

An Act for the Protection of a Confiding Public.

The following Bill has not been noticed in the Parliamentary despatches of the *Globe* or the *Leader*; but our readers have the authority of *Tas Gintunna* for saying that it is in the charge of Ferguson Tom, M.P.P. for the "lamb" of South Simcoe.

Whereas, it has come to our knowledge that certain of our loving subjects are in the habit of extracting profit upon their wares from others of our loving subjects, under circumstances rather prejudicial to the pockets of the latter,

Therefore, be it enacted that:—

1. Any baker who is known to cheat or defraud his customers by mixing beans, alum, starch, bone-dust, whitening, potatoes, or any spurious ingredients in his bread; or when baking pies, lifting the lid off the same and taking out part of the inside, shall, for every such offence, be compelled to sit in his oven directly the batch is drawn, for the space of half-an-hour.

2. Any butcher who shall be known to stick a lump of fat under his scale, so as to make it weigh down, and thus deprive his customers of their rights, shall, in cities and towns, be made to stand in the Police Court every morning from the hour of ten to twelve, as a warning to the respectable portion of the community, who daily congregate within the walls of the aforesaid court; and any butcher known to "blow" his meat, or use other means of deceiving the public, shall, on conviction for said offence, be made to hand over said blow meat for the benefit of the public institutions where he resides, without acknowledgment in the journals published in the city or town where the offence may be committed.

3. Any tavern-keeper who shall be known to mix water with his liquors, or use logwood in the manufacture of a bad article of wine or brandy, shall be smothered in a butt of his own swipes.

4. Any teetotaler who shall be known to drink less than two quarts of gin, rum, whiskey, or brandy in the course of a week, or prefer brandy sauce on pudding to a sauce in which no liquor is used, shall be appointed next President of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance.

5. Any tailor, employed in cutting out a suit of clothes, who shall be detected in cabbaging less than two-thirds of the said cloth, shall be compelled to sit upon his goose, red hot, for the space of one hour.

6. Any shoemaker, bootmaker, cobbler or tailor who shall be known to put more than three stitches to an inch, shall be expelled from the associations connected with the aforesaid callings.

7. Any grocer who shall be known to sell horse beans for coffee, sloe leaves for tea, mix sand with his sugar, water with his vinegar, or brick-dust with his pepper; shall for such serious offences, be ducked in a loghead of treacle, and then rolled in feathers.

8. Any barber or barber's apprentice, who, when shaving any customer, shall fail to cut the chin of the aforesaid customer, or neglect to thrust the brush of lather into his mouth, shall have his own head shaved, and his bare block

publicly exposed in his own shop window, as a monument of his incompetence.

9. Any married man, who shall be known to kiss another man's wife, shall be fined \$40 and costs; and double that amount for kissing a single woman.

10. Any woman who shall be in the habit of gossiping in other people's houses, and minding every other body's business but her own, and failing to have her husband's dinner cooked at the regular hour; shall be kept from skating for the period of one week, for each such offence which she has committed.

11. Any man, who arrives at the age of forty without having taken unto himself a help-mate, shall be banished to the Manitoulin Islands for the remainder of his days.

12. Any soldier, who shall be found sneaking after the servant girls, or found with his arm round the waist of one of the aforesaid class, even though the thermometer be 30° below Zero, shall be compelled to marry, as a punishment for his crime.

13. Any officer known to pass a pretty girl on the street without winking at her, or staring her straight in the face, shall be compelled to go without his brandy and water for the space of one half hour.

14. Any sewing girl who shall be known to neglect painting her face, or wearing hoops so large as that a foot passenger may pass her on a ten foot sidewalk, shall be doomed to remain single all the days of his life.

15. Any milkman who shall be found milking a pump at the hour of midnight instead of the cow, shall be made to sit upon the pump three hours for each offence, as a warning to other milkmen.

16. Any Member of Parliament who shall neglect to send homo to his country residence at least 500lbs. weight of stationery, during each session of Parliament, shall be considered as having committed a serious breach of privilege, and shall be liable to expulsion therefor.

17. Every young man over the age of fourteen, who shall refuse to lecture before a public audience upon the most abstract subjects in philosophy and science, shall be tied to his Mamma's apron-strings for a period of at least six hours for each such offence.

18. This act shall be a public act.

Lancer Rankin Again.

"He spoke of the immorality of public men, and the effect of their conduct upon the public."—*Parliamentary Report.*

—Will this amiable and moral individual stop prating of "immorality!" American greenbacks weigh heavily on his conscience, and as gold rises his spirits sink. *Hinc illa lachryma.*

COMMITTEES to be formed during the present Session of Parliament:—

Mr. Buchanan, on brevity; Mr. Cartier, on codfish; Mr. Rose, on flowers; Mr. Cauchon, on pigs; Mr. Smith, on horse-shoeing; Mr. McBeth, on the drama; Mr. White, on colors; Mr. Bell, on steeples; Mr. Bureau, on furniture; Mr. Knight on heraldry; Mr. Baby, on children; Mr. Street, on highways.

BROWN REDIVIVUS.

Richard's himself again! The big gun is once more on the road to the sporting shop, to cut and Jew, to hack right and left, and display the time honoured bob-tails! All hail to the ex-chief! May his shadow never grow less!

Why this apostrophe? The event is no unimportant one. The appearance of the ex-leader in the House is the *Mene, mene, tekel upharsun* of the government. John Sandfield is up the spout, little Adam will be once more let loose among his briefs, his pleas and declarations. D'Arcy will again have time to enlighten a benighted public on the lessons of revolutions; Michael may rollick among the jolly Dutchmen of Berlin; Macdougall may return to his cultivators and agricultural essays; and the rest of them; to those avocations which more befit them than holding the reins of the government. What a day of jubilee that will be, the avaricious followers of John Brown are for once sitting in the cold shade of Opposition!

Apreros of the return of G. B., it has been whispered to us that a new Ministry is already in progress of formation. At least it has an existence on paper, whatever else may become of it. Acting according to that higher light which the member for South Oxford received in his late visit to Great Britain and the "land o' cakes," and which has already caused him to discard conventions, of which he was the chief introducer into the Province, he now sees great beauty in coalitions and concessions, and is ever willing to form part of the tail of whatever government may be formed. That these suggestions are not ill-founded will be seen by referring to the following list, which was picked up in Ingersoll on Thursday night last, one hour after the polls had closed:—

Premier & Attorney Gen. West.	Hon. J. A. Macdonald.
Finance Minister.	Hon. George Brown.
Postmaster General.	Hon. Mr. H. Kilbuck.
Minister of Agriculture.	Hon. Mr. Ross.
Solicitor General West.	Hon. Oliver Mowat.
President of the Council.	Mr. J. B. E. Durion.
Attorney General East.	Hon. Mr. Durion.
Solicitor General East.	Hon. Mr. Laberge.
Receiver General.	Hon. J. H. Cameron.
Commissioner of Public Works.	Hon. Mr. Cauchon.

A note added to the list expressed the thought that this conglomeration will be able to obtain a working majority in the House, as it includes leading members of all shades of politics, from both sides of the House. A strong government, Mr. Brown is assured, is what the country requires, and he is willing to sink minor differences for the attainment of that end.

It might be questioned by some persons, what would become of Rep. by Pop. in the hands of such a Ministry? But as Mr. Brown has discovered that the best way of settling the difficulty is to make application to the British government—a *la* Ottawa Buildings—said decision to be a finality, it is believed that the government would be able to get along, without being seriously troubled with this nightmare of shabby politicians.

P.S.—Since writing the above we have received special telegram from Quebec, which informs us that negotiations towards the effecting the coalition foreshadowed in Mr. Brown's programme have already surrendered. The present men can be upset at any time.