TO THE PUBLIC.

THE proprietors of *The Weekly Mail* beg to announce that on and after the first of January the annual subscription price will be one dollar and a half.

When the publication of *The Weekly Mail* was commenced, the price was fixed at one dollar, with a view of introducing the paper to as wide a circle of readers, and in as brief a period of time, as possible. The objects sought were attained, for the incredible success of *The Weekly Mail*, followed with great rapidity, until now the number of its readers is counted at fifty thousand. At the same time the proprietors assumed the burden of gratuitously supplying the subscribers to the *Weekly Telegraph*, which was about ceasing to exist, with *The Mail* which should be at once a substitute for and an improvement upon the paper to which they had paid their subscription. The obligation thus assumed has been fully discharged, and every subscriber to the *Weekly Telegraph* has received *The Weekly Mail* up to the close of his subscription to the former.

A very large, handsome, and carefully prepared journal, such as *The Weekly Mail* is, could not be produced without incurring a heavy expenditure both in money and labour; in point of fact, the material used absorbs nearly the whole of the subscription price. The proprietors were prepared, however, to publish *The Weekly Mail* without pecuniary profit until their subscription lists, with the subscribers to the *Telegraph* had been fully and faithfully performed. They feel that this has been done, and that the time has come when they should seek to place the paper upon a paying basis. The annual subscription will therefore be raised as above stated, one of the first consequences of which will be a marked improvement in the paper, which even at present rates has been proved to be the most popular weekly circulated in this country.

It is hoped and believed that the friends and patrons of the paper will recognize the propriety of this premium course, and will redouble their exertions to extend the circulation and strengthen the influence of *The Weekly Mail*.

TO AGENTS.

The terms to Agents and Clubs will be raised pro rata, conformably with the change in price as above announced.

The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, MAY 29, 1874.

NOTICE.

Subscribers are reminded that the coloured address-label of each paper sent to them shows a figure which indicates that future number of the paper up to which their subscription has been paid, serving, in fact, as a date. The current weekly number can readily be ascertained by reference to the volume and number printed on the title page.

We are informed that a person representing himself as a travelling agent of this journal is collecting subscriptions for the *Weekly Mail*, throughout the townships of West Gwillimbury and Tecumseth. We have no travelling agents. Subscriptions are upon Subscription, or in organizing local clubs, and otherwise aiding in furthering the circulation of the *Weekly Mail*. Such aid, of course, either well-known in the locality where they are canvassing or accredited by this office.

LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

We have received several letters from friends throughout the country who are office-bearers in newly formed Liberal-Conservative Associations, or are desirous of forming Associations, asking for information as to the way in which they should proceed, and for copies of the Constitution of the Toronto Association. We take this means of informing our friends who have written us, as well as others who may be in the same position, that they will best get the information they desire by addressing "The Secretary of the Liberal-Conservative Association, 85 York street, Toronto," who, we have no doubt, will be pleased to give them all the information they may require.

THE WEEKLY MAIL.

THE attention of our readers is directed to an advertisement on another page, from which will be seen the inducements held out to persons having time or inclination to form Clubs for the circulation of *The Weekly Mail*; a paper specially suited for readers at a distance from Toronto, whether residing in the country parts of Canada, in Great Britain, the United States, or other foreign countries. For cheapness, in comparison with the wealth of information to be gleaned from it, *The Weekly Mail* is in advance of all competitors for popular favour, while the unparalleled success which has followed its issue, in addition, is a gratifying evidence of the suitableness of its columns to the tastes of the reading public. No doubt, one source of its extraordinary rapidity with which *The Weekly Mail* obtained its immense circulation was that the Great Liberal-Conservative Party, having at heart the furtherance of the cause of Union and Progress, felt it a favourable opportunity recognize in the country constituencies. Members of Parliament, as well as intending candidates for Parliamentary honours, have not been slow to see that a riding was best prepared for a canvass in the interest of their Party, by the circulation of *The Weekly Mail* among the intelligent voters. Consequently, as a cheap and effective organ for the political education of the masses, unusual efforts have been made by influential local residents to promote the circulation of the paper in the neighbourhood of their own homes. The present crisis in the political history of Canada would inevitably necessitate yet redoubled energy in the same direction.

THE SESSION.

The first session of the third Parliament of the Dominion closed Tuesday with a short speech from the Governor-General. It was a session which will not rank high in the parliamentary annals of Canada. The amount of work done was but small, and that little, if commendable in a few respects, is mainly stamped with the spirit of despair and despondency, and almost wholly lacking in the element of Progress which entered so largely into all the legislation of the late Government and under which the Dominion has so abundantly prospered.

The Speech from the Throne promised measures on the Representation of the People, Controverted Elections, a General Court of Appeal, the Militia, and Insolvency. At least one of the promised bills, that relating to the Court of Appeal, did not advance beyond the inventory stages; it was not even brought down to Parliament, and we are, therefore, in the dark as to the Government's proposals. This is to be regretted, as a free discussion of the bill during the recess would have been likely to have led to valuable suggestions from the Judiciary, the Bar, and the general public. The present leader of the Government was in the habit of condemning Sir JOHN MACDONALD because he delayed establishing this Court. How does he propose to justify his own delay? Public reasons for it there may be, but, unquestionably, the current opinion in well-informed circles at the Capital during the session was that personal considerations largely affecting some leading members of the House had no little to do in causing the further postponement of the measure. The Insolvency Bill was brought down, but not proceeded with. The manner of its burking was not creditable to the Ministry. No sooner had the Minister of Justice closed his remarks explanatory of the leading features of the bill than Mr. BLAKE, who carries the Ministry's conscience—if it has any—and its taste, in his breeches pocket, pleaded gravelly for that delay in proceeding with the bill which, it is safe to say, was already determined upon, and the asked-for delay was granted. Thus we find that the two most important measures referred to in the Governor-General's speech were dropped altogether.

With the exception of a few minor measures, the Government's sessional budget consists of an Election Bill, mainly copied from the English and Ontario Statutes and botched in the patching. The leading feature in the bill is the ballot, to which, though manifestly objected to by several members, Ministerial as well as Opposition, no strong grounds of dissent were taken. The Conservatives of Canada are quite prepared to accept all the consequences of the Government's proposals in this respect, satisfied that the practical application of a principle of which they cannot altogether approve will most largely strike at the tyranny of the Ministerial Party. The Country rejoiced at the Ballot changes the Act passed by the late Government in a few important particulars, but one of the leading changes made being the transfer of the trial of election cases from Special Election Courts to the Superior Courts of Law in the Dominion, The Militia Bill consists for the most part of a scheme for the establishment of a Military College of the nature of West Point. It kept free from party politics, such a college is likely to be of much usefulness, even though it, and the whole militia system of which it is an adjunct, had the distinguished honour of being proposed by that antiquated humbug, Mr. MACKENZIE CAMERON, who for the nonce is permitted to misrepresent South Ontario in the House of Commons.

In the Speech from the Throne the Governor-General, acting as the official exponent of his sworn advisers, informed Parliament that "a report of the Chief "Engineer [of the Pacific Railway] "will be laid before you." This statement was important in view of the fact that a new policy as to the railway had been adopted by the Government, and that members were fairly entitled to have laid before them the very latest reports of surveys. It is noteworthy that this vital report has been in type for several weeks. We are aware that it has been in the hands of private individuals for many days; in violation of the rules of Parliament and in contempt of the "Highest Court" of the Dominion. It was given to the conductors of a newspaper published in this city in the Government interest and largely made use of in its columns; and up to the hour of prorogation it had not been distributed among members, but in the discussion of the Pacific Railway resolutions reliable information was the last thing the Government desired that members of the House should be possessed of, we can readily enough understand why the solemn promise of the Speech, deliberately put into his Excellency's mouth by Ministers, was not kept.

Having so lately discussed at some length the railway scheme of the Government we need not dwell upon its miserable failure here. Suffice it to say that, in their abandonment of a grand project which, but for their opposition, would have been carried out for $60,000 an acre and a land subsidy the disposal of which would have filled up "the waste places "of our great North-western territory," we are realizing the truth of the remark of their present organ, made prophetically before they came into power, that "if "indeed are traitors to this country, "The "hater of shame" who leads the Government is the author of the biggest "sham" of modern times. The great trans-continental line of railway from which the people of Canada, and of England, too, were promised by the Commons. Forthwith, the Senate hurled his disgraceful gauge. Mr. LAYTON's sneering defiance of the half of the electors of Prince Edward Island was on a par with the Tuckermith infamy; but here again the Upper House acted in the place to its constitution and made a noble stand for popular rights. In a third instance, namely, in connection with the Harbour Commission of Montreal, the Senate also did good public service, curbing to no little extent the Ministry's effort to centralize power in their own hands.

We may notice, as an incident of the session of no small consequence, the closing of the House of Common so early. Though there was at first some reason to fear that the wish of the House would not be respected, it was in a short time rigidly carried into effect. The results were most satisfactory, and we sincerely trust that next session the disposition will be shown to revive an "institution" whose abolition has proved so highly beneficial. Mr. MILLS, the member for Bothwell, brought up his usual resolutions for a reorganization of the Senate. They received but little sympathy in the House or out of it, however, and were finally dropped from the Order papers, without even a word of sorrowful expression from their philosopher father.

A scheme for taking an official report of the debates of Parliament received the sanction of the House, in spite of a desperate attempt on the part of the great Grit-press to defeat it. In this matter, as in the South Oxford election, journalistic tyranny was stamped out with an effectiveness of significance not to be gainsaid or argued away. We mistake if in these two circumstances are not to be seen the "small end of the wedge" of a "man's hand" which is yet to lead to results of larger import and more serious consequence.

Mr. ANGLIN's election to the Speakership, rendered necessary in consequence of his rejection from among the possible candidates for Ministerial portfolios, can hardly be said to have proved a wise act. It is true that his decisions generally, if not always, commanded the session more on, but his unfairness was so plainly manifested in the case of Mr. HYAR's amendment to the address, that we are compelled to characterize his conduct as infinitely more partizan than it is possible honestly to justifiably approve. It must have been a sweet morsel for Mr. SMITH and Rose and COCHRAN to hold up the present Speaker as so unmeasurably demeaned when they were supporting the late Government—but it was their tongues, not our's they sat in Council, Mr. ANGLIN's nomination to the Speakership. Their chickens came home to roost very quickly.

In a general sense it must be said that the Government are strong in the House, and the Opposition weak. The Government's strength does not arise from its intellectual capacity, but from the accidents of party warfare; while the Opposition is unquestionably strong in parliamentary ability and in general mental force. While Mr. MACKENZIE has no doubt devoted much time to the discharge of his departmental duties, he has shown a singular lack of those highbred qualities which make a successful parliamentary leader. In this respect the contrast presented by Sir GEORGE-ETIENNE and Sir JOHN MACDONALD is so marked that it seems to draw it is an impertinence. In his Cabinet there are several men who can only be fairly designated Ministers by courtesy; and it may be safely anticipated that before the House again meets several changes will take place in its composition. With a small majority, a Government like that now in power could not securely reckon on a month's retention of office.

The Opposition, though numerically weak, has done its duty fearlessly, seriously and well. At an early caucus meeting Sir JOHN MACDONALD desired seriously to be relieved from the responsibilities and the cares of leadership, but his old and staunch political friends would not listen to his withdrawal. While, retaining his post at the head of the Party, Sir JOHN took off of the most important occasions of the session, put forward his old colleague Dr. TUPPER to fight the Party's and the People's battles. We do not in the least exaggerate when we say that the member for Cumberland developed power of a rare order and a special capacity in dealing with figures which even some of his own particular friends were not previously conscious that he possessed. Great aspirations was given to the Opposition on special questions by Mr. BURNS, while on legal points the unquestioned ability of Mr. HELLYARD CAMERON and Mr. ARNOTT aided much in the work of legislation.

Altogether the noble band in Opposition discharged their duties in a most creditable manner, and rest happy in the conviction that the "twenty years of "Conservative rule" to which they can triumphantly point as their best recommendation to public favour will stand worthily by the side of the record which the "Reform" Party is making for itself confident at the same time that the day is not far distant when, the public recalling from wrongfulness and blunderings of the present Government, they will be called upon to again assume the conduct of affairs in the Dominion.

THE SUMMER AND THE CROPS.

We have before spoken of Friday, the 15th of May, as the last day and final limit of a long spell of cold day weather, extending over four weeks as some might say, over six weeks as others might say, and of a character so unusual that the most gloomy ideas as to crop prospects were generally entertained. Our estimate of the important character of the change that here took place between the evening of the 15th and the morning of the 16th has been verified; it turns out to have been no change of a day merely, but a transition from one certain month of meteorological conditions, long continued, to another very different and likely to last during some time. The month of May ended with the 15th, but the period of unseasonable cold still lasts. The heavy thunder showers of early May, the accompanying heat and abundant moisture in the air and the near approach of a "heated term," which in the ordinary course would have proved no be an unusually rapid and luxuriant vegetation, and noon, we may expect, the reverse of what we at first anticipated, prospects of two weeks ago in the presence of green fields and smiling meadows. We incline to believe that the fear of the season cannot have been such a bad one after all as has been generally supposed, from the fact that agricultural authorities generally, but especially along the head of Lake Ontario from TORONTO to the Bay of Quinte, are unanimous in speaking of a splendid prospect for fruit. It seems reasonable to believe that a season which is good for fruit cannot be bad for field crops generally—that is with reference to the spring, only, as what kind of summer we may have, we cannot pretend to see. The spring of 1874 has been a most extraordinary one so far; the month of April, which is usually regarded as has been the coldest known for twenty six years, while not for many years back has we had so late an opening of navigation.

DR. KOPPE, of St. Petersburg, an meteorological authority of eminence, finds in the connection between sun spots and terrestrial climate reason for expectation that 1874 will be a cold year. Possibly the cold spring of 1874 is but a premonition of something even worse to come next year. He has collected a tolerable mass of authentic observations of climate, in all latitudes, from the earliest ages, which he has grouped under the stations according to meteorological zones, the tropics and sub-tropics, the temperate zones, and the cold zone, he throws the mean temperature for each year and each zone into a table, from the results of which can then be directly compared at a glance with the curve of sun-spots as given by Wolf from all known observations of the sun. At the very first one is struck with the great agreement in general outline. In the Torrid zone the maximum of heat occurs from six months to eighteen months before the spot maximum, and, in the cold zone, the maximum of temperature occurs still later than the minimum of spots, being retarded more in proportion to the regularity and magnitude of the variations of temperature are most beautifully displayed in the Temperate Zone, which we as we proceed thence towards the poles. The length of the period between the maximum temperature and that of the sun's spots, so that, as the interval between the minimum and maximum of spots is shorter in the tropics than the interval between the maximum and minimum, so does the temperature follow a greater or less approximation. The parallelism in the series of numbers is so great that there no longer remains a slightest doubt that the coincidence between these apparently independent variations. The two phenomena evidently connected, in the most manner can not at present be determined. He finds as yet no explanation, however, of the remarkable fact that the retardation of the temperature on the earth's surface, with respect to the sun's spots, is greater in the cold zone than in the tropics, unless it have to do with the phenomena of the moisture in the atmosphere. To this subject, therefore, he proposes to direct attention. He finds cause of comical science at present engage the industry and research of the foremost physicists of the day so much as the relating to the nature and constitution of the sun, that centre of our system, and the influence which is exercised over the life and energy upon this planet. And it is not too much to hope that ere very long the relation between sun spots periods and climatic periods on the earth will have been discovered and made plain. Already we may reasonably judge that, compared with immense energy emanating from the sun, all other cosmical influences together are but trifling, with the exception, probably, of the moon's influence on the tides of air and ocean; and not only is a more perfect elucidation of solar science is to be found the true explanation of the most important terrestrial phenomena.

THE SOUTH OXFORD ELECTION.

THE return of Col. SKINNER and the defeat of Mr. ROGER in South Oxford is the worst slap in the face that the *Globe* has got for many a day. As is well enough known, Mr. ROGER was forced on the Reform Convention by the Globe, and altogether, in spite of the protestations of the most influential men in the Riding that they particularly desired a resident candidate to be returned. Col. SKINNER's victory has far more than a mere local or personal significance; it means that the spell of the *Globe's* authority to dictate to constituencies where its own Party has a majority is broken, and that *Globe* thunder will after this be no more terrible to them than Chinese gong-beating. After all it is none of our funeral, but we must congratulate Col. SKINNER on his victory, and our political opponents over their emancipation from a yoke under which they have long winced, like the jaded jade, without daring to try to help themselves. Seeing what South Oxford has done, the Party in other constituencies will be encouraged to do likewise, and to assert its independence of *Globe* dictation. We look for it that the example will tell powerfully in the local elections for Ontario, now not far distant.

Our suggestion previously, that the vacancy in South Oxford was purposely created by the Government, in order to get the rejected of Monck into the House, is well confirmed by what has since transpired. The scheme has failed, and a man of independence and spirit, with a mind of his own, has been returned instead of the unscrupulous, subservient co-conspirator that both the *Globe* and Mr. MACKENZIE desired to get into the House. A very useful man would Mr. ROGER have been to them there had the plot succeeded: he could have been depended upon to have done many things that other men do not like to do. They will now have to dispense with his valuable services as Mr. P.

The *Globe* has already called Col. SKINNER a Tory, will it now say that the Tory has been returned in the good Reform constituency of South Oxford by a majority of 275? We await with some curiosity the interpretation which the organ will put upon this stunning slap in the face to both itself and the Ministry.

SOUTH OXFORD.

THE *Globe* makes a bold mis-statement of the fact when it says that Mr. BROWN had to the choice of his own Party in South Oxford because personal rivalries rendered the choice of a local candidate impossible. The real truth is that Mr. MACKENZIE and the *Globe* office together forced a very fine and highly popular local gentleman for a resident candidate to be understood that Mr. ROGER must be the man. For him the vacancy was created, and the power of the *Globe* office and the Government together was exercised to return him. The effort has failed, which does not say much for the two Powers. Mr. NOXON, as is well known, retired upon orders from Ottawa, much against his own will. We are advised that prominent Reformers in the South Riding of Oxford warned the Premier by telegraph, before ROGER accepted, that he could not be returned, but the warning was unheeded. The truth appears to be that Mr. MACKENZIE and the *Globe* together, intoxicated with their overpowering little brief authority, think they can dictate the returns of M. P.'s in South Oxford or elsewhere in Canada just as the Executive at Washington dictates an election return in Louisiana or Alabama. The Toronto *Globe* expresses the remark if we say that Canadians are "too far north" for that sort of thing.

On the South Oxford election and its results we have a few words to quote from the Hamilton *Spectator*. It will be seen that that fact of outside dictation is strongly confirmed:

"Some of the Grit organs, while fulminating Col. Skinner as a Reformer, opposed his candidature; others were silent concerning him—possibly the best support they could have given him. However, it may be expected that they will all follow the lead of the *Globe*, and claim him as a party man. But in this they will find themselves astray. If they imagine that in Col. Skinner they have a man who is a slave of Party, and will, up to remain so we can tell them they do not know him. If he had been that kind of man J. D. Edgar would not have been sent for in such haste to oppose him. He was not. The Grits knew this, and did their best to defeat him; and they are welcome to all the consolation they can extract from the fact of his being a Reformer, now that he has been elected against their will.

"We understand that a number of influential men of the Party in South Oxford were anxious for the nomination of a leading Hamilton 'Reformer,' whose long service to the Party and other qualifications would have made him an unexceptional candidate, and that Col. Skinner would have supported him. It was limited to the proposed candidate, however, that high authority, that the entrance of an outsider would be likely to create trouble in the ranks, and that he had better not be a candidate. Nothing was made trouble the Reformer in question withdrew. *As it turned out the Grits had resolved to which to do so was all the time intriguing for the nomination of Mr. Edgar.* Such Skinner would have been unpalatable. Hence the defeat of the Reformer.

"Had such language as this been used in a Conservative organ a few months since, it would have been designated as the language of sour grapes. But it is written by Mr. FREDERIC HARRISON, and published in the last number of the *Fortnightly Review*. We have here one of the most "Advanced" Radicals in England confessing, in the leading Radical journal, the utter failure of one of the most prominent "planks" in the Radical "platform;" and recommending the adoption of a foreign policy more in accordance with old. Tory traditions than any that has yet been proposed by any Party of to-day is likely to accept. "Non-intervention" has always been the foreign policy urged by Advanced Liberals. Whatever might happen in the outer world England should always be left to mind her own business, and be thus enabled to preserve the peace, taking care only to keep out of their quarrels, and strenuously avoid committing herself by alliances for any purpose with any of them. The policy has been practised to the letter, and the country; and one result of it is that we have one of the ablest Radicals in England telling us that "a Conservative reaction may "prove a solid gain to this nation, if it "turns men's minds to serious thought "upon the position of the Empire with "regard to its many neighbours."

Mr. HARRISON reasons for this statement are, we believe, sound enough to convince all, even those of his Radical brethren who will take the trouble to read his article, that he is right. He tell us that "the position of England—practically isolated—is one which no great military "powers." Russia has lost by the Crimean war. All then gained of Bulgaria and has been flung away "by a policy of "huckstering self-abasement. The "huckstering spirit, Mr. Frere, the Eurasian equilibrium, and the very order of ideas associated with it, are gone. Nothing definite but gone and not gone, and the pieces have taken its place and "happy, happy England stands alone." The yet sulk in that Russia and Germany may now shake the whole Colonial and Imperial fabric to its foundations and destroy some of the most cherished interests and its chosen fields. "What "would happen if all that Englishman "hold precious in the world suddenly assailed at once by the whole power of "Russia, and what if Germany were "attacked by powers—say a few weeks hence "Denmark, Holland and Belgium?" The power of Russia has now become so immense that she can at any moment, if she employ England with her fleets in the Pacific, the Baltic and the Black Sea; detach from her southern frontier the Caucasus, the Levant; occupy Afghanistan and Persia, and thus plant herself at the gates of Hindostan. All needed to enable her to do so is the consent of Germany. The work would be rendered easy by the moral support of the Ministry of Berlin. Germany and America let slip a few "Alabamas" and raise questions about Heligoland, Belgium, Canada or Jamaica, and England would be "filled with consternation" as once by a shoal of swordfish." Her fleet could not be everywhere and it would be little consequence whether her army was anywhere. "Where would be "the Empire on which the sun never sets "at the end of the conflict if Russia set "herself seriously to dismember it, and "Germany and America abetted, or "assented, to the scheme! To whom "should England turn! To Austria, jam-"med between two giants! To France, "panting, despondent and bitter! To "which of the other powers! There are "none, or none that are not in greater "danger than ourselves. *Such are the "triumphs of the policy of strict attention to the shop.*"

Had such language as this been used in a Conservative organ a few months since, it would have been designated as the language of sour grapes. But it is written by a Radical, and that *Globe* freaks of fancy on the part of a Tory "Alarmist," and as such unworthy of notice. But it comes to us as the deliberate opinion of a dyed-in-the-wool Radical, and with a Conservative Ministry in power. It is accompanied by a practical recantation of Radical views on foreign policy, and, consequently, cannot have been written in any spirit of partyism. And who that honestly surveys the situation can deny that the view taken is correct? The only point on which we would take exception to Mr. HARRISON's statements is that he has failed to consider the vulnerability of the United Kingdom itself, in consequence of the immense extent to which its people are dependent on foreign commerce both for their food and for the means of paying for it, and the awful consequences which would ensue if, by a maritime war, that commerce be destroyed. As Mr. LAYTON has said in his late work on England, if her commerce were ruined, it would be no ordinary ruin, it would be famine.

"Against this possibility," says Mr. HARRISON, "the trust of the British "public is simply that the Czar will do "nothing so wicked." Or, as it was put by the *Globe* of the 15th of last September: "The truth is that in England "many minds turn from the contemplation of such a possibility [as war]; "they cannot realize it—it is too dreadful "to be; and then there is a sort of idea "that with all our enlightenment and "progress we are too civilized for war. "If war did arise we should find means "to dissipate it somehow. In its application to ordinary affairs men who "encourage this state of mind are commonly said *to live in a fool's paradise, "and experience justifies the saying.*" Most certainly, in this instance, history serves: "The story of the German "Army Bill may teach us the true character of the war party of Europe of to-day." Whether needed for defence or offence its authors equally regard war as the normal state of Europe. "When once Prince GORTSCHAKOFF and BISMARCK shall "the whole forces of their respective nations to the last concession, and that strain "has as its end the creation of the most "stupendous machine of war that this "earth has ever yet seen—the natural conclusion is that "they intend to set it in motion." If they should choose to do so, we have seen some of the results which may be expected to ensue.

In face of such dangers what should England do; how is she to meet such a state of things? Mr. HARRISON tells us that it is not by "trying to keep up "simply the old plan of having an external policy—of a union established "amongst those ministers whose interest "is peace—of distinct guarantees for the "maintenance of actual order. And "when he goes on to suggest that England should combine with those States whose interest it is to uphold the existing order of things, to oppose the attempts at aggrandisement on the part of the great powers. Austria, Italy and France, together with all the smaller States, would, he thinks, unite with her for this object. Whether so strong an alliance as he proposes can be formed is problematical, but there can be no doubt that some such alliance is practicable; that without it England will quickly be left in a disagreeable position, and that it is the duty of her statesmen to strive to form it. Happily the men now in power have already intimated their intention to keep a watchful eye on foreign affairs; and even Mr. HARRISON admits that there is some reason to think such a policy as he foreshadows "more in unison with "the sentiments of the Conservative Party "of the Liberal Party." The confession—the whole paper indeed—is a strong testimony to the stability of the principle of "the stupid Party."

It may possibly have strued some of our readers that if England is exposed to such danger as has been represented above, the best course for the Colonies would be to sever the connection. If any body adopts this conclusion, however, he should be sure that their position would be improved by the change. It is true that then they would no longer be exposed to suffer with her; but they would probably be force a great deal without her. Not one of them, the Dominion included, could repel an assault from any Power of the Continent. Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick would be in a very precarious condition if they should probably have to endure it. In our own case its occurrence would be almost a certainty. Then their taxation would be largely increased, as military, naval and diplomatic establishments would be necessary for the protection of life and property. Then their taxation would be largely increased, as military, naval and diplomatic establishments would be necessary for the protection of life and property. To shirk them if they wished to remain independent would be impossible; and if they fall under foreign rule, the burdens would be still greater—to say nothing of the loss of nationality, which is solidity of political liberty. The day of small States is at an end. We have need England and Russia, Germany and Italy crisis on either side, each could afford to the other most important assistance. Let us remember, too, that we cannot do so it is essential that our obligations towards each other should be mutual and reciprocal. Let us be sure that we are at present; and that both of us should remember that the world of to-day is not that which existed in the Augustan and Infinite Free Trade and International Bazaars. Let both look facts in the face, and, if possible, take measures to meet them; while the growth of the Empire will are long render is strong enough to defy the world in arms. Let the Mother will develope and unite their resources.

REPORTS ON MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

LAST week the report of the Select Committee on Manufacturing Interests, was presented to the House by Mr. A. T. Wood, of Hamilton, Chairman of the Committee, also a minority report, presented by Mr. DYMOND. The vote in Committee was—for the adoption of the report, Messrs. WOOD, CHRISHOLM, JETTE, OGILVY, BLAIN, BOWELL, CAMERON (Huron), CAMERON and DE COSMOS, 11—and against it, Messrs. DYMOND, SINCLAIR, PICKARD, and WALKER, 4; and their voice on the matter should not be smothered, the latter four brought in the minority report which they have put in the shape of a bill. Mr. WOOD, political opponent of our though he be, that the manufacturers of the Dominion, and, if other than Canadian people, as we believe, are under a deep debt of gratitude to him for the abilities and industry which he has laboured for the object in view in obtaining the Committee. He has been successful in bringing together a very fair and judicious report on the subject in hand goes, and it is not his fault that a more comprehensive one cannot be presented. To appreciate the difficulties he had to contend with, it is necessary to remember that he is not a man of the world enough to be a Senator, Minister, or member of the Ministers, of the *Globe*, and of Professors, of its editors, who has been conspicuous throughout for his hostility; also, of five-sixths at least of all the Ontario Grits in the House. Many there were, the Premier himself among the number, who had seemingly prudent in refusing to hear any speeches on the question between Protection and Free Trade, because it would be a waste of time to do so. That it is being absorbed in reports that presented themselves, outside of the regular business of the House, of ridiculous and ludicrous proportions, and that the Government emphatically declared that they would not be bound by the action of the Commission, which did not at once undertake to build the Pacific Railway, and that Ontario Grits with only two or three exceptions, to everything looking towards a reciprocity treaty, and being prepared with what they were every day doing in a quiet way, *sub rosa*, to bring about the Commercial Union of the Dominion with the United States, as follows: If the Committee and its purpose were not "killed off" with cold water and ridicule, it was due to the exertions of Mr. MACKENZIE and the Ontario Grits were slack in turning on the cold water, or in ridicule the proceedings that offered. We believe that Mr. WOOD as a Clear Grit Protectionist, has no sympathy with the Party in power, could be made; but he must are now be painfully conscious of the difficulties that have arisen in his path, and the results which have resulted from his labours.

"The misconception here is that the present pressure of American competition is something merely accidental and *pro tempore*, which should not, but may not happen again in a lifetime. The real truth of the matter is that, as between the United States and Canada, such a thing never happened before, and that it is something new altogether, born of new circumstances and new conditions. For instance, when Canada had no manufactures to speak of, what did we care for American competition? There was no American competition, for the very plain reason that Canada was not competing at all. Now Canada is competing, which makes all the difference in the world. The more that Canada perfects herself in arts and manufactures, the closer will be her competition with older countries. The point is this, if we may put it so in brief, that while Canada hanging backward is not a competitor, and has no interest in protection of manufactures, Canada pushing forward is a competitor, and has an interest very decidedly in protection, and in everything that makes the country more self-sustaining in all respects. It is supposed that the pecuniary interest of manufacturers in our markets is an exceptional affair, to be felt this year and disappear next year, forgetting that it is but the beginning of a mighty and permanent change of industrial and commercial relations, growing out of the disappearance, for good, of certain chronical conditions created by the late war. The misapprehension is so prevalent, and all this, and endeavours to make the worse appear the better reason. We would suggest to the minority on this question, that they make a little more acquainted with these facts, viz.: That the American war came to an end nine years ago; that during that delay the United States are just recovering from its effects as a competing nation, and that theories of international trade, founded upon what the United States was during the war, and for some years afterwards, are valueless when the United States, with its capital, and power of Yankee go-aheadiveness, is on the war-path of peaceful, and at the same time, hostile competition.

DANGEROUS LEGISLATION.

THE bold manner in which the Dominion Government used their Parliamentary strength during the late session, to centralize power in their own hands, is one of its worst features. Not cannot well fancy more dangerous legislation than that contained in the passage of this resolution: "That it is expedient "to authorize the Governor in Council in his discretion to advance from time to time to any Province of Canada such sums as may be required for local improvements in the Province, and not exceeding in the whole the amount by "which the debt of the Province "for which Canada is responsible then falls short of the debt with which it was "allowed to enter the union, and on "which amount Canada has to pay "interest to the Province at the "rate of five per cent. per annum, such advances to be deemed "additions to the debt of the "Province, and the amount of interest "so payable to be deducted from and "other conditions as the Dominion Government and that of the Province "may agree to, and amounts so "repaid being deducted from the "debt of the Province in calculating "the subsidy payable to it." Such a resolution came with bad grace from a Government whose leading members, speaking for the whole Grit Party, denounced all attempts of the Dominion Government to meddle with Provincial affairs. Those great stickers for Parliamentary responsibility whom govern the Dominion are not willing that Parliament should have any voice in expressing an opinion upon these loans. Mr. MACKENZIE, as in so many instances in connection with his Pacific Railway abortion, prefers to carry out his own behests by Orders in Council. It does seem that items of this nature, if at all justifiable, which we deny, should only be made when sanctioned by Parliament. This would not suit our Grit friends in power, however—they prefer managing these little jobs by Orders in Council. It is enough to contrast the influence such a scheme will give to the Dominion Government at election times over the Ministry of one of the smaller Provinces anxious to secure a loan, to cause deep regret that the Government brought such a proposition before the House. Mr. MACKENZIE says he hates shams. This is a sham if ever Parliament was guilty of it. It is not what it seems. It is, pure and simple, a bribery scheme, a means of appealing to the Provinces a degree of control over Provincial affairs which it does not now possess. We venture to predict that such a dangerous scheme will result from this dangerous legislation.

ABANDONMENT OF THE PACIFIC RAILWAY.

IT is able criticism of the Government bill for what purported to be the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Dr. TUPPER assumed that the Administration proposed to meet the Pacific Railway at the earliest moment, the scheme which they had committed to paper. Arguing from these premises, the member for Cumberland showed conclusively that a Pacific Railway, built according to the scheme in the bill, would involve an expenditure which would be simply ruinous, at least fifty millions more than the late Government offered to a Company for the construction of the road, and which offer would unquestionably have been accepted by the Company, if the Government had not, for the combined influences of the Grit Party, the Grand Trunk Managers in England, and the Northern Pacific Railway. Taking the two schemes pure and simple, the one was economical, the other is extravagant. The one would have been carried out without involving the Dominion in financial difficulty, the other could not be carried out at all without involving with it ruin to the credit and destruction to all the material resources of the Dominion.

We need not follow the member for Cumberland through his argument here, because in the first place on another page we lay his speech in full before our readers, and in the second place and is the important point developed in the discussion, we think, has been conceded to by every attention—the Government have abandoned wholly all idea of building a transcontinental line. The Government bill is a sham, a delusion, a mere waste of powder and shot to fire at a scheme which is in the region of cloudland, if not of impossibility. Dr. TUPPER's speech was of value if it should have no other effect than to have dragged from the Ministerial ranks the wild plaudits of his small-souled followers, the shameful confession that his bill is a sham, and that it is not what it seems, that its provisions are intended merely for a blind, and that the Government dangers which would befall us if we were to continue to pared with what they were every day doing in a quiet way, *sub rosa*, to bring about the Commercial Union of the Dominion with the United States, as follows: If the Committee and its purpose were not "killed off" with cold water and ridicule, it was due to the exertions of Mr. MACKENZIE and the Ontario Grits were slack in turning on the cold water, or in ridicule the proceedings that offered. We believe that Mr. WOOD as a Clear Grit Protectionist, has no sympathy with the Party in power, could be made; but he must are now be painfully conscious of the difficulties that have arisen in his path, and the results which have resulted from his labours.

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