing in price, and the outlook for the wage-earner who has only a few weeks more employment in sight is becoming more gloomy every day. Coal is still around \$10.80 a ton; flour is quoted at \$9.00 a barrel; molasses and sugar are still soaring; and even local produce is being sold at prices such as never before in our history.

We fear that the jubilating brethren of the fourth estate have a rather different notion of what prosperity means than that which is economically the meaning of the word. But they seem ready to join in the chorus of the larger institutions who have been growing opulent at the expense of the wage earner. They seem to eliminate the latter entirely from their purview; and the grand farce goes on.

Recently we made a little investigation in a certain section of the city where a large number of workmen reside; and we interviewed some of the heads of families. We made careful notes of existing conditions, and we shall reproduce them later.

Some of the men in these households work nearly every day; and get the usual wage paid in the city. It works out at a considerable advance on former years. But when the paying of the weekly bills comes, it is found that these families have a smaller balance than when wages were lower. The reason is not far to seek; for the purchasing power of a dollar is fully 35 to 40 per cent less than it was two years ago. Wages have not increased proportionately; so it is easy to account for the conditions that exist.

Discussing this matter later with one of our monied personages, who is comfortably located on easy street, "far from the maddening crowd's ignoble strife," he seemed very much concerned about "the poor people"; but he remarked with a certain degree of emphasis: "Oh! these people are too extravagant!" We ventured to ask along what lines this extravagance lay? There was no answer. Of course, if it be extravagance for a workman's wife to dress her children neatly so that they may attend school; or to have a few modest comforts for the household, then there would be some truth in the remark of our monied personage. But, the m.p., has very singular views about the matter. Whilst he was accumulating the shekels, we were quite acquainted with his business methods; and judging from his attitude towards the wage-earner, he must have had a special edition of the Decalogue. Now he bemoans the "extravagance" of the men and women who are the greatest factors in the economic development of the country.

We admit that amongst the younger folk there is reason for the imputation of extravagance; and we think it is time for some of them to understand that they should begin to learn the gospel of economy. We have come in contact with many who seem to imagine that the sole object in life for them is the treading of the primrose path, regardless of the future. They seem to forget that they should contribute to the maintenance of the home or to gladden the declining years of the old folks who have borne the burdens of sacrifice. The weekly wage seems insufficient to meet the demands of "the code of soda fountain," and the dear old mother and labor-worn father are left too often to shift for themselves as best they may. A century and a-half ago Edmund Burke exclaimed: "The age of chivalry is gone!" From present indications we are forced to write: "The age of filial devotion has passed away!"

We admire the patriotism and the loyalty of the man who volunteers for the service of the king; the service of the home is a worthy service still. Let our young folk respond to it more generously. Let them bring their earnings to the hearthside and bring cheer and gladness to the old folk, and "keep the home fires burning."

Lest We Forget

"THE revenue at the end of June is more than \$600,000 above the estimates." This is a news item appearing in the last issue of The Trade Review.

"Seldom did our foreign trade markets look healthier at this season on both sides of the water." (1b.)

"We have more of nearly all the heavy commodities included in the necessities of life than in any previous year; more flour, pork, butter, sugar, tea, cheese, salt, coal, kerosene oil and oatmeal." (1b.)

Yet prices have advanced along every line; and the tendency is upward. In other words, we are being flayed alive by a Government which tolerates this system of spoliation.

At the beginning of the war, during a special session of the Legislature, we were saddled with an additional 25 per cent. taxation "to meet the exigencies of the war." What has become of this additional taxation? Has the amount been expended in anything pertaining to the war? Not at all.

To meet expenses arising out of the war the Legislature during the dying hours of the session railroaded a LOAN BILL OF FIVE MILLIONS through the House in order to meet our "war expenses." Where has the surplus revenue gone?

It has gone where most of our revenues have gone since the blight of the Morris Government fell upon this unfortunate country; it has been SQUANDERED.

We have published in our columns list after list of amounts paid to Government heelers and placemen; we have time and again drawn the attention of the public to this wanton waste of public monies; and the waste still goes on.

No effort has been made to economize, even to PAY THE INTEREST on our public debt; but on the contrary, everything points in the other direction.

All that you need do, gentle reader for confirmatory evidence of this statement is to look across the harbor to-day in the direction of the floating dock. You will see a whaler which was sold two years ago for the sum of \$5,000. That whaler is now (or should be) in Fortune Bay getting an annual subsidy of \$23,500. A sister craft, sold for the same price, is on Northern Labrador getting a subsidy proportionately as large. Neither of these has any decent passenger accommodation for passengers; neither of these fulfils the terms of the contract; yet the subsidy is paid religiously to the owners.

You will find in next year's table of expenditure under the head of "Customs" a sum of \$1000 (if not more) which is being paid to a member of the House of Assembly for "services" in connection with the "Fiona" in Placentia Bay. This payment is an annual affair—for what? Echo answers—"for what?" You will find under the head of "Arbitrations" a huge item covering the expenses of leaders in the House of Assembly and certain officials thereof in connection with the Bonavista and other Branch Railways. You will find various "allocations" now being disbursed to party heelers and party hacks. This is where the additional taxation heaped upon the shoulders of the toilers of the country by the

REVEILLE

BY CALCAR

WHY the question of Confederation should be revived at the present moment is that people realize the awkward position of this country and ever remembering the port of refuge to leeward are looking that way for a surcease of distress. It is quite remarkable that the moment troubles come to us we turn towards Canada.

Isn't this a proof of what we have already stated that we are reckless in our handling of the Ship of State because of stress of weather we may run. This is cowardly and despicable conduct. It shows a lack of patriotism that is disgraceful and appalling. Those who have the fire of love of native land still burning within their hearts are indignant at such base conduct.

Was the Morris policy of reckless extravagance a deliberate act? Was it planned to so involve this country in financial difficulty so deep that the only refuge would be Confederation? If this was his plan it was diabolical and worthy the Machiavelian cunning of the arch-imposter Morris. If his ruinous policy had no such intent then it must bear the stigma of the deepest folly. It was either the one thing or the other. There is no other explanation for it.

Is the writing of "R. U. Right" an inspiration? Has he fore knowledge of Sir Edward Morris' plans, if the issue has been directly sought, or has he knowledge of Sir Edward's despair of lifting himself out of the hole into which his folly has led him only by an appeal to Canada? We confess there seems to us something sinister in the suggestion of "R. U. Right."

If Sir Edward ever comes back to such endorsement of his policy in re-election to the leadership, his manifesto will be a most wonderful thing. What will he promise? Will the sheboleth let Morris finish his work he revived? We hardly anticipate such a revival, for it will suggest some very awkward questions as to what Sir Edward's work is.

Is his task one to hustle us willy-nilly into Confederation? If this is his work, it must be confessed that he has about completed it. Not a man outside a lunatic asylum but knows that the utter ruin of the country is so imminent that it would scarcely take any labor whatever to complete it. On the contrary it will tax the manhood and best brains of this country to avoid the issue, if such be thought advisable.

Is Morris gloating over the base betrayal of his country that leaves her to-day in that position of embarrassment which his plans aimed at, or is he in despair because of his failure? If he sought the embarrassment he has been highly successful, if he sought our happiness and success he is a very stupid man. Not one of the ventures he laid himself out to engage in but has been a dismal failure, a colossal blunder.

What policies will he bind himself to in his next manifesto. Will it be branch railroads that will not cost us one cent of extra taxation? We scarcely think it will, for he must know that the country is wiser now.

Will it be an extension of his famous agricultural policy? Again we hardly think so, for the coun-

Morris Government is going. Fellow countrymen! You are being bled to death by the leach of taxation; and you are asked to look pleasant and bear the burdens complacently because "the Empire is at War."

"The War" has been used by the Morris Government and its commercial satellites to cover up the most iniquitous system of booting which any country within the Empire has ever witnessed; and you have not yet visioned the worst phases of this iniquity. When we publish (as we shall do in due course) the story of booting in connection with so-called war measures, the public will stand appalled that such rascality should be possible. We refrain from doing so now for "patriotic reasons." But the story will be told; and we shall "set down naught in malice," but state bald facts. In the interim, let us say that the recent exposures in Canada will look like an attenuated garment side by side with our heavily woven fabric—a fabric of which the warp and wool have been carded from the fleeces of an off-short public.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

AUGUST 22

HON. PATRICK MORRIS, Colonial Treasurer, died, 1849. William Kenny, cooper, found drowned in Quidi Vidi Lake on regatta night, 1852.

Three days' regatta on Quidi Vidi Lake began, 1852.

Bishop Mullock received invitation to attend celebration at New York in honor of the laying of the Atlantic cable, 1858.

William Maddigan killed at Little Bay mines, 1880.

John P. Grace rescued a boy from drowning in Hoylestown, 1884.

Great sculling race on Quidi Vidi Lake between Squires (local man) and Ferguson (Nova Scotian); Squires beat by half the length of port, and was brought to town in his boat in triumph on the shoulders of admiring friends, 1874.

John Lawson, of the barque Octavia, drowned off Stewart's wharf, 1879.

Angel's foundry burnt, 1891.

Redmond Brien, butcher, died, 1881.

D. Sullivan, fireman, killed on Hall's Bay line, 1892.

D. C. Webber, M.H.A., and W. Hiseock drowned in Trinity Bay, 1893.

Sir Ambrose Shea entertained Prince George by grand ball, 1883.

David Candow, J.P., Bonavista, died, 1888.

Miss May Holden drowned in the Narrows, while boating, 1898.

try is alive to the follies of that grotesque undertaking. Its failure is so palpable that nobody who has more regard for his reputation for sanity than he has for a political sop can be found who openly supports it. That policy has not a disinterested friend in all the length and breath of Newfoundland.

Will the new manifesto involve a development of our natural resources, either of forest, water, fisheries, minerals or anything else. This development was most extravagantly promised before the two last general elections, but so far there has been no development, and it is scarcely conceivable that the ancient promise will do service a third term.

What will it be we wonder.

Only the brave fare well at a church fair.

If at first some girls don't succeed, they get married again.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

LABRADOR SERVICE. S.S. SAGONA

will sail from Dry Dock Wharf at MIDNIGHT on Tuesday, calling at Harbor Grace, Carbonear Trinity Catalina, King's Cove, Wesleyville, Twillingate, St. Anthony, Battle Hr. and the usual Labrador Ports. Freight received up to 6 p.m. Tuesday.

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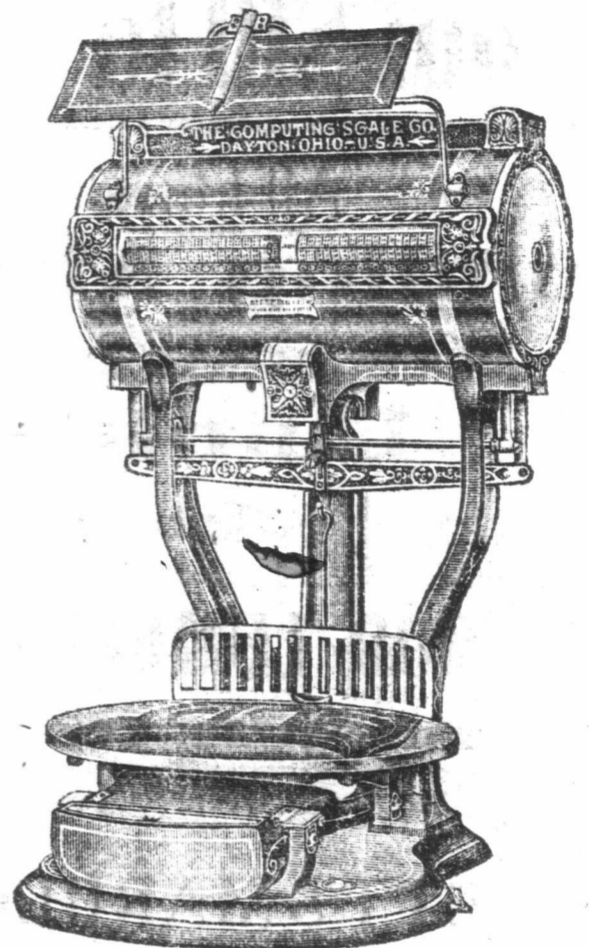
STILL THEY COME.

GEORGE R. HIERLIHY of 76 Monroe Street, has recently ordered a "DAYTON MONEY-WEIGHT SCALE." Mr. Hierlihy realizes that there is no such thing as a substitute for a perfect Scale.

Many merchants worry along with a scale which they know to be far from perfect, and think they are saving money, but at the end of the year they find there is a big leak somewhere which they do not understand. As a matter of fact the average store will lose enough by over weight and loss of time to pay for one of the best Scales made in about two years.

Many merchants in Newfoundland have gone on losing money in this way for many years. They have lost the price of several good scales, but still they tell you they "cannot afford a good scale." They are blind—they see not!

When Mr. Hierlihy discovered that the genuine "DAYTON MONEYWEIGHT SCALES" could now be imported direct from Headquarters, he lost no time in placing his order.



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