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Comments

ON THE

Cartoons.

CARLING DISCOVERING THE HOME MARKET.—Hon. John Carling is the bluff figure put forth by the Dominion Government to represent the farming industry, and in him the yeoman of the land finds a guide, philosopher and friend indeed. Hon. (the prefix signifies

Honest in this particular case) John has charming manners, and the most engaging innocence (of all things pertaining to political economy). He means well toward the horny-handed sons of rural toil; he sympathises with them, and always likes to talk to them in pleasant accents. What in other politicians would be at once set down as conscious humbug is, in Mr. Carling's case, properly regarded as mere excess of good nature. For example, during the original N.P. campaign he told the farmers pleasing tales of tall chimneys that were to spring up in all the towns and villages to indicate the advent of factories, whose busy swarms of employees would consume the surplus products of the farms. He didn't spin these yarns like Sir John, Tupper and other wicked politicians, who knew them to be gammon. He believed all he said and more, and we can well believe that he has been both pained and astonished to find the prophecies all unfulfilled. Hon. John is a cheerful soul, however, as a man who is conscious of his own rectitude, and enjoys a very nicely furnished Government office has a right to be; and so we do not find that jaundice or anything of that kind has been permitted to creep into his speeches as a result of the disappointment referred to. He goes before the farmers these days with the same childlike frankness and talks to them as pleasantly as ever. He takes with him a reassuring bundle of

Departmental returns, and from these he demonstrates that the exports of Canada to foreign countries are constantly increasing. The home market seems to have faded alike from his vision and his memory, though he appears to be quite unconscious of its loss. Home markets may come and tall chimneys may go, but Honest John Carling goes on forever—drawing his little stipend at Ottawa.

AFTER THE NAPIERVILLE RACE.—Cynics have said that principle is a superfluity in politics, and the saying never received a more striking or amusing illustration than is furnished in the late election for Napierville, Quebec. Amongst the most notorious facts of the day is this—that the present Ottawa Administration is dead set against Reciprocity with the United States. Its organs throughout the country have so long ground out the tune that Reciprocity means Annexation that they must by this time have convinced even themselves that such is the truth; Cabinet ministers who have referred to the question have treated it with a coldness far below zero, while one of their number, Mr. Colby, has gone to the other extreme and denounced the policy in the hottest terms, declaring even against the free exchange of natural products. Well, when the by-election in Napierville came on, the Grits put up a Reciprocity man, as was naturally to be expected. Then the other chaps nominated a candidate who lost no time in announcing that he, too, was an adherent of the Cartwright policy. Better still, Hon. J. A. Chapleau, who came down to talk for him, quickly learned the new tune, and indulged in an amount of common-sense talk in favor of Free Trade between us and our neighbors that must have been refreshing to Conservative audiences. On this stolen horse the race was won, and now Mr. Paradis, M.P., will sit at Ottawa as the representative of Reciprocity, but with instructions to support a Government which opposes Reciprocity! That it may be known abroad that Chapleau's eccentricity does not indicate any change of heart on the part of his colleagues, Hon. C. H. Tupper has been going it with all his might against Reciprocity in the Victoria contest. The spectacle is most instructive all round. Amongst other things we may learn from it the very flattering estimate that is placed upon the intelligence of the people by some of our leading statesmen.



HY can't our leading dailies report things which are considered worthy of reporting with some regard for the feelings of the intelligent reader? Here, for example, is a specimen of slovenly reporting from the *Globe* of Friday last. Hon. C. H. Tupper's speech at Lindsay was interrupted by a Mr. Phee, who, in response to the statement that

Canada's credit is better to day than ever it was, said, "Then it is singular that when they went to England for a loan for railway purposes the other day, they had to come back without it." "Mr. Tupper," goes on the report, "condemned the Reciprocity policy, spoke on the Behring Sea question and appealed to the electors to," etc., etc.

BUT what did he say in reply to Mr. Phee? That is what the reader wants to know. Are we to suppose that he would do so unutterably a thing as to confess himself beaten and change the subject in this summary fashion? If he made a reply, it is due to him that the reporter should have given it; to pass it over in this way is a meanness too characteristic of our politics and altogether unworthy of a leading journal. If he blushed, stammered, cleared his throat, and then dodged the clincher, the fact should have been stated.

IN this same report we are told that the young Cabinet Minister "flippantly characterized Sir Richard Cartwright as 'the Knight of the Rueful Countenance.'" This was not flippancy; it was merely an indication that Mr. Tupper, like his elders in the Government, is a careful reader of GRIP, and that he was much struck by a