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The Victoria Warder

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1878.

THE GULLS AND THE COOKS AND GULLERS.

Now and then the local Grit organ takes it into its head to indulge in that operation familiarly termed gulling the marines. The result, however, is not usually favourable to itself, as the would-be gulled generally turns out to be the only person gulled. This was the case in the matter of the Government and their proposition to provide themselves with private secretaries. Bear in mind that there was no word of private secretaries until the general election began to be spoken of and the Ministers began to find themselves kept busy pulling wires and writing confidential letters to their friends about the prospects in the various constituencies. They were not satisfied with head clerks and assistant clerks and confidential clerks and deputy clerks, and goodness knows how many other kinds of supernumeraries. They had a soul above mere confidential clerks and must ape their betters at Ottawa and have private secretaries. It was only a year or so ago that they added an additional member to the Cabinet on the shallow pretense that the work was too laborious, and forswith two of their number went off to England on a pleasure tour and the rest managed to put in their time at the summer watering places, leaving the work of their departments to these same confidential clerks whom they now affect to despise. "But" says our contemporary, with the air of an oracle as if it would settle the question for all time "is was pointed out to the House that the clause was entirely in the interest of an incoming A.-Administration." Did anybody ever hear such nonsense? Here he is again, gulling the marines. We are left in doubt, however, whether the present Administration is so positive of being kicked out of office at the approaching election that it is beginning to make matters ready for its successors, or whether this is merely another example of the would-be gulled being gulled.

THE SILVER BILL.

The most important event of the past week was the vetoing of the Silver Bill by the President of the United States, and its re-passage over the President's veto by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has thus become law in spite of the President's veto. There is no denying that it has struck a hard blow at the commercial reputation of the United States and that it is looked upon abroad as being the first step in the direction of repudiation. Bonds have been returned from Europe by every vessel since the scheme was first mooted, Germany having sent back as many as fifteen million dollars worth alone. The President justified the high opinion that has been formed of him by speaking out plainly and declaring that the bill was a breach of faith towards foreign bondholders and would damage the credit of the country and bring the national honor into disrepute. Our neighbors have a great love of doing sharp things and it is possible that they do not look upon transactions of this kind in the same stern light that their fathers were in the habit of looking at them. But outsiders do, and however easy it may be for the people of the United States to convince themselves that it is honest to pay a dollar debt with ninety or ninety-three cents they will find it quite another thing to convince foreign bondholders. The next thing we shall hear, probably, is that they have determined to settle the fishery award in depreciated coin. What is just as likely, however, is that they will never settle it at all.

WILL THE TALE BE SOON TOLD?

The only reforms contemplated by the great "Reform" party that can lay claim to nothing to reform are such changes in the departments as will enable them to find room for a few more hangerons after office. Besides making room for these camp-followers and poor relatives of the party the Government proposes to make their offices permanent so that in case of a change of Administration the new office holders cannot be displaced by the incoming Government. This is a most important reform, of course, and will show the people the necessity of continuing the present Administration in power for another term. What does it matter whether there be a deficit of three millions one year and a deficit of a million and a half the next, so long as the newly installed office holders, of whom it is generally believed A. H. Dymond, of the *Globe*, will be one, are fixed firmly in their seats! What does it matter whether an income tax is threatened, a protective tariff refused, workingmen thrown out of employment, the whole country depressed and suffering from illegitimate competition, the breakfast table taxed, millions of dollars squandered on foolish and untimely speculations, the Bench and the Civil Service converted into places of refuge for decayed and incoherous politicians, and public life made disreputable by the jobbery and corruption of the members of the Government what does it matter whether these things be so or not so long as the "Reform" party can keep hold of the flesh pots and fill itself full in the Ministerial kitchen at the expense of the people? When will this tale of "Reform" rule in Canada be told, and what will be the summing up of the people who hear it?

SHALL WE HAVE THEM?

We have on several occasions suggested the expediency of an effort being made to have located in Lindsay smelting works for the produce of the Snowdon iron mines, but so far we are not aware that any move has been made in this direction. Our neighbors in Whitby, however, seem to be alive to the situation and are already interesting themselves in the matter. The *Chronicle* in view of the proposed works says:

"It is encouraging to find gentlemen of means and prominence interesting themselves in the establishment of iron smelting works at Whitby. The extension of the Whitby & Port Perry line to Lindsay has made Whitby the center of the Victoria Railway, and consequently of the natural outlet also for the produce of the Snowdon iron mines. In view of the benefits conferred by the local bounts. It is also likely to prove one of the most important in the future development and prosperity of the town. There are rivals anxious for the same east and west of us to secure the location of the works. It is plain, however, that they cannot offer the same advantages in point of situation and facilities of communication and transit as Whitby. We publish a letter, from Mr. Glen, on the subject, in other columns. In another connectection he says: "It would be a great benefit to us all if we could secure these iron works in this locality."

"There is no reason why Oshawa should not heartily co-operate, as it would give us our raw material at our door."

And Mr. F. W. Glen, of Oshawa, writing on the same subject says in the letter above referred to:—

"As there is some prospect of Smelting Works being established at Port Whitby, it may be of interest to your community to know that pig iron, bar iron, and steel are now being made at Londonderry, Nova Scotia, and "laid down free at the Railway Station in Ontario," cheaper than brands equal in quality can be laid down from England, Scotland or the United States. The bar iron is of strictly first-class quality as well as the pig iron. I send you a sample cut from a bar of one and a half inches round iron, best in our works. There are not more than three or four brands of English iron equal to it. The fact that iron of this quality is being made in N. S. to compete in price with the foreign article at the present time should be a source of encouragement to those who are interested in developing the Snowdon mine. Iron is being sold at a lower price than ever before during the past 25 years.

The freight from Londonderry, N. S., is a very considerable item, which would be largely saved if the works were at Whitby.

I feel confident, if the ore from the Snowdon mine is of as high a grade as is represented, that both pig and bar iron can be made at Whitby at a profit even at the present low price of iron.

The works at Londonderry were first established on a very small scale to make pig iron. The company now has a capital of one and a half million dollars, giving employment to a very large number of men.

If Whitby successfully establishes the manufacture of a high quality of pig iron, manufacturers of bar iron and steel would naturally locate there also. Such a result would secure to the town an ample reward for the large sum it has invested in the Port Whitby and Lindsay Railway, and also be a continual source of wealth to this entire community.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours very truly,
F. W. GLENN.

If the benefits to be secured to Whitby by the establishment of these works are to be so great and the *Chronicle* contends they will it is only natural to suppose that the opening up of such a branch of industry in this town would prove as highly important in its future development and prosperity. Lindsay, from its situation and the facilities it now enjoys both by rail and water, offers great advantages to the manufacturer. A late prospect of the Snowdon mine by some American capitalists and mining engineers is a highly gratifying one, and there seems no reason to doubt that when the mine is thoroughly worked it will prove a very remunerative one. Smelting works will be erected somewhere, the question is "Shall we have them?"

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Uneasiness at Russia's attitude still exists and many are the surmises as to the probable result of the present state of affairs in the East. England in the meantime is by no means idle, but is steadily preparing for any emergency that may arise. It is understood that in the event of war between England and Russia, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Patrick Macdougall who takes command of the forces in Canada next May, will have the authority to raise ten thousand Canadians for service in Europe. All officers now on leave have received orders to hold themselves in readiness to rejoin their regiments immediately on receipt of telegraphic notice.

From some correspondence that has been going on in the Bobcaygeon *Independent* between Mr. Robert McKeegan of South Verulam and Mr. Knight, we are led to infer that the Public School Inspector has been again meddling in matters with which he has no concern. His insane desire to run horticultural and agricultural shows must militate greatly against his efficiency as an Inspector of Public Schools, the duties of which he is so well paid to perform. And yet in his office of Secretary of the Central Fair, for which he received $100, he couldn't be found when wanted. A good and wise Government ought to take hold of Mr. Knight and make him, well, say, make him Professor of the Agricultural College at Guelph.

The preliminary meeting of the Reformers of the South Riding of Victoria, as duly announced in our contemporary's largest type, took place last Saturday afternoon in the rooms of the Young Men's Reform Association which had been specially fitted up for the occasion. Whether it was the damp weather or a general lukewarmness, the "faithful" did not respond very numerously to the call. We are informed that Mr. J. F. Cummings, of Oakwood, was duly elected President of the Reform Association in place of Mr. John McLeman deposed, and that addresses were delivered by Messrs. McIntyre, Cummings, Bertram, the retiring President and others. On the 20th instant a Convention is to be held for nominating candidates, electing delegates, &c. We calmly await the sounding of the tocsin of war.

At the annual meeting of the Conservative Association held the other day in Toronto, Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin on coming forward to propose the next resolution was loudly cheered. He was sure after what they had heard they would readily pass the resolution he held in his hands that the thanks of this Association are due and are hereby tendered to the officers and executive for their services during the past year. Mr. Cameron and Mr. Bergey had spoken of the great names as they bore on their work there that night from certain stand points. He would deal with them from a stand point of his own. They knew that Reformers had been accused of not carrying out their professions. It was said for instance, that they reformed nothing—made no changes. Now, he thought they had from time to time made most sweeping changes—in the Cabinet. (Laughter.) They made other changes—they changed their receipts for their salaries every quarter-day. (Renewed laughter.) Careless, happy Reformers they were in all other respects, but in both Governments they made most reckless and sweeping changes in the matter of remunerating themselves for their services. (Laughter.) Just like young lawyers when they wish to be gay, they put up an easier white shirt for their dress coat. The Reformers had only had an easier white shirt for their dress coat. The Reformers had only had an easier white shirt for their dress coat. The Reformers had only had