

**NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**

Clark's Notice—Jas. M. Lawrence.  
Property for Sale—C. Duncumbe.  
Astray—Mrs. A. Law.

**The Liberal.**

RICHMOND HILL, Thursday, July 17, '84

**PROTECTION.**

Great national changes which are effective and permanent have ever been of slow growth. Their speed is that of the star which 'maketh not haste, but taketh not rest.' That flush of hectic fever which is so often mistaken for the glow of health is not theirs. Their first propounder is usually a single man whom his fellows commonly regard as a wild enthusiast, if not as a fanatical lunatic. When, however, this enthusiasm springs from unshaken conviction of the truth of that which he advocates, by degrees, he makes converts to his opinions. A small band, animated by a pure and sincere ardor, soon makes itself felt as a power. Gradually, but surely, the masses become permeated with the once ridiculed ideas, and then follows, the victory, so long and stubbornly fought for, and, what is laughable, opposition gives place to astonishment that that which is now apparent to every one was not accepted as soon as promulgated. This is, in short, the history of Free Trade in England, and of all other comprehensive movements in that or other lands.

It must be evident to all that the United States is on the eve of one of those long struggles. Protection has had its day of perfect immunity, and henceforth it will be required to give solid and incontrovertible reasons for its being. Its opponents in that country are the vast majority of the Democrats. It is true that this party has not openly proclaimed its adherence to Free Trade doctrines pure and simple. This would be too much to expect in view of the gigantic interests involved. They do well to observe the motto of hastening slowly. But they have declared their belief that the tariff needs revision. The old style of robbing Peter to pay Paul is no longer considered satisfactory. They are beginning to doubt the policy which tends to make the living of the many expensive, even if it does enrich the few. It is now dawning on their minds that at most Protection is a boon only to cities and towns, and of the latter exclusively to those which are largely engaged in manufactures. The fight will prove long and bitter. The advocates of Protection will have, nearly all the influence of the great city papers, and all the influence, which is inseparable from capital. But the issue does not seem to us for one moment doubtful. We do not need to base our assurance on the pretty fanciful verses of the Corn Law Rhymer. To him all nature proclaimed freedom of trade, and thus he sings:

Cloud trades with riter, and exchange is power;  
But should the clouds, the streams, the winds disdain  
Harmonious intercourse, nor dew nor rain  
Would forest-crown the mountains; arless day  
Would blast on all our hills the heathy glow  
No purple green would meeken into grey  
O'er stream at eve; no sound of river's flow  
Disturb the Sepulchre of all below.

No, we rest on other reasons, it may be far grosser because far more material, but not the less cogent and commanding. In perfect confidence we wait in patience for the day when the absurdity, the positive wrong and injustice of imposing on a long-suffering people burdens of taxation originally rendered necessary by debt consequent on a great civil war, and which should have been removed when such necessity no longer existed, shall become apparent to all.

**PRINTERS' STRIKE.**

The Printers' strike in Toronto, is practically over. Of those offices in which dispute arose, that of the Globe alone has emerged from the struggle triumphant. But even this exception shows that the Printers' Union is by no means all powerful. It would be a profitless task to discuss the merits of the quarrel. The facts are hard to be got at, and the inferences to be drawn from them not at all obvious. The feelings of both parties are naturally strong, and where ruffled feelings are, there is little use in seeking for reasons. It is only fair, however, to remark that employers and employes alike behaved with praiseworthy moderation. Neither intimidation nor vio-

lence was resorted to; a rupture took place, but it has seemingly not left behind a single trace of malignity.

We do not propose to argue the question of Trades-Unions. Volumes have been written on the much-vexed subject, but unanimity of opinion is as remote as ever. Still it may be said, without fear of serious contradiction, that strikes do not spring from the exercise of fair play in balancing hours of work and amount of wages. Whenever we find that capital and labor are at variance, there is almost sure to be overgrasping on one side or the other.

The strike of the Printers was not wanting in the ridiculous. A short time ago, the Mail newspaper was loudly boasting of its circulation, the number of its advertisements and general prosperity. The editor of that journal assured its readers that its bed was made entirely of roses. He laid special stress on the fact (?) that the Mail's good fortune was simply part of the prosperity which blessed the whole country. How changed its language when it proposed to reduce the wages of the printers. Then was heard only a bewailing of excessive competition, great depression in business, and of all those ills from which even newspapers are not exempt. The joke was plain to the most obtuse. The Typos not only saw it, but they enjoyed it heartily. We have not yet learned how it struck the wealthy, prosperous and happy Mail.

**PORT PERRY FIRE.**

The best remedy for carelessness is undoubtedly misfortune, and for continued carelessness continued misfortune. It would be too much to expect that the people of Port Perry are now in a mood for wise saws. It is easy to be philosophical in our views of the past and of the future, but the philosophy that can cope with the troubles of the present is extremely rare. Port Perry must now put up with the bitter the best it may; long enough has it enjoyed the questionable sweetness of an almost criminal remissness, of a false economy, and of a false security. In the face of direct losses amounting to nearly two hundred thousand dollars, the saving effected by doing without two or three good fire-engines must now surely appear mean and ruinous. However, in these matters, each place is a law unto itself; and it is for us to ascertain at once if our law offers sufficient protection from a similar calamity. We have an engine, pronounced by all to be a good one; we have a fire-brigade, not only efficient, but even zealously efficient. The weak spot is the water supply. Have we an adequate number of tanks? Do they always contain water enough? If these questions can be answered in the affirmative, there is reasonable ground to believe that a disaster such as lately befell Port Perry, is not likely to befall Richmond Hill. It would be superfluous to warn our villagers that a very small fire, if not promptly extinguished, speedily becomes a wild conflagration. It cannot be too strongly impressed on all minds how absolutely necessary to safety is abundance of available water. No one will deny that economy is a great source of income; let us not, on that account, play the part of men who are a penny wise and a pound foolish.

**EDGELY.**

I was in hopes of being able to report a complete success for our base ball team in their recent match with Woodbridge, after seeing the exhibition match which our club played at the picnic on Saturday, June 28th. But sad to say our village was doomed to disappointment, for with the return of our team came the news that our men were defeated—badly defeated—only scoring some seven runs to Woodbridge's fifty six.

"All's well that ends well." The courtship mentioned last week has been succeeded by a marriage. The facts are these, as near as I could glean: A party of emigrants arrived about three weeks ago from Ireland and were staying with a farmer who lives not many miles from here, one of them being a young girl. At the same place was a youngman, who, having fallen desperately in love with the girl, determines to marry her, and with this end in view procures a license and engages a minister. The maiden, however, rejects the ardent advances of this young swain and refuses to marry him. But when she sees his heartfelt sorrow and genuine tears on her behalf; when she hears his awful threats of what he will do to himself and to her if she will not have him, and feels his soothing caresses in his better moments, her heart at last relents and they become married in due form. Acquaintance, courtship, engagement and marriage between parties who had never seen each other before, all done up in less than three weeks. Beat it who can.

Mr. L. Locke of this place lost a valuable horse on Sunday. The animal had been badly kicked and is supposed to have been injured internally.

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