

The **Flesherton Advance**

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THE PATRONS ARE HOAXED.

A well known business man has handed us a letter received by him the other day from a wholesale firm in Toronto, which proves the existence of a gigantic scheme to hoax the Patrons of Industry. We give the letter in full, only suppressing names. It reads as follows:

GENTLEMEN,—We have been informed that you have or are about to make arrangements with the Patrons of Industry of your section to sell to them at special rates on invoice cost. We can offer you special inducements to give us a large share of your trade as we are catering for that class of trade, and if you can call upon us we can show you how you can make a good paying margin on invoice prices, and satisfy your customers. We make no duplicate invoices but can arrange prices and discounts so that you can make your margin 20, 25 or 30 per cent. if you like.

We find it works admirably with our customers who have made contracts with the Patrons in other places. If you can come down and see us we can give you several good pointers, or if preferred we will send our special representative to see you with a view to increasing our business with you.

You will kindly regard this communication as private and confidential. Thanking you for past favors, we are yours truly.

The generality of merchants doing business with the Patrons are, no doubt, too honorable to stoop to such measures, still the above circular appears to prove that there is a percentage who are not above that sort of roguery.

Sir Oliver Mowat is about to appoint a commission "to collect facts bearing on the various views which have been expressed" upon the question of appointing county officials, "including the practice and experience of other countries." While the commission is at work it will no doubt investigate the methods in vogue in China, Japan, Persia, Thibet and Russia. The government will no doubt glean some valuable pointers from these quarters. Then if the commission has sufficient time at its disposal before the election next June, or whenever it comes, it would be profitable to investigate the Brazilian and Nicaraguan methods, and the schemes recently introduced in Hawaii. If it has not sufficient time to do all this between now and election time we fear its arduous duties will not be of sufficient value to warrant its existence.

Farmers v. Railroads

A disgruntled farmer sends The Advance the following composition. The writer undoubtedly has a grievance:  
The railroad change in classification is very much like assassination.  
Throw up your hands, give up your stuff,  
Make no resistance, not even a bluff.  
We farmers, we are a lot of fools;  
We've built their railroads, we're now their tools;  
We let 'em circle, we let 'em drive  
Across our lands, on us they thrive.  
When business is dull on us they eat—  
No class of people so easy to cheat.  
There was no call for change of rate;  
But when she comes round we're a sixth class freight.  
Some freights were scarce, and the roads, to recover,  
Have voted to make up the slack out of clover  
Justies on wheels don't move very swift,  
But when she comes round we'll give her a lift.  
We bonded out towns to build their darn roads,  
We've no voice in their running, no more 'n tree  
loads.  
They hold us down to the grindstone's ore  
Till the skins are off, and we're dum sore

Shiloh's Cure is sold on a guarantee. It cures Incipient Consumption. It is the best Cough Cure. Only one cent a dose; 25 cts., 50 cts., and \$1.00 per bottle.

Centre Grey Nomination at Rocklyn.

Major Rorke Again Selected to Carry the Flag.

The Conservatives of East and Centre Grey met in convention at Rocklyn on Wednesday of last week to select a candidate to represent the riding in the Ontario Legislature. Considering the snow-blocked condition of the roads, a large attendance of delegates was present. A very able opening speech was made by President Thos. Kells, who ably reviewed provincial affairs during the past four years, and announced his allegiance to the Conservative party. The following were then nominated as candidates: T. Kells, I. B. Lucas, Major Rorke, M. P. P., Matthew Richardson, William Sharpe, William Wilgress, Neil McColman, ex-M. P. P., Thos. Gilray, Thos. Andrews, Thomas McKenny, Wm. A. Brown, F. A. Smelser, Thos. Gauney, W. H. Dodson, Wm. McLoughrey. All withdrew their names except Messrs. Rorke, Gilray, Andrews and McColman. The following nominated candidates then addressed the meeting:

Mr. McColman explained his views on educational affairs and condemned the manner in which the Mowat government had legislated on separate schools. He also spoke strongly as to the fiscal surplus which the government claim to possess.

Mr. Thos. Andrews dealt with the school book monopoly, which Hon. G. W. Ross has so shamefully managed in the interest of his friends and the exorbitant profits that were yearly filched from the people. He denounced the ballot system of the Ontario Government.

Mr. Kenny made a patriotic speech, which was heartily applauded by the delegates.

Major Rorke, M. P. P., ably reviewed his course in Parliament during the past four years. He scored the Government particularly on the mismanagement of their timber policy, showing that large timber limits were placed on the market to suit the friends of the Ministry. He showed conclusively that the Government's mineral policy was most detrimental to the development of the mining industries of the province, and had nearly succeeded in locking up the mining capital. He explained the fee system of officials, condemning it, and showed that members of the House had been rewarded by fat offices at the disposal of the Government. He denounced the minority representation in Toronto, and spoke strongly against Sir Oliver Mowat's nepotism in rewarding his son with the shrievalty of Toronto, created for that purpose. He denounced the license system as administered by the government, and the tribute they levied from licensed victuallers for Reform organization funds. He showed up the action of the Government on the temperance question and their uncertain, vacillating course.

All the candidates withdrew their names except Major Rorke, Thomas Gilray, Thomas Andrews and Neil McColman. Mr. Rorke received the majority of ballots. The nomination was then made unanimous and the delegates dispersed singing "God Save the Queen." Empire.

The Fee System.

To the Editor of The Advance.

DEAR SIR,—My first letter fully established that the present system of appointment of officials is the reverse of that demanded by the Patron platform, and that out of it has grown a great public grievance; in my second, that the present system is a violation of the principle of responsible and democratic government, that we are overburdened with a hoire of unnecessary officials deriving extortionate salaries; in my third, that fees collected by these officials were largely in excess of that paid for similar duties in England. This fact is so astounding that it deserves repetition. In England a summons for a debt of \$5 costs 25 cents, in Ontario \$2.50. A judgment summons there, 18 cents, in Ontario \$2.50. There is certainly food for reflection and reason for decided action when the above facts are considered. There are other monstrous facts in connection with this fee system which I will hold in reserve for a future occasion. When we consider the large emolument received by these pap officials, it is pertinent to ask. What qualifications are necessary to fill these offices?

In the case of the registrar the duties are only formal, and largely so in the case of a sheriff. The principal part of a registrar's work is merely copying forms, and in many cases boys with the rudiments of an education

are employed to fulfil these onerous duties at \$1 or \$5 a week, while the big man lives in luxurious ease. Their offices are generally open from 9 to 11 and from 2 to 4; in other words, 4 hours' pretension to work daily. If you have occasion to visit these offices you will usually find a small office boy to receive you, and if your business demands immediate attention, which the small boy cannot perform, you are directed to the place where the "boss" is likely to be found. If you are a good pedestrian you will probably find him after a couple of hours enjoying himself somewhere. It may be said to his credit that your business is smartly attended to, and your fee taken, which latter is his principal duty, or at least the one which he concerns himself principally about. In many instances the office boy is better qualified, as far as elementary education goes, to fill the position. It is evident, then, that no academic training is essential, hence we will have to look for other qualifications than secular education, mental power or general capability. Less worthy qualifications command the attention of the party. If a man has spared no effort to further the ends and aims of the party, no matter how unworthy they may be, he will undoubtedly stand in the light of the benignant smile of Sir Oliver, and will no doubt enter into his "sinecure" at the earliest opportunity. The grounds for promotion are solely political. This fact has been demonstrated time and again in the history of the Mowat regime. Hundreds of cases, which cannot be disproved, can be cited in proof of it. Nor is this evil on the wane, it is growing with tremendous celerity. No fictitious, but a real, Family Compact has sprung up around this government, and it may be safely said that no man, unless for political or personal reasons, will defend this abominable system. Eugenia, Feb. 19. PUBLIC OPINION.

Married.

HUTCHINSON—DRINKLE—On Feb. 14, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. W. J. Weddell, Emanuel Hutchinson to Mary Elizabeth Drinkle, both of Euphrasia.

Daniel Ritz, Proprietor and Publisher of the Hamburg, Ont., Independent says: "I was suffering from Dyspepsia and Liver trouble, I took a few bottles of Shiloh's Vitalizer and it cured me. I can heartily recommend it."

M. Richardson & Co.

Midwinter Clearing Sale Continued.

Our heavy piles of Overcoats have been growing less every day, but we have some of the nicest stock left, and a fair assortment of sizes.—Cheap goods, terms easy.

Furs Left.

Only one fur Overcoat left, coon, was \$40, now \$25. Only two fur Mantles, a few fur sets and a half dozen men's fur Caps. All to be cleared out this week.

We have a special offering in Black Worsted Suitings. See our prices:

A Black Worsted suit made to order, \$11.75; Black Worsted corksaw twist, to order, \$12.50; Black Worsted Soft Venetian finish, \$15.00; Black Worsted Super, \$17.00; Black Worsted, Extra Super, \$18.25.

We furnish a fine line of trimmings, and guarantee satisfaction.

We have just received a splendid range of new pantings for spring trade, the finest values we have ever had.—See them.

In Boot and Shoe department we have over 200 pairs to clear out at less than the manufacturer's cost. Also a few men's and boys' Gun Rubbers, Socks and Over shoes.

Ladies, Cardigan Overcoats and Stockings.

Groceries.

A new lot of 15 cent Tea. Customers buy it and come again. They say it's good.

We recommend our 25 cent tea, and will draw it against any other tea at that figure.—Get sample.

We are receiving piles of Spring Goods in Prints, Muslins, Shirts, Cottonades, Dress Goods, &c., but we have over a hundred remnant, which we want cleared off this month, in Dress Goods, Tweeds, Cottonades, Mantlings, &c., &c. for which no reasonable offer will be refused.

M. Richardson & Co.

Harrison | Wright's | Harrison  
Harrison | Old | Harrison  
Stand. | |  
FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING

Although we have met with a loss by fire, we are not yet discouraged, knowing that our friends who have stuck to us in the past will still continue to do so. We hereby extend an invitation to all our old customers and others to call and see us, trusting by fair dealing to still merit a continuance of your esteemed patronage. Yours truly,

E. HARRISON

Furniture Dealer and Undertaker.

Cutters, Sleighs, Cutters

GENTLEMEN, I desire to call your attention to my winter stock of Cutters, which will need no words of recommendation from me, as I will leave the public to judge for themselves. I have also on hand a stock of heavy sleighs, pleasure sleighs, market sleighs and skeleton sleighs. All I ask is a call, and judge for yourselves.

Thanking my many friends for their past favors, I remain, yours truly. R. T. WHITTEN

Carriages and Wagons.

GENTLEMEN:

I DESIRE TO ANNOUNCE that I have taken over the Carriage and Wagon making business lately carried on by Mr. Moore, and am now prepared to fill all orders in my line to your entire satisfaction. Having lately added to my sixteen years' experience in the business a nine months' training in one of the best carriage shops in the city of Detroit, where I succeeded in carrying off a first class recommendation, ought to be a sufficient guarantee that all work will be done in a first class manner. I manufacture Wagons, Buggies, Cutters, Sleighs; in fact everything in the carriage line. Wood and lumber taken in exchange. Kindly give me a call.

D. BLAIR, Flesherton.

Next door to McTavish's blacksmith shop.

Look Here Now.

As the season is nearly over for

X CUT SAWS,

we want to sell off the few we have left at very

LOW PRICES.

Saws to be sold at from 85 to 60 c., former prices 50 to 90c. a foot. If you need one NOW is your TIME.

Sap Buckets and Patent Sap Spouts just arrived which will be sold at the low price of 10c., for a bucket and a spout.

"Are we in the crockery business?" Well yes, up to the ears in it, and down to the rocks for prices. Just 1 set left of our Colored Bedroom sets of 10 pieces at \$2.25.

Don't forget to call and see those things at

M. RICHARDSON & CO'S Hardware Department

The Markets.

Carefully Corrected Each Week

Flour.....	\$ 3.30 to \$ 3.50
Pat. Wheat.....	65 to 68
Spring Wheat.....	51 to 53
Barley.....	30 to 31
Oats.....	20 to 21
Peas.....	51 to 51
Butter.....	14 to 14
Eggs, fresh.....	14 to 14
Potatoes large.....	50 to 50
Pork.....	5.00 to 5.25
Lard per ton.....	6.00 to 6.01
Hides.....	3.00 to 3.00
Shoepskins.....	25 to 50
Geese.....	6 to 7
Turkeys.....	9 to 10
Chickens per pair.....	25 to 30
Ducks per pair.....	50 to 60
Wool.....	35 to 35

HAVE YOU BACK-ACHE

ODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

WILL CURE YOU

"Backache means the kidneys are in trouble. Dodd's Kidney Pills give prompt relief."  
"75 per cent. of disease is first caused by disordered kidneys."  
"Might as well try to have a healthy city without sewerage, as good health when the kidneys are clogged, they are."  
"The above diseases cannot exist where Dodd's Kidney Pills are used."

Sold by all dealers or sent by mail on receipt of price 50 cents, per box or six for \$2.50. Dr. L. A. Smith & Co., Toronto. Write for book called Kidney Talk.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the **KIMBERLEY** Roller Flouring Mills are now open for business, and in full operation. A First Class Miller has been employed, and I will guarantee satisfaction. Bring along your custom work.

Chopping done at all times.  
A. B. Bell, - Prop.