



The Advance

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Hon. A. S. Hardy has introduced a bill in the Legislature to reduce the number of county councillors. We print elsewhere a synopsis of the bill. The new act would allow this county a representation of thirteen members, which would be quite sufficient. The adoption of the measure is optional with any county. We believe it to be an improvement on the old plan, but whether it will prove quite satisfactory or not remains an open question until it is tested.

The Ontario Legislature has been in session during the past week but the proceedings have not been at all exciting. Sir Oliver, however, not to be behind the Dominion House gentlemen, brought on a loyalty resolution which was carried with flying colors. It was all well enough for the Dominion House, which represents the whole of Canada, to offer itself upon the altar of loyalty, but is there not a danger of the old flag hanging its head in disgust if every petty legislature, county and township council and grocery shop committee pass such resolutions. These sub-luminaries are fully represented at Ottawa and their effusive palaverings are entirely unnecessary, as no one in these days looks upon us with suspicion.

During the course of the annual debate on the poor house question at Owen Sound, one gentleman who spoke in opposition to it said that the townships should look after their own poor. That is where the difficulty lies—they do not look after them properly, but in many instances pack them off to jail like criminals. The cold dollar and cent's manner in which some people look upon this question is not, we hope, a true criterion of our nineteenth century humanity. There are very many benevolent people throughout the country who give all they are able to assist the poor and for other good causes, while there are others who never give a cent. These should be forced to do so. These are the men, too, as a rule, who are loudest in their denunciations of a house of industry, because they would be obliged to assist in supporting it. When the people get to understand these facts a little more thoroughly the poor house will come.

Fritz Must Fight

To the Editor of The Advance.
DEAR SIR.—I must congratulate you upon having so well-posted a writer as Dot. In her controversy with Mr. Fritz Doodle there is no doubt that Dot came off victorious. I must not say more because her too generous reference to myself would cause my honest opinion to seem like an effort to repay a compliment. While I admit that the first letter from Fritz somewhat angered me, as I am sure it angered many other readers of the Advance, yet I must now say that I have learned to love and esteem him as a humorist of high degree. Positively he cannot be in earnest. His "facts" are chosen with a keen eye to the perfect absurdity of the general effect. In engaging with him I feel that I cut some such figure as did Don Quixote when he charged gallantly upon the windmill. However, while a windmill, if you will observe it in action, does not fight very scientifically, yet it deals out some hard knocks and always keeps its temper. It may buffet me severely, for the suppre-

macy of the windmill in personal combat has always been due to the fact that it can use its arms constantly in hitting without ever defending itself, having neither blood or brain to lose in the strife. What is this United States trying to state? That school teachers are paid higher salaries in the United States than in Canada? We all admit it. Their teachers deserve more pay. The man who taught Fritz his history earned extra pay for warping it into a special shape. And, Mr. Editor, surely a man like Fritz cannot reasonably expect to have his children made intelligent for what it costs a sensible father in Flesherton. Business is business the world over. When a teacher has to nurse a faint gleam of intelligence, has to fan it and coax it, and sit up nights guarding its weak and fitful flicker, he must be paid accordingly.

He mentions the Trent affair. If the Advance were a two-hundred-page magazine we might thresh this question out—if his encyclopedia and mine yielded us enough information upon the subject. His encyclopedia appears to be a good one, for it has enabled him to make his letters very imposing catalogues of names, titles and references. Fritz is so keen a humorist that I am sure he is familiar with Dickens and must remember how Mr. Potts boasted to Mr. Pickwick how his friend, the critic, became an authority upon Chinese Metaphysics by reading the Encyclopedia Britannica. "He read for Metaphysics under the letter M, and for China under the letter C, and combined his information, etc." said Mr. Potts. I am too busy with paste pot and scissors to enter into any such competition with Fritz.

He wants to prove that the United States compose the greatest nation on earth, while Great Britain is a bully. Since his first letter appeared Secretary Olney (the same Olney who wrote the famous Cleveland message of which William Dean Howells remarked that the President would not so far concede to the enemy as ever to write good English) this same Secretary Olney informed Congress that Joseph Chamberlain, in reply to a question, had cabled back that Great Britain would protect the lives and properties of United States citizens in the Transvaal as though they were British subjects. This assurance received, Congress and the Senate resumed the interrupted amusement of twisting the lion's tail. Did any nation, in the history of the world, ever, at a time of strained relations with another power, ask of it such a service as this? In fact, Jonathan has always presumed upon the family feelings of John Bull, and has shown the effrontery and claimed the privileges of a wayward son. Any statement made by me could be fortified by the quoting of authorities, and if Fritz throws Saladin the English historian, at me, I shall regale him with that classic work, the Brick Top History of America.

What affrights me is, that I see no end to this wrangle, unless the editor and his subscribers rise up and run us off the scene. It is a matter for private settlement. Fritz must be a United States citizen from his statements. He speaks of being "here" and this is confusing. We know that in the civil war forty thousand Canadians fought in the army of the North, while double that number of Yankees sought safety in Canada. The recent war scare, although acute, surely did not cause Yankees (Fritz in particular) to seek safety behind our thin red lines. How else can a man holding his sentiments be "here"? As I have said, this dispute is for private settlement. The Romans used to put up one or more champions against a like number of Tatars or other enemies, and so conclude a war that would otherwise be long drawn out to the injury of business. Fritz has shown a great willingness to shed ink. Has he anything else to shed for his country's sake? Is he willing to bring this cruel war to an end and let white winged peace spread its pinions forever over these two great nations? Is he willing to shed the price of a railway ticket to some point on the frontier, where he will meet me in battle array, standing shoulder to shoulder, awaiting him? Any point on the Detroit or Niagara rivers will suit me—Queenston Heights preferred. It would be nobler for Fritz to die for his country than to write for it. I am sure the editor of the Advance, with his usual courtesy and deep regard for his readers, will be happy to arrange a meeting between us and to load our weapons to their muzzles. As the challenged party, Fritz is entitled to choice of weapons, yet in fairness to myself and to that great empire whose army and navy I shall be in this matter,

I claim the right to bar tin horns or other wind instruments. Enclosing my correct address to you, Mr. Editor, so that you may telegraph me any war message, I subscribe myself to avoid confusion, sincerely yours,
KOHINOOR.

Dr. Sproule and Remedial Legislation

At a recent meeting held in the Opera House, Ottawa, to protest against remedial legislation, there were six Conservative members on the platform. Among the speakers was Dr. Sproule, who is reported to have spoken as follows: After complimenting Mr. Clark Wallace, who had been maligned for merely carrying out well understood constitutional principles, he said: There was a noble fight before him and before every Orangeman. There was no power in Canada could overcome them if they stood manfully together. Canada was writing an important page in her history. In all critical national junctures men would come to the front not heard of before. So it would be to-day. The great principle at stake was whether education should be controlled by the church or the State. Sir John Macdonald had set himself against interference with Provincial school legislation. It was said that there was a grievance. So, too, the Mormons said when polygamy was threatened, because they had settled in America believing it was a land of freedom. If there was a grievance in Manitoba the answer should be, "Appeal to your Legislature, agitate, and replace objectionable leaders by electing others." Illiteracy, he was almost going to say crime, but that would be too far, had stained the control of schools by the Church of Rome in every part of the world. The Northwest school bill had been reserved by the Governor and it was threatened by Bishop Langevin. This question was, therefore, a broader one than the Manitoba question, and if they were in Manitoba they would carry the fight into the Northwest and back to New Brunswick, and shortly they would find the education of a large number of youths in Canada under the dominion of the Church of Rome, and they knew what that meant. They had, therefore, come to the parting of the ways, and large-hearted, broad-minded statesmen were needed. The fight was upon them and they must take sides. Dr. Sproule was loudly cheered.

Reducing County Councils

Hon. Mr. Hardy's bill for reducing the number of County Councillors is a very important measure. The act is divided into two parts. The first part deals with the submission of the question of reducing the number of County Councillors in any county to the electors, and makes provision that in every county where the Council of the county is composed of more than twenty members, and in other counties where the Council is composed of twenty members or less, if the Council by resolution so directs, the Clerk of the county shall, at the general municipal election to be held in the year 1897, submit it to the local electors of every local municipality in the county the question of whether they are favorable to the adoption of the act or opposed thereto.

Part 2 of the act relates to the constitution of County Councils after the act goes into operation. Section 22 declares that County Councils shall, in counties containing not more than 40,000 inhabitants, be composed of nine members; in counties containing more than 40,000 and less than 60,000, of eleven members, and in counties containing 60,000 or a greater number, of thirteen members. Section 22 provides that nominations shall be made in writing, signed by at least twenty-five municipal electors in the county, and deposited with the Clerk on or before the 1st day of December. If more candidates are nominated than the number of County Councillors to be elected in the county, notice is to be given by the County Clerk of the nominations made, and this notice is to be sent to the Clerk of each of the local municipalities, together with voting papers, in the form prescribed by the act. At a meeting of each local Municipal Council, held on the third Monday of January, the Reeve and Deputy Reeve are to fill and sign the voting papers. Each Reeve or Deputy is to be entitled to a number of votes equal to the number of County Councillors to be elected, and may give all his votes to one candidate, or may distribute them, as he thinks best. The Clerk of the Municipality is to transmit the voting paper to the clerk of the county, who is to open the pack-

OUR 30 day sale

Was a grand success, far exceeding our expectations. Almost all lines of

WINTER GOODS

have been cleared out or greatly reduced in quantity. But the balance must go, and go quickly. We want the room for spring stock. Nothing must be carried over this next season. A few Men's and Boys'

OVERCOATS

Men's Underwear

Flannels, Gloves

Shawls, Mitts

MEN'S FELT BOOTS & RUBBERS

will move out at

LOWER Prices

than you have ever brought them before.

Are you interested in

Boots & Shoes?

If so we want you to see our stock and get prices. We handle nothing but reliable goods, and lots of them. As to value, we will let you decide. Come early and often.

B. McDONALD

ORANGE Soiree & Concert

Greatest Event of the Season

L. O. L. No. 244

To be given in the

NEW ORANGE HALL Proton Station FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, '96

The following able speakers have been secured for the occasion: Rev. A. Wilson, Charleston; Rev. J. Maan, Flesherton; John Lyons, Markdale, and Dr. J. A. Scott, Maxville. Tea to be served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., after which the chair will be taken by District Master Bro. Wm. McLaughry, and an excellent program will be given consisting of comic songs, recitations, dialogues and sketches, also instrumental music by the Proton Orchestra, Parks Bros., Miss Ford, Markdale, and others.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

Tea and Concert Admission 25 Cents

R. HOWELL, Rec. Sec. WM. SHARP, W.M.

ago and counts the votes in the presence of the County Judge or sheriff, or in the absence of both of those officials, in the presence of the Court Clerk, and is to enter the votes given for each candidate in a book kept for that purpose, and forthwith declare the persons elected who have received the highest number of votes.

Miss Clara Barton and her colleagues of the American Red Cross Society have arrived at Constantinople.

Mr. James McDonald, postmaster of Crieff, was lost in the storm while walking home from Hespeler, and search for him has proved fruitless.

An investigation by Judge Johnston of Algoma into matters connected with the seizure of the fishing tugs of the Noble Bros. will begin at Collingwood on Feb. 25.

An old man named John Winters of Arthur went to feed his stock when a strawstack fell over on him. He was released in about half an hour, but his spine was seriously injured.

Mr. Richard Rowland, a farmer living near Hanover, committed suicide by hanging. He had lost his reason through worry over the scarcity of feed for his cattle.

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.

STOCK - TAKING BARGAINS

- 2 doz. cups and saucers, shell pattern, at 78c doz.
- 1 1/2 doz 9 inch plates, brown pattern, at 72c doz
- 2 1/2 doz. 10 inch plates, brown pattern, at 84c doz.
- 1 1/2 doz. 9 inch plates, moss rose pattern, at \$1.20 doz.
- 5/6 doz 10 inch plates, moss rose pattern, at \$1.30.
- 1 1/2 doz. soup plates, brown pattern, at 80c doz.
- 5 doz. soup plates, acorn pattern, at 75c doz
- 2 doz. cov'd vegetable dishes from 35 to 50c each.
- 1 only 97-pieced dinner sett, moss rose pattern, for \$9.65, regular price, \$13.
- 1 only 130 pieced dinner sett, Bredalano pattern, for \$11.85, regular price \$15.
- Granite tea steepers, 1 quart, at 25c each.
- Granite tea pots, 2 quarts, at 50c each.
- Granite pie plates, 10 inch, at 13c each.
- 1 only 42 inch baby's tin bath at \$1.45.
- A snap.
- Boston Climax axes at 55c, regular price 75c.
- Shanty King axes at 70c, regular price 90c.
- Improved Champion saws at 35c foot.
- Keen Edge X cut saws at 55c foot.
- A 25 inch Florence box stove with swing top for \$4.20.
- A splendid cooking stove with 26 inch fire box and 24 pieces of furniture for \$22.50.

M. Richardson & Co.