



Dry Goods and Hardware Stores.

It is with pride that we show this week a cut of Messrs. W. H. Curry & Co's stores. This business, starting a few years in a comparatively small way, has, by straightforward dealing, & skilful management, grown steadily until to day it has become one of the largest and most prosperous in this part of Ontario.

of Paints, Oils, Leads, Locks, Hinges, &c., &c. His stock in these lines is always varied and complete. Perhaps a good part of the success of the firm is owing to the care they have always used in the selection of their staff. A more attentive and obliging staff of clerks it would be hard to find in any establishment.

T. BRADY, Lindsay's Leading Grocer, Kent St., has one of the largest and best stocks in the County to choose from. Everything fresh and good. A call solicited.

Seed Barley. Anyone wanting seed barley can secure same by applying to IRA SHAW, Omemeo P. O. Or on Lot 2, Con. 11, Ops.

Seed Barley. The undersigned has on hand a quantity of clean seed barley for sale at 55c. per bushel. T. B. LAIDLEY, Omemeo P. O. Or on premises, Lot 2, Con. 4, Emily.

SEED OATS. The undersigned has a limited supply of New Century Seed Oats for sale at 55c. per bushel. ROBERT H. CASEY, Omemeo, P. O. Or Lot 16, Con. 4, Emily.

ONTARIO DISGRACED

Hon. J. R. Stratton Charged with Having Attempted to Buy the Vote of a Member of the Opposition for \$5000, and with Having Paid \$4000 of It.

Ever since Hon. G. W. Ross became premier there have been many exposures of frauds in the election of liberal members to the Ontario Legislature. These frauds have been so nefarious and gigantic that they have besmirched the fair name of our province, brought popular government into contempt and given exquisite pain to all honest men of both parties.

We have seen an organized band of unscrupulous men, known as "The Machine" and composed of such men as Preston, Sullivan and Vance, going from riding to riding, and using the most infamous means to secure the elections, of supporters of Mr. Ross. And then, when came the exposures of such rascalities as those of South Ontario and West Elgin, culminating in the burning of ballots entrusted to the safe keeping of a high official of the government, all felt in some degree relieved; because all believe that the lowest depth of degradation had been reached and that even the minions of the Ontario Government could do no acts more iniquitous than these.

LOST.—On Saturday, March 7, a black fur mitt, (dog skin). Finder will please leave same with John Sanderson, or at this office.

Health

"For 25 years I have never missed taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla every spring. It cleanses my blood, makes me feel strong, and does me good in every way."—John P. Hodnette, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Pure and rich blood carries new life to every part of the body. You are invigorated, refreshed. You feel anxious to be active. You become strong, steady, courageous. That's what Ayer's Sarsaparilla will do for you.

Ask your doctor what he thinks of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. He knows all about this grand old family medicine. Follow his advice and you will be satisfied. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

The Standard Dictionary : for Half Price.

We have a number of copies of the Standard Dictionary in the FOLLOWING BINDINGS: Two Volumes in Full Morocco, Publisher's Price \$24.00 which we will sell for \$13.00. Two Volumes in Half Russia Binding, regular \$20.00 Edition for \$11.00. One Volume Half Russia, regular \$17.00 Edition for \$9.00.

WRITE US FOR QUOTATIONS ON GENERAL REFERENCE WORKS.

T. J. Ford & Co., Toronto.

himself so depraved as to commit such treachery as that. But the announcement was soon confirmed by an alleged interview with a Globe representative. In this interview Mr. Gamey was reported as saying that he would be an independent supporter of Mr. Ross and that "Manitoulin was his politics." The denunciations which followed were loud, bitter and from all parties with the exception of a few of the more shame-faced grits. It was felt that such treasonable abandonment of principle was utterly demoralizing and that by it parliamentary government was made a farce; and that such conduct could not be denounced in too strong terms. Mr. Gamey must have realized that the way of the transgressor is hard. Great curiosity was aroused as to how he would defend himself when the House met. The public had not long to wait after that event. The speech from the throne had been read; the usual speeches in reply thereto had been made; everyone was expecting that Mr. Whitney would follow; when suddenly Mr. Gamey arose and began to speak. In clear, forcibly deliberate words he made the astonishing statement that Hon. J. R. Stratton had by means of go-betweens, attempted to bribe him to support the Ross government; "the consideration" being, the withdrawing the petition against his return; the giving him the patronage of the riding and FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN CASH; FOUR THOUSAND OF WHICH HAD BEEN PAID. He read letters and documents to prove his assertion; and then advanced and laid the letters and his share of the money on the desk of his leader Mr. Whitney. The other half had gone to Frank Sullivan, a government clerk and a son of the notorious "Cap" Sullivan of machine fame, as his share for consummating the deal. It is safe to say that never before in the history of any British Legislature was there ever made public such an atrociously infamous transaction; and it is sincerely to be hoped that there may never be a repetition of such a scene. There is but one redeeming feature in connection with the whole affair, and that is the unanimity with which the conduct of Mr. Stratton has been condemned by the public of Ontario. Almost every newspaper has denounced the deal in unmeasured terms, and insisted that Mr. Stratton must retire from public life. A few, including the Toronto Globe and Evening Star, plead for a suspension of judgement till the whole facts are made known.

It is but fair to Mr. Stratton to say that he denies ever having made any cash payment, and, on this point, judgement should be held in obedience till it is decided upon by some competent authority. What that authority should be, is discussed in another column. There is however abundant documentary evidence to prove that a villainous deal had been made, and Mr. Stratton had, in part at least, fulfilled his part of the agreement by giving Mr. Gamey the patronage of the Island. This in itself ought to be enough to drive Mr. Stratton from public life forever.

HOW SHOULD MR. STRATTON BE TRIED? Mr. Stratton stands charged with having attempted to bribe a member of the legislature by promising to give him \$5000 to support Mr. Ross and with actually having paid \$4000 of this sum. The crime of having bribed or attempted to bribe a member of the house is so heinous in its character and so serious in its penalty, that the charge should not be listened to for a moment unless made by a man of high character and position, and supported by presumptive proof of its truthfulness. Both of these conditions are fulfilled in this case. Mr. Gamey is a member of the legislature and his character is vouched for by the Globe and other liberal newspapers. Besides Mr. Gamey knew full well that he placed this standing and this character in the hazard when he made so serious a charge against a fellow member of the house, more especially when that member is a minister of the crown. Mr. Gamey is well aware that should he fail to prove his charge, he stands to lose everything that a man holds dear. He will be ignominiously driven from the house and from public life, his character will be ruined forever, his name will become a synonym for all that is mean and despicable and his children have to hide their heads when their father's name is mentioned. No sensible man—and the Globe has said that Mr. Gamey is a sensible man—would take a risk so great, unless he thought he had ample proof to substantiate his charge.

Then the documents submitted by Mr. Gamey are as confirmatory of the truthfulness of his accusation as are his position and character. First there are Mr. Stratton's own letters which prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that he had given the patronage of the Island to Mr. Gamey. Now this patronage belonged by right, to the defeated liberal candidate, and would not have been given to Mr. Gamey except for an

ample consideration. That compensation, the correspondence clearly shows, was to be Mr. Gamey's support of the Ross Ministry. Then there are letters to Mr. Gamey from an acknowledged agent of the government which prove that on the conclusion of a certain deal in "stocks," Mr. Gamey was to make \$3000 in cash and \$2000 more in two or three months. All these things furnish proof that is almost irresistible, that Mr. Gamey's charges are true. Taking all the circumstances into consideration, it is utterly inconceivable how anyone could come to any other conclusion. This much is absolutely certain—Mr. Stratton thought he had bought Mr. Gamey's support by giving him the patronage of the riding.

Mr. Ross who is of a higher type of man than Mr. Stratton,—which after all is not much to say—seems to have felt this keenly, and instinctively to have realized that the game of bluff which had been so successful on many former occasions would not do in this. He at once rose to his feet and stated that there would be a fair and thorough investigation of the charges. The next day, he announced in the House that the determination of the government was, that the investigation should be by a commission of two judges of the Supreme Court and that the terms of the commission would be drawn up by the ministry. Mr. Whitney contended that the ends of justice would be better served by having Mr. Stratton tried by a committee of the House; and the question to be discussed is which of these methods will best secure the object to be attained. If it be borne continually in mind what that object really is, it will be easier to arrive at a just and fair decision. Undoubtedly all fair-minded men will admit that the great end and purpose of the investigation is to ascertain all the facts of the case and lay them before the electors of the province. They are the judges that must ultimately decide who are the guilty parties and what should be the punishment awarded them. That punishment must be at least, the expulsion of the dastards from the House and from public life for the rest of their lives.

Which shall it be then: by a commission of judges or by a committee of the House? As it is supposed that judges are far removed from the arena of party politics, it would, on the first blush, seem that the former was the better method. And so it would if the investigation were conducted as an ordinary criminal trial. In such a case, the judges would have full power to compel witnesses to answer fully all questions relating, even remotely, to the matter before the court; the prosecuting attorney would do all in his power to bring out all the facts that told against the accused, while his rights would be safe-guarded by the Counsel for the defence.

Let us now see under what conditions this landed commission would perform its functions. Here the trial judges are not the ordinary judges taking the cases that fall to them by the rota; but two judges selected by the accused. Their powers are restricted by the terms of their commission. No matter can come before them except that comprised within the narrow bounds of the document before them, and they have no power to compel witnesses to answer all questions submitted to them. They are not judges at all in the ordinary meaning of the word. Then, too, the prosecuting attorney is appointed by the accused himself; and naturally his object will not be to secure a conviction but a white-wash. If one may judge by the precedent of the West Elgin commission, the complainant is not to be allowed even the privilege of having a counsel to look after his interest, although if he fail to prove his charges, the consequences to him, in this case, would be disastrous. When stated this way, it is clearly evident that an investigation under these conditions would be but a costly farce. It would be as if A and B had a serious dispute. A says "Let us settle this matter fairly and without any hard feelings; let us leave the matter to arbitrators, I want to be perfectly fair; so I will appoint both arbitrators, determine the points in dispute which may go before them and appoint my own lawyer to see that both parties get fair play." And when B refuses terms so preposterous, A proceeds to vilify him by all the terms in his copious vocabulary. It seems to us that, when Mr. Ross advocates this method of investigation into the guilt of his ministry, he insults the intelligence of the electors of Ontario. If Mr. Ross really believed in trial by commission and was honest when he stated that he wished the truth should be revealed and justice done to the guilty, he would have proposed that he appoint one judge and Mr. Whitney the other and that they should jointly agree upon the terms of the commission, and that each should appoint a counsel with full power to look after his interests. This would be but fair, but fairness towards an opponent and Mr. Ross have long since parted company.

There remains the question as to the suitability of the committee of the House to conduct the investigation when it is remembered that such a committee would have full power to consider every matter relating to the charge and to compel every witness to answer every question submitted to him. No argument is needed to show that this is the better, nay the only method that would serve the end in view, viz: to lay all the facts of the case before the electors of the province.

The Store That Never Disappoints. To Our Customers And Friends. The unfortunate fire of three weeks and left us with a salvage stock to dispose of. Two positions presented themselves. FIRST to make RADICAL REDUCTIONS on all goods in stock and sell them as rapidly as possible, taking perhaps a month or six weeks to do so. The SECOND was to make the reductions not only RADICAL, but SENSATIONAL and put the prices where two weeks would clean up the stocks. Taking all points of the situation into consideration we decided on the latter course, and to-day, the contractors are in possession of Both Stores, and will be able to give us the premises in remodelled shape in time for SPRING TRADE.

Our Millinery work-room is already in shape to work in and our staff will be at work this week. Our old country purchases for our new stock have been completed and will be rushed forward. The MONTREAL, TORONTO and NEW York markets will be visited personally & by our department hands, during the next three weeks, and we have confidence in asking our customers to await the arrival and opening up of our NEW STOCKS.

We regretted much during the rush of our clearing out sale, our inability to handle the daily crowds more satisfactorily. We adopted the only means possibly under the circumstances and done the very best we could to distribute the stock to as many as possible.

We assure our customers and friends that no effort will be spared in re-stocking and re-furnishing our stores to make them attractive and inviting.

Cressman 385 & 387 GEORGE STREET, PETERBORO.

McCAFFREY'S : GROCERY, : OMEMEE, Is where to get Value for your Money. Our Stock of Groceries and Confectionery is Fresh and Well Assorted. We also carry a full stock of Crockery, Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Fancy China ware, etc. In FLOUR AND FEED we handle all the Flavell Milling Co's Brands, which we are selling at Lindsay Prices. Salt Herrings, Cod Fish and Salmon Trout, Fresh Oysters. Having bought SUGAR BY THE CARLOAD Windsor Salt by Barrel & Sack. FRANK ADAMS, MANAGER.

Dr. Neelands, DENTIST, - LINDSAY, Visits the Omemeo Commercial Hotel, opposite the new Post Office Block, the first Tuesday of every month. Administered gas with great success for over 25 years. Beautiful teeth and splendid fits. Crown and bridge work inserted. Lindsay office nearly opposite Simpson's Hotel. -28-ly

The Rathbun Co's Lindsay Is the Place to Buy Lumber, Lath & Shingles, Cement, Plaster Paris & Charcoal. Also Headquarters for Windsor Salt, "Dairy Cheese & Butter" Brands. Sash, Doors, Blinds and Mouldings Always on hand. Perfectly Dried and Seasoned. Best qualities Hard and Soft Coal, Cordwood and Millwood. Call and get our prices and examine goods. TELEPHONES—Agent's Office, 77 B; Town Office, 77; Mill Office 78 G. H. M. BAKER, Agent, Lindsay

A Pretty Finger looks even prettier if appropriate rings and adorn it. We display a and beautiful designs in fancy finger ornaments. most suit you. Looking stock is inexpensive; put from it not so costly as you think. We have the most full goods for wedding gifts.

W. F. McCART The Popular Jewelry Store 77 Kent-St., LINDSAY

Cook's Cotton Root Co. Is successfully used months ago, 1897. Ladies' Sides, without your druggist for Cook's Compound. Take no other, as all other preparations are dangerous. Price, 25c. per box; No. 2, 50c. per box. 25c. per box, 1 and 2 sold and recommended by responsible Druggists in Canada.

LOCAL LACONIA The robins apparently come to stay. We have not advanced the our tobacco, amber smoking Bobs, Cursey and Fair Hay tobacco are the same size and the consumer as formerly. We also extended the time for the sign of the white tags to Jan. 1904. THE EMPIRE TOBACCO Co. Limited. Mrs. F. Fielding and Coboconk, are visiting O friends.

WANTED A FEW BRIGHT B from 17 to 21 years of age trade. The Gurney Foundry Company KING ST., TORONTO Mr. T. Boyd, of Peterboro attended the hockey concert Tuesday. Just to hand a large and fine of Ready Mixed Paints, guaranteed pure. Large stock of lamp goods, plain and fancy chimes, woodenware, wash chimes, churns, clothes wringer line of granite ware, cutlery, D. Stinson. Mr. Lowery Johnson, Portage, is visiting his O friends.

A Bad Breath A bad breath means stomach, a bad digest bad liver. Ayer's Pills liver pills. They cure stipation, biliousness, pepsia, sick headache. 25c. All druggists. Want your portrait or head a brown or red back? Then use BUCKINGHAM'S DYE for hair, or eyebrows, or face. 25c. per box.

Sergt. Major and Mrs. and daughter, Miss Maria, at Otonabee last Thursday the wedding of Mrs. son, Mr. W. H. Trotter. For pure drugs at lowest prices P. H. COAD, Plm. B. Druggist, Lindsay. —11— Drs. Wightman & Dentists of Peterboro Omemeo every Thu Office two Doors at T. Ivory & Sons' Store. Mrs. A. H. Toole and Z. Webster spent Thursday in Lindsay. A. B. Terry, 115 and 117 Lindsay wholesale and retail Oysters, Fruit, Confectionery Wedding Cakes made to order food and ornamented on short Mr. Jas. Cunningham, Omemeo left yesterday for Toronto to an operation upon his eyes. The Provincial Revivalists Omemeo for Fenelon Falls. A meeting was in the opera house Brigadier Pickering delivered a lecture to an appreciative audience. Miss Flossie Casey, of is visiting her Omemeo friends.