

ESTABLISHED
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The Advance

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The postal authorities are bound to stop the practice of sending notes or endorsing writing in newspapers, and are prosecuting transgressors right and left. Nearly every exchange that we pick up refers to prosecutions and fines for defrauding the revenue in this way.

A cable despatch from London received Tuesday says that Herbert Gardner announced in the House of Commons to-night that he regretted he could not admit Canadian cattle until a brief examination had been made of the lungs of animals arriving from the Dominion. If the results confirm Canada's representation the slaughter will be stopped, although temporary regulations will be made in regard to the movement of animals after landing. Mr. Chaplin asked the duration of the examination, and desired notice of the rising of the embargo in order to allow Parliament to express an opinion. Mr. Gardner said the duration depended upon the number of animals arriving. The Times, in an editorial, says the decision will satisfy neither the British farmer nor the colonials, but treats the removal of the embargo as ultimately certain.

Before the Public Accounts Committee in Toronto on Saturday last two cases were ventilated that will go very far toward unpopulating the fee system and Mr. Mowat's method of appointments. Dr. Mallory, Registrar for east Northumberland, practices his profession, draws his fees as registrar, and manages a drug store. The registrarship was a gift for party services, and altogether Dr. Malorey has a pretty fat thing. A much worse case was that of Mr. Morrow, registrar for Peterboro, who hires a deputy to do all the work and pays him \$400 for his valuable services, while Mr. Morrow drew a net income of \$2,625 for doing nothing. Mr. Grundy, the deputy registrar, has to support a family of seven on the \$400 pittance, and was afraid to give evidence before the committee for fear of losing even that. Mr. Morrow's mismanagement was shown up in an unenviable light, and it will be a strange thing if the Ontario government allows him to retain his position, but no stranger than many of their other acts in similar cases. As the Empire remarks, "The enquiry in one day has given the people a deeper insight into the injustice and meanliness of the fee system than the commission will if it sit a year, and it has only lifted one corner of the veil covering the scandalous state of affairs all over this province."

Who's Responsible?

To the Editor of The Advance.
Sir:—It has already been shown that frequent appeals from court to court has caused great injustice and unwarrantable expenditure of money in litigation, that it is almost impossible to define the limit or scope of the functions of each court, that the power of appeal, even in unjustifiable instances is frequently resorted to, and that the utilization of these powers militates against the poor litigant. The law also has demonstrated its ability to deal with minor offences and at the same time

its absolute powerlessness to cope with major offenses. Again, appeals are only resorted to when the litigant is financially able to bear the costs, when he is not, litigation terminates and he has to abide by the decision. Does this not seem to prove that appeals are, in many cases, groundless, are only mile posts on the journey where so many litigants are deposited, unable to proceed farther?

Now, who's responsible? The natural answer would be that the responsibility rests upon the individual who is in a position to know of the law's imperfections and is ignorant of them, and who has power to grant reforms when asked and has failed in doing so. This reasoning, I think, would be acceptable. The Premier of this province, Sir Oliver Mowat, occupies such a position. He has occupied the proud position of Premier for over 20 years and has had ample opportunity as Attorney General to be conversant with the grievances complained of, but his mind is more occupied in devising means of dishing the Conservatives at election times than in safeguarding and protecting the subject. W. R. Meredith recently acquainted him with the fact that there are 1500 appealed cases before the courts, which knowledge was received with the utmost surprise but not with a very grateful demeanor as it evidently recalled to his mind the demand for certain reforms which he resisted.

Mr. Meredith, leader of the Conservative party of Ontario, has repeatedly called for legal reform and simplification of the laws of the province, which has been repeatedly denied. For 15 years Mr. Meredith has advocated a reform which is now a plank in the Patron platform. In 1889 he introduced a bill intended to do away with groundless and vexatious appeals by which poor litigants were dragged from court to court and often times forced to abandon suit.

This was essentially a poor man's bill, framed to protect him against corporations or wealthy litigants. This bill, which was a much needed reform, was voted down by Mr. Mowat and his subsequent following. His oracular supporter, The Globe, having discerned the force of public opinion on this question, now evinces a strong desire to pacate the Patron of Industry and the rebellious element which has been aroused throughout the province. This journal will be full of promises, even to aerial navigation, if such a desideratum would be effective in securing votes. Whether such devices will prevail, will in a short time be determined by the people. The court of public opinion will render a verdict from which there can be no appeal for a term of 4 years.
Eugenia, Apr. 21, 94. LAYMAN.

Re Eugenia Bridge.

To the Editor of The Advance.

DEAR SIR:—We said words about like "first part first," then second part first, and again, second reader" in the bridge lesson, dated 16, 4, 1894; but the way the types got to turning the other end north in the printer's magnetic hands makes the above appear seven times as unreadable in last week's paper, and as if we had forgotten the second part of the first part of our grammar book; but that is not so, for it was so precious little that the "scholars" of my school years were ever able to get to have sufficient to forget any of.—But that County Bridge—yes—and as some 9th April ratepayer argues in behalf of Evans Street—where a bridge to compare would be a delight and a beauty most rare, and from which at the sun, moon and stars, you could stare—then jump your two feet 35 feet to the bottom—But would all the township "ratepayers" vote to be taxed for the so much greater cost of a proper bridge there? And this is one of the particular, personal, pressing points which I wish all the taxpayers of our township to understand, and talk with our councillors about, from now out; and at the 30th April council meeting to say and give them to know whether we are, or are not, each and every one of us, in Priceville, Markdale, Flesherton, Eugenia and every concession and lot, willing to pay additional taxes for having a bridge torn away, and another so little better built in its place, by borrowed money which the county is putting us subject to pay interest and expenses over; making it more than "doubled in 15 years," at which date such "fickle minded" bridges will likely have cost, in repairs and renewals, most probably the same amount over again. What will taxes and debt of our township and county be then? Far better pay the \$700 back to the county loan and as much and soon as we can of expenses, to clear Artemesia of its part of \$50,000 debt, or more or less, and mend bridges until we can pay down for better. Ever as ever R. McLEAN PURDY.
Eugenia, 23rd, 4, 1894.

The Eugenia Bridge.

To the Editor of The Advance.

DEAR SIR:—In perusing the columns of your welcome paper I read with pleasure Ratepayer's letter in regard to Eugenia bridge, and I, as another ratepayer, would also say by all means put the bridge on a straight line with the road running north to Kimberly and south on a straight line with F. T. Carr's and Gillilands. In so doing there would be a comparatively level road clean through Eugenia. This would be an immense improvement on the old way, as it would do away with two hills and a very short turn at the north end of the bridge, and I think any one can see at a glance that the higher the old bridge is raised the more dangerous the curve at the north end will be. A RATEPAYER.

Reeve Ripley, of Thorold, was struck by lightning and killed Friday.

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W. MOORE.

Flesherton, Jan. 24, 1893.

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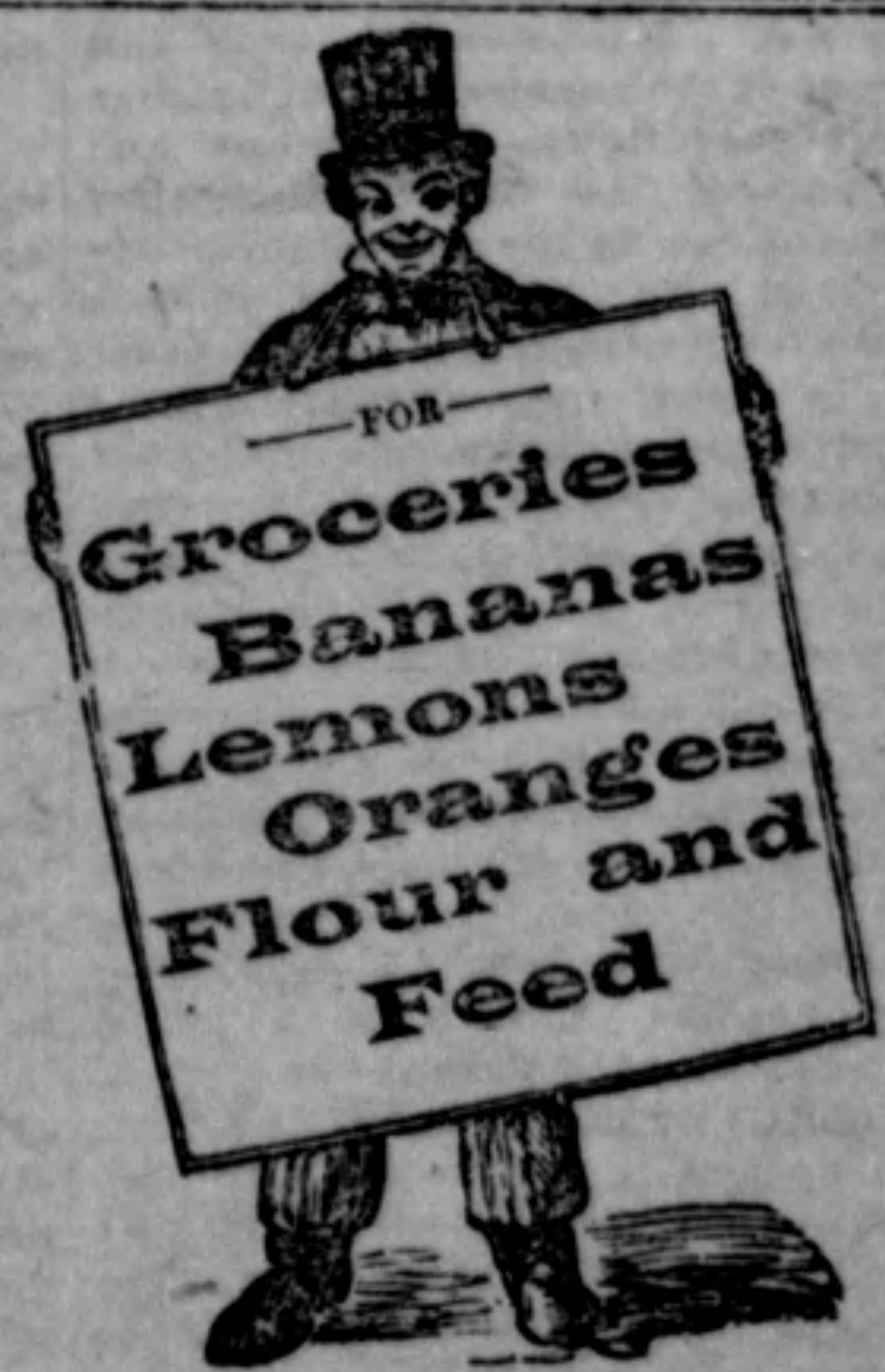
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