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The Huron & Ontario Electric railway bill received its second reading in the House on Monday. Dr. Sproule has it in charge.

After costing this country \$75,000 and themselves over \$100,000 the Hyams twins are now well out of it, having departed for New York on Saturday. They were allowed out on bail and skipped. This sounds bad, but it appears to have been connived at by the authorities in order to rid the country of the disagreeable presence of these gents.

Since Mr. Foster came meekly back to his nest at Ottawa he must have been an exceedingly busy man to gather together and arrange the mass of statistics and figures which he presented in his budget speech last week. His promises are roseate and his figures very convincing. May no shadow cross them and may his figures not lie.

It is now announced that a new and marvellous invention has been made in photography by which a picture can be taken through any opaque object. For instance, a man's brains under this process can be photographed through his skull. If this be a fact the result will be very far reaching indeed. There is a suspicion abroad that some of our prominent politicians at Ottawa are not possessed of more brains than the law demands, and this suspicion may now be verified or receive its quietus. When this process is extended to photographing a man's thoughts and there will be no such thing as deceit. And behold, even some of the pulpits may be vacated in those latter days. We live in a day of marvels, and let no man say to his neighbor "Thou art an optimistic fool."

The Advance has to thank Dr. Landerkin for his kindly references to ourselves last week on the floor of the House. We can reciprocate by acknowledging that the Dr. is a very able man, and a jolly one, but he has opposed legislation which this paper has deemed to be best for the welfare of the country, "and, we think, without reason." Therefore we have in the past deemed it best to remain on the other side. But it is not all party with us. Our fealty to the party in power has received a severe shaking of late, but the cause of that lies not in the general policy of the party but in the fact that matters ulterior and designing adventurers have been allowed to get in and work havoc. The party has been inoculated with certain vicious bacteria and the eruption which is undoubtedly about to take place must purify the system. Our only fear is that the virus may be reabsorbed and remain to break forth again with tenfold severity. The good Dr. will doubtless understand it is simple. Our prescription would be—heroic treatment. Let them bring forth their remedial order without further cowardly delay, and let the men who are responsible for it get swept into the vortex and out of our sight, or, Phoenix like, rise to nobler and wiser aims. There is scarcely a Conservative newspaper in Ontario that did not warn the Government

time and again of the danger which lay before it, but this has all passed by unheeded, and to-day Sir Charles Tupper appears in Canada with the avowed object of choking remedial legislation down the throats of this free and independent people whether they will have it or no. Sir Charles may be a "war-horse," but he will find that he cannot canter rough-shod over the wishes of the people in that manner. There is little enthusiasm in this part of Canada over Sir Charles' return, but rather a desire that he may speedily be sent back to attend to his duties as Lord High "Cockalorum" in London.

Signs of the Times

To the editor of The Advance. DEAR SIR.—In a few weeks' time the electorate throughout the Dominion will be called upon to select representatives to the House of Commons at Ottawa.

Free Trade is an almost obsolete topic, especially among the farmers. The more fully free trade with Yandeedom is discussed and understood by the farmers of our Dominion the less enchantment the delusion will possess.

The Manitoba school question will form a prominent subject at the coming elections, more especially as the question will not likely be approached with candid, calm reflection, nor will it be generally weighed in the scales of divine justice, but more likely in the narrow measure of the individual reasoner, who counts everything right which conforms to his own prejudices. This subject has been kept dangling before the public's gaze like a red rag to a vicious bull, by the demagogues Laurier and Greenway, as a stumbling block in the path of the government, whose past record they dare not meet in honorable, statesmanlike combat, and, with unworthy malice and contemptible duplicity, they are playing a dastardly game, which none but those blinded by extreme partizanship, can fail to discern. The unwritten law of this Dominion maintains that the local legislatures shall not interfere in Dominion politics, yet we find Ontario Minister of Education Ross addressing the electors of Montreal Centre at the recent bye election, that Ontario was unanimously in favor of granting separate schools to Manitoba, and should they elect Mr. Laurier's candidate the same would be carried; and during the same week in which the foregoing was enacted in Montreal, that moral and physical coward, Joe Martin of Winnipeg, was delegated by Mr. Laurier to take the stump in Vancouver, against the return of Col. Prior, the chief argument adduced being the iniquitous remedial order proposed by the government. Mr. Laurier and his clique have been playing a double game throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion. Falsehood is a prime factor in Mr. Laurier's political ethics.

It is a pleasing fact that Dr. Sproule is in full accord with the intelligent sentiment of East Grey. He has been a consistent advocate of that measure of tariff reform, which has so largely benefitted our people both in exports and imports, and as he has attained eminent celebrity among his confederates at Ottawa, he will in future be able to command measures in the national councils productive of beneficial results to the farming community of the entire Dominion. BRODER.

Fritz Once More.

To the Editor of The Advance.

DEAR SIR.—With your kind indulgence I will again say a word or two to your "John Bull" representative, better known as "Dot."

No Dot, I certainly do not like your text, but it's "quite English." Your boasted loyalty, ability to fish, the amount of money you've got, etc., etc.—the sentiment it "Smells to heaven." It is a well known fact that true women or men never boast of their "virtue" any more than they do of their loyalty, in wealth, or ability to defend themselves; they leave that to the "Nameless," the traitor, bullies, knaves and jingo Tories.

Your crow that you feel "bigger" than you look will not surprise the readers of The Advance. They know that most John Bulls are troubled with a "Swollen head." But I have some "cold facts" at the end of my pencil which will no doubt materially relieve the swelling, providing the copula is not too thick. Your insinuation that I lack brains I'll let pass, knowing, as I do, that it requires brains to appreciate brains. When you mentioned the sterling qualities, "as fighters," of the yeomanry of England, you neglected to mention the massacre in 1819 of the hungry mechanics of Manchester, etc., because they dared to cry for bread for themselves and their starving wives and children, or of the 40,000 yeomanry who, under the Duke of Cumberland, most cowardly laid down their

arms, etc., etc. You again refer to the U. S. Congressmen as time servers, "Now I shall rapp your fingers,"—"borrow some one's dictionary,"—"look up time servers. You will find it means catering to, or legislating for, the powers that be, or in authority. Now as the U. S. Congressmen are the greatest power in the country—but as such only the representatives of the people, by whom they are selected, and to whom they are responsible, "it follows as night the day" in that to say they are "time servers" is only to say they are legislating according to the wish of the people. You are quite within the mark in stating that you cannot expect such things from an "effete old monarch." Your extracts from the New York Evening Post, a paper published by a rabid "John Bull," in the interest of Tory Englishmen residing in the U.S., who, like many of the same stripe in Canada, "hurrah" once when John Bull is right and twice, yea thrice, when he is playing the part of a traitor or bully. When John requested "Uncle Sam" to help him stop the Armenian atrocities a few weeks ago, "to which you refer," he, Uncle Sam, was no doubt struck with John Bull's imprudence and hypocrisy. He remembered that in 1876 to '78 John gave his secret assistance and prevented Russia from putting a final stop to the horrible throat cutting, etc. For this exhibition of his boasted christianity he received "Cyprus" from the blood-stained hands of the Turk. Not "Fie—at Olney," "Dot," but Fie! Fie! on your John.

It is true Uncle Sam does not encourage his sons to go to foreign countries and raise disturbances. "Pity your John" were not equally honorable. When little Nicaragua insulted your flag, etc., you demanded a heavy indemnity and sent a man of war, landed soldiers and compelled its prompt payment, and up went a shout of joy from all rabid Tories. But when big Uncle Sam, over and over again, in the Behring Sea, etc., unjustly seized and confiscated British ships, tore down the "old flag" and imprisoned your subjects, "your voice was hushed." The men of war oh where were they? Like the flying squadron to day, playing with their tail feathers on their own dung hill. The Behring sea award has not yet been made, "Dot." You must be reading the Mail and Empire or an English almanac, else you'd know better than to say it has. It was doubtless out of the same anti-diluvian almanac that you learned that the Dutch do not come from the German Empire. I trust your friends will see that you are supplied with a more modern "memory refresher."

The German Emperor certainly insulted John Bull, and went out of his way to do so, and in that he was supported by the other nations of Europe, who have long been justly indignant at John's exhibition of greed and double-dealing in Africa.

Williams has taken "noddings back," and Uncle Sam's fiat is still law, and John has given it out via Mr. Chamberlain, etc., that Uncle Sam is a very decent, honorable fellow—"a blood relation"—and for that (and other) reason he will not fight him.

Mention not the second war with America. Read what the English historian, Hugh Grey, wrote at the time. "All the advantage was with us at the beginning. Our numbers complete, our reputation high, our discipline perfect, while the enemy was raw, timid," etc., etc. "With all these advantages a long campaign has just closed with a series of disasters. Every hour our numbers have been diminishing while theirs have been increasing. The second American war ends like the first, in the discomfiture and signal defeat of the rash and stubborn invaders." The English soldiers, "Dot," deserted in thousands the slavery of that "old monarchy" for the freedom of the stars and stripes, under which since then over ten millions of Britain's starved and unprotected poor have sought and obtained food, justice and a home.

Your boast that John Bull never coerces a conquered people with an iron hand is enough to make the bones of Daniel O'Connell turn in the grave, as well as that of thousands of other Irishmen, many of whom were "jailed," hanged or exported without even the form of a trial, to say nothing of India, Africa, America, etc., etc. "We know a people by the gods they worship."

Bobbie Burns and Huxley, those two immortal luminaries whose hearts knew no beat but for love of man and truth—the one died almost of hunger and was buried like a pauper, the other received scant courtesy—whereas Bob Clive and Wellington, the two fighting luminaries that between them committed every crime in the calendar, were by your John, made life legislators, "like Dunraven," and entombed in the aly. To the common soldier John gives a medal, sends him to the "soup kitchen," finally gives him a pauper's grave. Compare this with Uncle Sam's treatment: "One hundred and fifty million dollars a year in pensions to those who fought for human liberty. If your John has so high a sense of justice, why did he allow Lord Clive to continue to sit in the House of Lords after it had been proven that he had forged the king's name, stolen millions, etc., etc? Because Clive gave to John Bull India, the "Lion's" share of the fruits of the forgery and steal. My letter (in its length) already presumes too much on the Editor's good nature and that restrains me from really going for your John—exposing his love for the slave trade and all forms of slavery and vile laws. Over 90 per cent. of the British reforms within the past hundred years were slowly brought about only because "Uncle Sam's folks" had long enjoyed their blessings.

"Don't blow," Dot, that John is the greatest colonizer.

Remember that only "pirates" and those living under unjust laws leave their

OUR WINTER SALE..

January and February are always considered the dull months of the year. But we are going to reverse this order of things and this is the way we do it.

30 day sale

From the 15th of January to 15th of February we will offer special inducements in every department.

We have put in the knife and when we cut we cut deep.

Space will not allow us to mention all the bargains in store for those who attend this great sale, but we will endeavor to give you a few hints of how things will go.

Boots & Shoes

This department is well worthy of special attention and sales have been exceptionally good this fall but we want to keep the ball rolling. Here she goes:

	former price	now
Children's shoes	50c	39c
Girls' Buff shoes	75c	59c
Boys' do	\$1.00	70c
Women's G.G. kid	1.40	\$1.19
Men's heavy boots	1.25	99c
Men's long boots	\$1.90 and upwards.	
Men's gun rubbers	\$1	boys' rubbers 90c.
Men's overshoes,	\$1.25,	women's overshoes, \$1.15.
Overcoats, boys',	\$2.50, \$4.25 and \$5.	Overcoats, Men's ulsters, \$4.90, \$5.75, \$7, clearing prices.
Men's all wool shirts and drawers,	75c per suit.	
Men's union shirts and drawers,	50c per suit.	
Men's heavy braces	10c per pair.	
Men's astrachan caps,	25c each.	

Dry Goods

28in. Flannelets at 5c per yard. All linen table damask 19c per yard. All linen towelling 6c per yard. 8/4 bleached sheeting 19c per yard. Double fold all wool dress serges 21c per yard.

Groceries

Get our prices on these goods. We have them down. Now is your time to hit them.

Good accommodation for horses in our new shed.

B. McDonald

country to seek gold or a home. Uncle Sam has no wish to be a competitor in that line with your John. But what think you of "yachting?" And where is "Chasley Mitchell?"

FRITZ.

Referring to the Hyams twins the Globe of Tuesday says: "The formality of calling the Hyams twins was gone through at the Police Court yesterday morning, where they were supposed to appear on remand to answer charges of forgery, but of course they did not reply, and every one knew that they were many miles away. The \$1,500 cash bonds which they put up before their release on Sunday were accordingly estreated, and a warrant issued for their arrest. No effort will be made to execute it, however, unless, as is most improbable, they re-enter Canada, and as they were last heard of in full flight south the authorities here are satisfied that the last has been seen of them in the Dominion. A despatch from New York last night states that the brothers reached that city yesterday, and adds that it is thought they will go west and settle. The general belief, however, is that they took ship at that port, and are now heading for Mexico by way of the gulf."

On Sunday, 19th inst., Thos. West, of Laurel, an old resident of Amaranth township, preached in the Methodist church at Grand Valley in the morning and evening. While leaving the church on Sunday evening he was knocked down and run over by a team on the road. The tongue of the shaft struck the old gentleman on the back, breaking three of his ribs and dislocating two from the back bone. He was taken at once to Dr. Gaviller's house where he received every attention but died from his injuries on Friday last. The funeral was held on Sunday. The deceased took an active part in the Sunday School Convention held here two weeks ago. He was well known all over the country and was respected by everybody. — Shelburne Free Press.

A seventeen year old boy, named Claudia Haines, of Aldborough, fell in love with a twelve year old girl, named Sarah Jacques. The girl's sister, with whom she lived, had objections to the suit and the gallant swain, assisted by his two sisters, surrounded the fair maid's house and stole her away. The young man is in St. Thomas jail now on the charge of abduction.

M. RICHARDSON & CO.

Just received a case of 27-inch English Flannellettes

at 6 1/2 cents

Full sized Men's Flannellette shirts 15 cents each.

Men's Heavy Wool mitts 15 cents pair.

Men's Heavy Wool Socks 15 cents pair.

Job lot of 50 cent Tweeds for 32 cents yd.

Lot of 70 cent Tweeds 55 cents yd.

24 in. Grey Flannels at 10 cents yd.

20 lb. original package fine Japan Tea \$3.50.

28 lb. Box Raisins \$1.00.

A lot of Dress lengths in Cashmere, Serges, Melton, Tweeds and other

Dress Goods

at auction prices—what you like.

Women's \$1.50 Winter Boots at \$1.00 pair.

Men's Heavy Winter Boots at \$1.00 pair

Winter Millinery. Felt Hats 10 cents each.

Furs at half prices

Overcoats & Mantles

at cut prices.

BARGAINS in every DEPARTMENT

Hardware & Dept.

The Reason Why

The R. H. Smith's and Henry Disston's Saws are the best, is that they are made of the best material and have the most uniform temper of any saws made. Read our selling prices on them.

Smith's Leader Saw, 75c foot Disston's Toledo Blade 70c foot Keen Edge Saw, 65c foot Symond's Lance Tooth 60c foot We have also a line of

Rixford and Whiting Axes

which we will sell off cheap.

Granite ware Sale

still goes on. It is the best and cheapest ware ever offered. You ought to see it.

M. Richardson & Co.