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St. John's—J. Macdonald, 100 St. James."The Advertiser" is an organ of news
and of thoroughly in-
dependent opinion. The ADVERTISER alone
is responsible for opinions expressed in these
columns."The Advertiser" advocates Con-
stitutional Free Trade,
and as early as possible after, free trade
with the whole world."The Advertiser" looks forward with
hope to Canada's
future as that of an independent Canadian
Nationality, in equally friendly alliance
with the United States and with Great
Britain, believing that such a status would
be best for Canada, best for Great Britain,
and promotive of the best attainable rela-
tions with the United States. As to im-
perial Federation, sometimes spoken of,
the ADVERTISER as yet has seen nothing
proposed that bears any stamp of prac-
ticability, and in any case infinitely pre-
fers the grander and more really hopeful scheme
of a federation of the English-speaking
peoples of the world."The Advertiser" advocates prohibition
of the manufacture
and sale of intoxicating liquor; and all ex-
pedient general legislation and persuasion
in the meantime."The Advertiser" is an advocate of
women, whether as regards the franchise,
or equal wages for equal work."The Advertiser" is a believer in Chris-
tian Union, and con-
sider the time has come when the various
Christian denominations should come closer
together. Those bodies which are now
nearest should unite first. Under the present
system there is an unjustifiable waste of
men, means and effort. The ADVERTISER
will endeavor to promote the movement for
Christian union not alone by direct appeal
and argument, but by seeking to present
the best rather than the worst side of each
denomination."The Advertiser" advocates obligatory
voting as both neces-
sary and practicable. Nothing would so
much purify electoral contests. Nothing
would so much enforce the idea that the
franchise is a duty, not a chattel.

God's in His heaven,

All's right with the world.

—[BROWNING.]

London, Friday, Oct. 15.

DEVELOPMENTS IN GAMBLING.

Because a lottery is an easy agency by
which to raise money many men who
should know better have been known to
defend or to plead for the toleration of
this species of gambling. In Louisiana, for
example, the lottery managers pander to
the cupidity of the people, to whom they
are appealing for a renewal of a license to
carry on their gambling, by offering to pay
\$1,000,000 of the proceeds into the school
fund of the State. Considering that the
major portion of the money collected by
the lottery company is obtained from other
States and countries, this is indeed a
tempting bribe. Nevertheless, there is a
well-defined public sentiment in the State
against the toleration of the iniquity,
which demoralizes young and old, and
leads many astray while seeking means
to try to get money which they have
not earned. This estimate of the de-
moralization caused by gambling is
borne out by the National Prison
Congress, which has declared that
gambling is one of the leading evils in
the country to-day. While this fact must
be well known to the Canadian authorities,
it is true that the Louisiana State
Lottery Company has established a branch
office in Montreal, and will use the Cana-
dian mails for the purpose of distributing
the United States postal regulations. Such,
however, is the purpose of a circular issued
by the agent of the lottery company in
Montreal, from which city a dispatch has
been sent confirming the intelligence. It is
true that the Dominion authorities took
steps to arrest the sale of tickets.Since Mr. Chaplin renewed his im-
portuning Mr. Abbott is said to be troubled
with nervousness. Physicians assert that
musical vibrations nervous tension. Let the
hardened leader hire a band.

RECIPROCITY NEGOTIATIONS.

The alleged conference on reciprocity,

which was expected to take place at Wash-

ington on the 12th inst., may be indefinitely

postponed. Secretary Blaine, a Wash-

ington dispatch informs us, is expected to

be on duty at the State Department not

later than Tuesday next, but no probability

is held out that the Canadian Government

will then be asked to send representatives.

The act appears to be that both Presi-

dent Harrison and Mr. Blaine have

lost all faith in the present Cana-

dian Government. Sir Charles Tupper

and the members of the Dominion

Cabinet are charged with having first

broken faith with the United States Gov-

ernment and subsequently with having gone

to the country last March under false pre-

tenses. This fact has very much irritated

the President and Mr. Blaine, and they

have plainly given it to be understood that

no matter what happens they desire no

further intercourse with the man who

pledged his word and then, for the pur-

pose of helping him in a political struggle,

deliberately broke it. Nor can it be assumed

that there is any disposition at Wash-

ington to deal with Mr. Abbott and his

associates on the ground of their un-

stable standing. They went to the coun-

try on a false and lying issue, and they

have a majority so small, and they are so

discredited in public estimation, that in the

by-elections the aroused electorate will in

all probability provide for a change of ad-

ministration. The Washington correspond-

ents assert that the disposition there is to

abandon the delay to further trust in the

men who have broken faith with their neighbors

and who are pledged in any case to

stand up for the combines if their interests

are menaced by a large measure of trade

freedom.

We may regret the delay in beginning

legitimate reciprocity negotiations, but

there is little to be gained by sham ex-

periments such as have hitherto been re-

sorted to by the high tax leaders. No faith

can be placed in men who in one breath ex-

press desire for reciprocity, and in the next

argue that reciprocity would be injurious

to the people—that reciprocity in oranges,

bananas and peanuts alone would profit us.

WHY SHEEP RAISING DECLINED.

"It has been demonstrated many times

over that sheep pay the Canadian farmer

better than any other stock he can raise,

and yet there is really little appreciable in-

crease from year to year in the flock of the

Dominion. Canada, it is estimated, has

in round numbers, 1,000,000 sheep and

yields an annual wool clip of about 6,000,000

pounds, providing an average of 6 pounds

weight of fleece at 6 pounds washed, which

would be a fair estimate. Flocks are gen-

erally small, averaging probably less than

50 head each. Most of the Canadian sheep,

as grown up, are of the Leicester breed,

and there are few pure bred

Leicesters among them, after all the real

blood being generally a mixture of Leicester

and Cotswold. A few Southdowns are

found in Canada, also Shropshires, but the

former are said not to suit well here as it

becomes too fat, thus reducing its chances

of breeding. Ten years ago there were

many more sheep in Canada than to-day.

Time was when London, Galt, St. Thomas

and other large towns marketed 300,000

and even 400,000 pounds of wool annually.

Conditions have now changed, and only a

comparatively small amount finds its way

there each season. Some years ago farmers

were offered good prices for mutton; a new

and sudden trade sprang up and everybody

sold out. Then they all wanted more

sheep, but the country had been scourged

by speculators and none were to be had. The

result was, a large number went out of the

business entirely, and have never embarked

since."—(Canadian Correspondence Ameri-

can Wool Reporter.)

The foregoing writer is away out in some

of his figures. The Province of Ontario

alone last year had almost 1,400,000 sheep,

while he puts down only 1,000,000 for all

Canada. In 1882 (the oldest data we have

at hand) the Province had 1,015,303 sheep

and since then every year has shown a de-

cline. By some persons this decline is at-

tributed to the development of dairying,

but the increase in the number of cows kept

of late years is so small (1890 showing an

actual decrease compared with 1889) as not

to afford the true explanation. Secretary

Hosson, of the Dominion Sheep Breeders'

Association, remarked recently to the writer

that the cow business had nothing what-

ever to do with the decline, but we think

that to a limited extent in certain districts

it probably had.

High prices during the American war

greatly stimulated wool production, and the

great subsequent decline had, perhaps, more

to do with the decadence than any other

cause. There was also a falling off in

exports to Great Britain, where the impor-

tation of dressed mutton from New Zealand

and Australia have become something enor-

mous. The slackness of the United States

demand for sheep for breeding purposes

also had its effect on breeders and dealers

in Ontario, and naturally the general farmer

felt the reaction, and as too often happens

in other branches of husbandry went out of

the business "like a flock of sheep." Of

late, however, a great change has

taken place, immense numbers of British

and Ontario-bred sheep for breeding pur-

poses going across the border, mainly west.

The show pens at our exhibitions are now

crowded with grand specimens of the

various breeds of sheep, and judging from

observations throughout the country the

number of sheep in the Province will soon

show an increase. The great demand for

wool has been and should continue to be,

if not restricted to death as a trade, in the

United States. Exports of sheep for con-

sumption in England are also increasing,

though a late report stated that this

season's trade had been very discouraging.

The popularity of mutton seems to be gen-

erally increasing. Sheep are easily reared,

but like everything else require to be kept

well to pay well. This they can very

readily do with their double annual re-

turns, viz. from wool and lambs. Prof.

Shaw, of the Agricultural College, holds that

the sheep industry may easily be doubled

without encroaching seriously on other

lines of production and with but a modest

outlay for foundation stock. It might also

be essential, at least in Western Ontario,

to kill off about one-half, at least, of the use-

less cubs that nightly roam the country,

bringing loss and discouragement every

season to a host of sheep farmers.

MONTAGUE MOVES.

It is not probable that Dr. Montague,

M.P., will again be a candidate for election

in Haldimand if he is unseated in the en-

suing election trial, which, judging by past

experience, is highly probable. The report

that the much harassed politician has re-

solved to begin life anew in British Columbia

is confirmed by a Vancouver journal, which

announces that he will take his family to

that city, and henceforth practice his pro-

fession there. If the Liberals look properly

after the voters' lists, they should be able

to redeem the historic old county, gerry-

mandered though it has been.

MR. HAGGART OWNS UP.

Business men have been prohibited by

the Postoffice Department from sending as

printed matter circulars printed from type

which imitates typewriting. The excuse

has been that the prohibition was the work

of a blundering, officious Deputy Post-

master-General, and that official has been

warmly berated by newspapers supporting

the Ottawa Administration. Postmaster-

General Haggart, being appealed to by a

Parliamentary supporter, takes the blame

for the order on his own shoulders. He

insists that the merchants shall not print

their circulars with imitation typewriting

type, and that they must choose some other

type, and save his subordinates the trouble

of deciding what is written and what is

printed. As a stickler for red-tape and

vexatious regulations, Mr. Haggart is fast

attaining a reputation that should earn for

him retirement from any well-constituted

Administration.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

The Conservative paper recently started

in Lewis, Que., has already suspended pub-

lication. Getting a new paper on a paying

basis is by no means child's play.

Sir Lyon Playfair, who is now on a visit

to this country, asserts that the British

Liberals will have a majority of from 70 to

100 in the next general elections. Even

prominent Conservatives admit the proba-

bility of this estimate.

A German official has been sentenced

to nine months' for selling his influence in

procuring titles from the Emperor. In

Canada Senators have in recent years

been awarded to the highest bidder. The

intermediaries have not been sent to jail,

but have been told to go higher. We must

confess to a liking for the German method.

It is more likely to benefit the common-

wealth.

Mr. Metcalfe, M.P. for Kingston, says

he will stand aside for no Conservative

candidate for the vacant Commons' seat in

Kingston except Mr. Abbott. As the last-

named has positively stated that he cannot

go into the popular chamber because he is

too old and feeble to sit up after 9 p.m.,

there will be lively times if the local wire-

pullers reach the conclusion that it is not

well for Mr. Metcalfe to give up a seat at

present safe for an uncertainty, thereby

risking both seats. Metcalfe would fain

have it understood that he is the Ontario

Chapman. Poor old Abbott, he is sore

beset by these fellows who act on the

"stand and deliver" principle.

Persons inclined to be kleptomaniacs will

be interested to learn that science has

recently come to their aid by providing an

electric contrivance for the prevention of

store-keeping thieves. A Minnesota man

has in the bottom of his show case a num-

ber of metallic slips, and the tray has

spring clips for holding the articles to be

exhibited, the clips being connected elec-

trically and held open by the articles. The

tray has contact points bearing on the

metallic strips, which are in the circuit of

a battery and an alarm bell. When an

article is removed from any one of the clips

the contact points come together, close the

circuit, and give an alarm. If an article be

removed when the tray is out of the case

the alarm is sounded when the tray is put

back.

BRITISH OPINION ON THE

SCANDALS.

[St. James Gazette, Conservative.]

The Stanley of Preston and his Minis-

ters have shown themselves to be past

masters in the art of political euphemism.

An English statesman has spoken of boy-

cotting as "exclusive privilege," but Mr.

Gladstone must admit that he has been

surpassed by the Canadian Prime Minister

—who, we take it, is