

so libelled him as to compare him to men who are so far his inferiors as to possess all his vices but not one of his virtues, and who cannot plead the same reason for their cunning as the rat, viz., self-preservation.

"Assuming that our first disadvantage—that of being "sent to Coventry"—counts for nothing with a man who is so far reckless of his good name as to "rat," it does seem to us incomprehensible that the second objection—that of having to work at reduced wages and the loss of caste—should not act as a deterrent. The only reasonable conclusion is that these individuals are so evilly-inclined by disposition that to do wrong is sweeter to them than to act uprightly; and that, following out the impulses of their depraved characters, they throw overboard all promptings of conscience, effectually bar the door to their financial prosperity, and commit social suicide, for the sake of gratifying their love of what is perverse and crooked. We do not envy the state of mind of such men when they reflect, in their moments of meditation, on the result of their conduct.

"Continuing our supposition that they have no remorse on account of forfeited honor, how miserably small they must feel when they consider the consequences of their fatal mistake in supposing that good results would follow evil actions! How pleasant it must be to them to have the conviction forced upon them, perhaps after trying the experiment for many years, that figs do not grow on thistle bushes, and that all the while they have been fondly imagining that they were on the high road to future successes they have been on the wrong track! They then begin to realize that, instead of flattering themselves on their cleverness, they should have bemoaned the aimlessness of their conduct—that in grasping at the illusive shadow they have missed participation in the substantial reward which must in the long run attend the efforts of those who, by all legitimate means, endeavor to maintain the respectability of the trade, and who act for the good of the employer and workman alike, without fear or favor.

"At the same time, however, that we would denounce "rats" of the kind we have described, we would not be so unjust as to class all those working in "rat" offices under one heading. We are quite willing to believe that there are some men to be found who are not to be blamed, but

rather pitied, for their condition—men who have been driven into unfair establishments through sheer want, and with no other desire than the very laudable one of wishing to maintain themselves honestly. Such men view with as great contempt as ourselves their rascally *confreres* who "rat" from choice, and we think that some recognized provision should be made for their re-admission to Society privileges without having to undergo any penance for their conduct. Under an inflexible rule of course this would be impossible; but we sincerely hope the time will soon come when our rules will be so modified as to distinguish between the renegade who glories in his shame and the unfortunate who is the victim of circumstances."

Glass Type.

That glass type paragraph has assumed a new form, and in order that our readers may not be caught napping we give it as clipped from an exchange. It would be curious if something should come out of it yet. We don't see why glass type, imposing stones, etc., should not be made. But here is the item:—"La Patrie" reports favorably on some French experiments to substitute hardened glass for type metal. It is stated that the type founders' moulds and machinery can in general be used without change. The new types made of glass preserve their cleanliness almost indefinitely; they are said to wear better than metal, and they can be cast with a sharpness of line that will print more distinctly than is possible with the old type. There will be also the advantage of an absence of half-defaced letters since it is a peculiarity of the hardened glass that as soon as it is broken at all, it crumbles altogether. But as transparency will not be required in glass used for this purpose, it is believed that a toughness extraordinary even for the hardened glass can be secured."

Correspondents are reminded that their real name must accompany every communication. We cannot take any notice of letters when the above rule is violated. Items of news are often sent to this office by friends, no doubt, but they are perfectly useless to us unless accompanied by the real name of the writer.

CANVASSERS are wanted for the *Miscellany* in every city and town in the Dominion of Canada, United States and Great Britain.