

A GOOD DEAL IN A NAME.

Our neighbors across the national boundary line profess to be filled with zeal for the preservation of republicanism on this continent. Great Britain has a dispute with Venezuela, by which the United States as a nation is not in the least affected, but the great bulk of United States citizens, who know nothing whatever of the merits of the dispute, side with the Venezuelans against the British, for no other or better reason than that Venezuela is nominally a republic and Great Britain a monarchy. A good American citizen is bound to hate a monarchy, particularly the British monarchy, however republican it may be, and to love and sympathize with a republic no matter how corrupt and anarchical it may be. The New York Post sets this blind and indiscriminating partiality in a strong light in a vigorous article from which the following is an extract:

Of course Venezuela is called a republic, as Great Britain is called a monarchy; but, if we go behind the names and consider the facts, what do we find? Are the institutions of Venezuela republican? Is its government popular? It is notorious that in Latin America the majority of the so-called republics are military dictatorships, tempered by periodical revolutions. In the intermediate periods between successive dictatorships their condition is one of anarchy. During the reign of each military tyrant the forms of republican government are observed; elections are held; but the "purity of the ballot" is protected by troops, and the success of the governmental candidates is assured by the show of armed force. During the periods of revolutionary anarchy all traces of republicanism disappear. There is no security for life or property except in the case of foreigners, who are protected by the war vessels of their respective countries.

It is notorious that Venezuela is a republic of this sort. A revolution occurred there less than four years ago; ex-President Crespo attacked the government of President Palacios, and ousted it. The struggle for power continued for several months; and at the close of the war the condition of the country was described in all the European and American papers as "deplorable." This is the "republic" which we are called upon to protect in the name and for the sake of liberty. This is the sort of government that we are to aid in maintaining, to the end that our good republican morals may not be corrupted by evil monarchic communications. This is the result we reach by reasoning from phrases. The truth is, of course, that if we fear contamination, it is not against the constitutional states of Europe that we should first establish quarantine, but against our Latin-American neighbors. The danger which more seriously threatens popular government to-day is not monarchy, but anarchy.

And what kind of a monarchy is Great Britain? Is its government less popular than that of Venezuela? Is it less popular than that of the United States even? Conservative English statesmen, including Lord Salisbury, have lamented the fact that England is becoming a more democratic country than our own; that they lack the checks which our written constitutions, interpreted by our federal and state judiciaries, impose upon our elected representatives. Sir Henry Maine declares that we have preserved in our presidency the monarchy of George III. Continental European publicists take similar views. Nearly a score of years ago one of the most brilliant of French political writers, M. Raoul Frary, declared that if we go behind the names of the two governments and examine their real character, "Great Britain is a republic with a hereditary president, and the United States a monarchy with an elective king." The present exhibition of the power of our executive, by his personal decision to bring our country to the verge of war, is a striking confirmation of Maine's assertion and Frary's paradox.

It is nothing to the average American citizen that the subjects of Queen Victoria, whether in Great Britain or Canada or Australasia, are incomparably more free and better governed in every way than the citizens of the Republic of Venezuela. In his opinion the subjects of a monarch must of necessity be under the yoke of an oppressor and cannot possess the freedom which the citizens of a republic enjoy. When he is told that a British subject in the Old Country or in any of the self-governing colonies really enjoys a greater share of political power, has a greater and more direct influence over the government of his country, than has a citizen of the Great Republic, he laughs a laugh of incredulity and regards his informant as an infatuated and besotted monarchist—a spiritless creature who subsmissively places his neck under the heel of the tyrant and fanatically kisses the rod that smites him. It is natural that he should do this, for from his earliest years he is taught to regard a British king as a cruel tyrant and all British subjects as slaves who are so in love with despotism as to be unworthy of freedom. The American school boy is taught to believe that the United States is the only really free country in the world and that republicanism is the only form of government under which a people can be really free. The books which are given him to read and the speeches which he hears are all intended to give him distorted views of history, and to lead him to form an incorrect estimate of the relative greatness of his own country and the advantages of republican institutions. It is no wonder that he grows up with an inordinate opinion of the importance of his own country and an unintelligent contempt for all governments that are not what he regards as purely republican.

THE GLOBE'S RUBBISH.

The Times, in justification we presume of its repeated denials in the face of the clearest proof, that Colonel Prior was a member of the Cabinet, quotes a passage from a Toronto Globe article the object of which was to show that a Controller of Inland Revenue could not be—to use a foolish phrase invented by the Times—"a full-fledged cabinet minister." Here is an extract from the passage quoted by our contemporary:

An obscure, inexperienced back-bench member of the House is offered a subordinate position in the Government with an inferior rank and smaller salary than a cabinet minister, and yet the people are told that he springs at once in the council of the nation to the same importance and influence as the first minister."

What the Premier did say in the telegram to Col. Prior quoted by the Globe was that "You are Controller of Inland Revenue and a member of the Cabinet, and have just as much voice in the affairs of the Dominion as I have." This, as the reader sees, is very different, indeed, from the Globe's paraphrase of the sentence. The Globe ought to know that there is no difference in rank among Cabinet Ministers, one Cabinet Minister is the equal of any other Cabinet Minister. The Globe, of course, knows this, but it did not suit its purpose to admit it when commenting on Col. Prior's appointment previous to his election.

There is nothing strange or unreasonable about the Premier's statement. It holds good with respect to members of Parliament as well as Cabinet Ministers. The youngest and least experienced back-bench member of the House of Commons has just as much voice in the affairs of the Dominion as the Prime Minister himself—but he is very far indeed from having the same "importance and influence" as the first minister. The back-bench member's vote counts for quite as much on a division as that of the Premier himself. Sir John Macdonald has been known publicly to remind a young and diffident member that he was, in the House of Commons, absolutely his equal.

We are surprised that the Globe should say that Sir Mackenzie Bowell's telegram, in which he stated the above obvious truth, was a mere electioneering dodge. This is as much as to say that the Premier of the Dominion would sign his name to a statement that he knows to be absolutely false. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, as the Globe well knows, is not that kind of man. The telegram to Col. Prior simply corroborated the offer that was made to that gentleman in the first place.

Here are the terms in which the offer was made: "Kindly ascertain from Prior if he will accept a controllership with a seat in the Cabinet. This would give British Columbia a voice in the Council." This offer was made over Sir Mackenzie Bowell's signature. It was simply a business proposition. It had no electioneering object. As Sir Mackenzie Bowell is known to be an honest man it was to be presumed that he had the power to give Col. Prior what he offered him, and when Mr. Templeman affected to doubt the genuineness of the offer and when he ridiculed the idea of a controller being made a "full fledged" cabinet minister he virtually accused the Premier of being guilty of an offence similar to that which a man commits who gives in payment of a debt a cheque on a bank in which he knows he has no funds. This is a monstrous supposition and one which it is difficult to believe any man of intelligence would entertain for a moment.

Yet this is the assumption which the Times and many leading men on the Opposition side pretended to entertain during almost the whole of the election campaign. We were greatly surprised at this at the time, yet we now see that the Toronto Globe lends its countenance to those who had formed so low an estimate of the Premier's character. The passage which the Times quotes from the Toronto Globe is simply dishonest nonsense. The Hon. Col. Prior, in spite of the logic which the Globe and the Victoria Grits have chopped and the law they have laid down, is a member of the Cabinet, and no man in the Dominion who has a reputation to lose questions the constitutionality or the validity of his appointment. "The world still moves."

A MEAN ELECTION TRICK.

We are not among those who consider that sermons are above criticism. Discourses, whether delivered from the pulpit or the platform or printed in the newspapers, are intended for the guidance of the public and are, therefore, open to public criticism. But that criticism should be honest. Words should not be put in the preacher's mouth which he never uttered, nor should views be attributed to him which he did not express or entertain.

The criticism on Canon Beauland's sermon on the school question which was scattered about the streets in the shape of an electioneering "dodge," was the very reverse of honest. The reverend gentleman, in a letter to this paper, thus characterises this electioneering criticism:

"Then without attempting either to give the real drift of my sermon or correct extracts from it, a paragraph is set forth purporting to be verbatim, yet of which not a single sentence is mine, nor is the main allegation mine either." What Mr. Beauland describes is not a criticism, but an impudent falsification. That the description which he gives of the election skit is correct is virtually admitted by its author, who said yesterday in a letter to the Grit weekly: "First of all let me state that the report was not intended to be verbatim, but I admit that being placed in inverted commas, which was a mistake of the printer, it might be taken as such."

P. O. BOX 188.

# E. M. JOHNSON

37 Government Street, Corner of Broughton.

## REAL ESTATE AGENT, CONVEYANCER AND NOTARY PUBLIC.

LOANS EFFECTED, RENTS AND INCOME COLLECTED, DEEDS PREPARED, ETC.

### For Sale--1388-Acre Farm

ABOUT 1000 ACRES OF WHICH IS PLOUGHABLE PRAIRIE OF FIRST-CLASS QUALITY.

120 Head of Cattle, 1 pedigree Hereford Bull. 12 Horses, Ploughs, Harrows, Reaper, Wagon, Sleds, and usual farm implements. Double Harness, Chain Harness, Bull Chains, Saddles (ladies' and gents'), Bridles, etc. Blacksmiths' Bellows, Anvil and Tools and Carpenters' Tools. Nine-room House, shingle roofed. Stable for 10 horses, with hay loft above. Stone Root-house, Store Buildings, Dairy, Cow Sheds, etc., etc. About 7 miles Standing Fences, in good order, Corrals, etc. Small lot Household Furniture, Stove and Pipes, Cooking Utensils, Crockery, etc.

THIS PROPERTY is within easy distance of many of the most important Gold Silver and Coal Mines in West Kootenay. The soil is the best bottom land, and the locality is one of the few places in the Province where so large a piece of good farm land can be found in one block. A river runs through the property, and rainbow trout are plentiful and afford capital sport. Deer abound in considerable numbers. Bear, Wolf, Coyote and other large game are to be found in the hills. There are two creeks recorded and belonging to the estate; one flows all the year round. Limestone and brick clay are to be had in the valley.

THE CATTLE are well bred. A much larger herd could be farmed with the place. The bunch grass on the hills in the vicinity covers many thousands of acres, and is available to the few land owners in the valleys.

THE CLIMATE is not severe. The station was for many years the winter quarters of the H. B. Co.'s pack trains.

THE SOUTH-WEST KOOTENAY AND OSOYOOS Divisions of Yale District, British Columbia, judging from the actual ore products of the mines to date, are destined in the next year or two to be the richest and most important mineral centres in the world.

THE TITLE is Crown Grant. Immediate possession can be given.

### For Sale--20,000 Acres of Farming Land IN CONTIGUOUS BLOCKS.

Beautifully watered, forming one of the finest estates in the Province; house and farm buildings; 2,000 head of cattle; 50 to 80 horses; easy approach; good roads; railways projected to property and the estate is in close proximity to some of the best developed and most promising gold mines in the District. The price of the whole is extremely moderate. Principals only treated with.

These localities are rapidly settling up, and as farm land is limited, great inducement is offered to any person or corporation having capital and knowledge necessary to work these Estates. A store, hotel and blacksmith shop could be run in connection with the farm.

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What could be more disingenuous than this? To give out under quotation marks what purported to be the exact words of the preacher, using the first personal pronoun as well, and then to state that the inverted commas were a mistake of the printer! Was the use of the pronoun "I" in the passage also a mistake of the printer? The use of that pronoun without the quotation marks was quite sufficient to show that the electioneering critic intended the passage to be considered by his readers as the exact words uttered by Canon Beauland. The excuse of the author is as shallow and flimsy as it is dishonest. It is very evident that the skit was a deliberate falsification of part of Canon Beauland's sermon, and that the falsification was committed for no other purpose than to deceive the electors. This mean and unscrupulous trick is quite in keeping with the Grit policy from the beginning to the end of the campaign.

SIZED UP.

The Montreal Gazette sees very clearly the position in which the Victoria Times has placed itself by its stupid denials of what had been proved to be true, and by the lying telegrams which it was so unscrupulous as to publish. In an article on Col. Prior's appointment in its issue of the 4th inst., it says: Judging from the way in which Col. Prior's appointment has been received by the Opposition press in British Columbia, the Government has every reason to be satisfied with the step it has taken. When the announcement was

made the Victoria Times took it for granted, that as Col. Prior was appointed Controller, he would not have a seat in the Cabinet. Hastily assuming this to be the case, the Times took the line that British Columbia was to be put off with a controllership and its claims disregarded; if it had been a seat in the Cabinet, it would have been different and so on. Having made the mistake of prophesying before it knew, the Times committed a far greater blunder by refusing to acknowledge its error when it was made absolutely clear to every one of average intelligence. The Premier telegraphed that he had offered Col. Prior a seat in the Cabinet, and that Col. Prior had accepted it, but the Times scoffed at the message and threw doubts upon its genuineness. There never was a clearer case of the ostrich hiding its head in the sand and foolishly imagining its pursuers would not see it. But the Conservative papers in British Columbia—its local opponent, the Victoria Colonist, in the van—were after the Times, and dragged it from his hiding place. Still the poor, unfortunate Times would not admit that it was beaten. As hiding its head in the sand did not succeed, it tried the further expedient of knocking its head against a stone wall. On the strength of one of the fake Liberal despatches from Ottawa, it stated that "Dr. Bourinot, the highest constitutional authority in Canada, has given his opinion that it is unconstitutional and utterly impossible to give a controller a cabinet seat, and drew attention to it editorially as "putting an end to the false pretences in regard to Col. Prior's position." So it did, but not in the way the Times expected. The Ottawa despatch immediately called forth the following telegram:

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 21, 1885.  
Hon. Col. Prior, Victoria, B.C.:  
In reply to your telegram I have to state that no expression of opinion whatever has emanated from me concerning the constitutional or any other aspect of proposed cabinet arrangements.  
(Signed) J. G. BOURINOT.  
The Times has made a tremendous fuss and flurry in getting itself into a hole; and now everybody in British Columbia is waiting to see it crawl out again.  
"The poor unfortunate Times" has not profited by the lesson it has been taught and is not in the slightest degree

abashed by the exposure of its deceptive tricks and its impudent falsehoods. It is doing the old business at the old stand, and trying to brazen it out by abusing and falsely accusing the Colonist. But its shamelessness and its hardihood will not avail it. The public now know what dependence is to be placed on its most confident assertions and its most emphatic denials.

FORGED TESTIMONY.

It appears that the "Laurier called in" extra issued from the Times office on election day in the interest of its manager, Mr. Templeman, had not even the doubtful merit of originality. A Quebec publisher, it is stated, had circulated a similar story, which was telegraphed to Ottawa and having appeared in the Citizen on Monday morning was quickly found to be a fabrication. The Times' Ottawa correspondent, apparently thinking that his employer Mr. Templeman might use the false report with advantage, telegraphed it to Victoria, where it was indeed eagerly seized upon and so embellished that even the author would not recognize it. "Laurier will meet Lord Aberdeen this afternoon," the telegram said, but the man who supported Mr. Templeman supplemented that modest announcement. "Laurier is called in—Consulting with the Governor-General this afternoon at Ottawa" was what they issued on a fly sheet at three o'clock—six o'clock at Ottawa—and published in the Times two hours later. They must have known the truth before then; in fact there is evidence that the false report first reached them on Sunday, for editorially the Times on Monday afternoon said that the news was "in complete harmony with the predictions in this morning's issue." The campaign against Hon. E. G. Prior was instituted under false pretences, and this closing incident was quite in keeping with the policy of de-

SCHOOL TRUSTEES.

We are glad to see that good men are in the field as School Trustees. We hope that the electors will make a wise choice. Men and women of intelligence, education and experience are offering the city their services. Those candidates who have already filled the office of Trustee acceptably and performed its duties faithfully have a claim on the electors which will, no doubt, not be lost sight of. Trustees do their work—often delicate and difficult—gratuitously, and those who do it zealously and effectively deserve well of their fellow citizens. We do not think that the electors will find it hard to make a judicious choice. There are candidates in the field who know how schools ought to be conducted, and who, if elected, will not only keep the schools up to their present standard, but point out how they can be raised higher. They will also use the power which the law gives them moderately and considerately. It should not be for a moment forgotten that the more intelligent a trustee is and the better he has been educated the more efficiently will he be, other things being equal, perform his duties. The electors should remember that in giving the city a good board of Trustees they will confer a great benefit on themselves and their children, and one, the effects of which will be felt for many years to come. We trust that there will be a large vote, and that the electors in marking their ballots will have no object in view except the interests of education and the good of the children.

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