

# The British Whig



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**SOMETHING NOT EXPLAINED.**  
Behind the agitation for the change of management of the Utilities from five competent, honorable, efficient and high-minded Commissioners, to a changeable and not so efficient committee of the Council, there is something which has not been explained. What is it? What produced the stealthy resolution which was slipped into the Council and passed by it before some of the Aldermen had time to question what was going on? It is said that some of the Utilities affairs have not been sufficiently discussed. This certainly can be said of the Council's proceedings, so far as the Utilities are concerned. There are members of the Council who may be under obligations to persons outside of it, and these personal obligations cannot be discharged except at the serious expense of the whole people. All that is said about the Commission, in criticism of it, is trifling. The real reason for a change of management has not been discussed, and perhaps dare not, without creating a commotion that would spoil the programme. There are some Aldermen who have been hoodwinked or lulled into the silence, and they may regret that they did not ask questions of interest as to why the Commission should be removed. The Whig has asked the men who are responsible for the resolution what it means, and they cannot give any reasonable reply. Is there anything suspicious in all this?

**CHINA WAKES UP.**  
The United States, in recent departmental reports, intimated that her export trade had swelled considerably with Europe, notwithstanding the dangers of the spas, and that little change or improvement had taken place in the South African trade. Apparently little profit had followed the attempt of United States to appropriate this trade which Germany had lost as a result of the war.

It is at this juncture that China comes in as a surprising invader of the fields that were supposed to be limited to America. China has been notoriously backward in many respects. In its interior there are millions of people who scarcely know that they are alive, but at the frontier, and along the thousands of miles that constitute the coast line, there are towns and cities that, under the Republic and the inspiration of Western genius, have boundless wealth and energy, and both are to be employed in the production of goods that have hitherto been supplied from Germany.

In the manufacture of toys cheap labor is the great essential, and China has this labor in abundance. It is China, then, that sends to America agents whose commission it is to purchase samples of the toys formerly made in Germany, and to procure the machinery for the production of them in China.

Chang Ku Kuo is China's special representative in this new departure, and his first investment was over \$40,000. China, like Rip Van Winkle, has awakened from her long sleep, and proposes to make up for lost time if it is possible to do so.

**WOOD BLOCK PAVEMENTS.**  
The Minister of the Interior has, in connection with his department, a laboratory which aims to determine the value of Canadian woods, especially for paving purposes. What is the use unless the experimentation results in something practical? About two years ago a Kingstonian spent a lot of time and money improving the value of southern pine, treated, for pavement building. Various experts were consulted. One came

and clinched the arguments of others upon the subject. The educational campaign was apparently conclusive. There seemed to be no other pavement worth having. And a different pavement altogether was approved by the Board of Works and put down on the main streets and other streets which are traversed by the street railway. The Minister of the Interior has to do more than advertise the woods of Canada through the "Forest Products Laboratories of Canada." He must somehow induce the Canadian cities to experiment with his wood blocks and prove the efficiency of them, and without these practical tests his laboratories will cost a lot of money, and it may appear to have been wasted or thrown away.

**AN UNFORTUNATE REFLECTION.**  
The most unfortunate feature of the attacks upon the Utilities Commission is the reflection on the integrity of its members. Comment has been made upon the fact that over \$200,000 is collected annually by the Commission, and that it has delayed in sending out statements showing what it has done with this money. The Commissioners are: The Mayor, R. D. Sutherland, merchant; T. J. Rigney, barrister, and ex-Mayor; R. H. Toye, manufacturer and merchant, ex-Alderman, and Chairman of the Utilities Commission; G. Y. Chown, merchant and manufacturer, ex-Alderman, Secretary of Queen's University; and J. H. Birkett, Secretary-Treasurer of the Kingston Locomotive Works. All men of high standing in the community.

The Mayor, it is true, was the instigator of the action by the Council. He is willing to admit that the Commissioners are men of the highest integrity, and yet he would have them humiliated by an appeal to the people which he does not justify.

And the four Commissioners who remain, excepting the Mayor, who cannot have been included in the hurtful attack, are advertised as guilty of a questionable proceeding. They have a system to which the city is a party. The city established it before the Commission came into existence. The accounts of the department are made out in the City Hall. They are issued by public officials, and they are paid to these officials. All officials, it is presumed, are under bonds. The Commissioners do not handle a penny of the people's money. If the officials had the time at the end of each quarter to make out the financial statements which the critics want they would be presented. The Commissioners do all that can be expected of them when they direct the officials to comply with the law.

In the absence of these statements no one surely regards the Commissioners or the officials as men who cannot be trusted with the custody of the public funds. And yet there is in the reflection a sting which will remain long after this unpleasant controversy has reached an end.

**WHAT GRATITUDE SUGGESTS.**  
Common gratitude should win for the Utilities Commission the most cordial support of the people. The members of it have been most devoted to their duty, and have labored with unflinching zeal to make a record which would be a credit to themselves and to the city. They began their service under a handicap. They had to take over and make the best of the contracts into which a committee of the Council had entered. These contracts came to them as a legacy from the Council. Certain expenses were incurred, and it was for the Commission to provide for them.

At the outset, there was an appraisal of the plants, a stock-taking such as had not taken place during all the years the property was under the direction of the committee.

Next the Commission adopted a policy which every business man must endorse, of incurring no expense without knowing just how it was to be met. The Committee of the Council had made extensions for which payment could not be made in the usual way. The cost of them had to be charged to current account. This was wrong in principle and in practice. The Committee of the Council built a power house, and the Finance Department first knew about the contract when it was called upon to pay upon it as the work proceeded. This was an insane way of doing business, and the Commission decided to have no more of it.

The Keely Engine at the Water Works Pump House was condemned by the Council's Committee and thought to be fit only for scrap heap. It was rebuilt by the Commission at a cost of about \$445 and will answer the needs of the city for many years to come. This alone saved the city about \$30,000.

The supplies of the department have been purchased in a business-like way, and in the two years during which the plants have been under the direction of the Commission there has been a saving of thousands of dollars. If the Commission did nothing more than buy the fuel for the plants, for the City Hall, for the schools, it called for the approval and thanks of all right-minded citizens. All the acts of the Commission need not be enumerated. In

less than two years it has re-organized the departments and plants and introduced system in connection with them, and instead of a resolution from the Council, which implied a want of confidence in its members, there should have been a cordial commendation of its splendid work.

Not in the history of municipal politics has the Council without a cause committed the unpardonable offence of reflecting upon a Commission by innuendo, and by innuendo only.

**KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO**  
M. Quinn is catering for the 47th Reformation at the camp. The first stone of the dry dock was laid to-day by Sir John A. Macdonald. Thousands of citizens turned out for the events on it, which cost \$1,500, was bought by a retired actress for \$20; a French travelling cloak, which cost \$25 in Paris, brought twenty-five cents, and a trunk full of hats, velvet, fur and Panama, was sold for \$1. Miss Davenport's piano brought \$140, and 250 prompt books, interlined with Augustin Daly's stage instructions, were bought by a dealer for \$42.

**Fanny Davenport's Goods.**  
New York Herald.  
"How soon we are forgotten," was the lament of Benjamin S. Wise, auctioneer, when the low bidding yesterday at No. 17 West Seventy-sixth street, for the effects of the late Mrs. Melbourne MacDowell (Fanny Davenport), was most marked. His sad cry at times would bring a bid of at least twenty-five cents, more from some one of the two thousand persons who had gathered for the sale. Evidently most of those present were there out of curiosity, as almost every article sold far below its face value. For instance, a Sterling clock, with figures on it, which cost \$1,500, was bought by a retired actress for \$20; a French travelling cloak, which cost \$25 in Paris, brought twenty-five cents, and a trunk full of hats, velvet, fur and Panama, was sold for \$1. Miss Davenport's piano brought \$140, and 250 prompt books, interlined with Augustin Daly's stage instructions, were bought by a dealer for \$42.

**Regiment Has Vanished.**  
Oswego Palladium.  
A few months ago the Princess Patricia's Regiment, with a full complement of officers and men sailed from Canada to the Motherland. Now comes the report that the regiment is no more, that the 175 members who remain have been transferred to other regiments. The manner in which this regiment has suffered demonstrates the desperate fighting which characterizes the present war, and shows that the Canadian volunteer does not shirk his duty on the firing line. There are few instances recorded in history, before this war, in which a regiment was so quickly reduced to a mere handful of survivors, but the modern guns now in use play havoc when turned loose, and the fighting in France, the greater part of it with the bayonet and hand-to-hand struggles, has been particularly severe.

**"Is It Pretended?"**  
Toronto Telegram.  
Surely Sir Robert Borden cherishes nobler ideals as to the duty of a Canadian Government than those revealed in these words: "It is pretended that the Canadian Government should undertake to control such contracts and guard against the activities of dishonest or exorbitant middlemen." It is not pretended but contended that the Canadian Government should undertake to control the means of getting the products of Canadian manufacturers in touch with the demands of France and Russia.

What are the duties of a Canadian Government if a Canadian Government is not called upon to fulfill the duty of helping this country's manufacturers to take advantage of the trade opportunity created by the Franco-Russian demand for war supplies.

**Head Combinations.**  
Yellow beads on a black cord, or blue tones on a dull blue cord are very effective, as are amber and jet beads, on a yellow cord. Pretty combinations can be made, and as they are not at all expensive and can be made at home, one can possess a number of them. Some are finished with a silk tassel, while others are made from small beads in tassel form, ending at the top with a large bead.

Frank H. Farmer, Clayton, who for the past forty-five years has been in the employ of the New York Central, has been granted a pension and retired. For some time Mr. Farmer has been a baggage man on a Clayton branch train.

**MELANCHOLY DAYS.**  
The melancholy days have come, the saddest of the year, when you, determined to be grim, produce the flowing tear, when you refuse to see the joys surrounding every gent, and thus discourage other boys, and still up discontent. A grouch will travel far and long before its work is done; and it will queer the hopeful soul, and spoil all kinds of fun. Men start downtown with buoyant tread, and things seem on the boom; then you come forth with blistered head, and fill them up with gloom. There'd be no melancholy days, our lives would all be fair, if it were not for sorehead jays who always preach despair. We'd shake off every kind of grief, if Jonah didn't come, the pessimist who holds a brief for all things on the bum. So, if you really cannot rise above the sob and wail, and see the azure in the skies, and hear the nightingale, let some dark cave be your abode, where men can't hear you howl, and let your comrades be the toad, the raven and the owl.

**Rippling Rhymes**  
Walt Mason

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### ASKING FOR AID

#### A Letter To Friends Of The Mowat Memorial Hospital.

A circular has been prepared by a committee of the directors of the Sir Oliver Mowat Memorial Hospital and will be sent to subscribers and other friends. It reads: The Mowat Memorial Hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis requires financial assistance. The grants from Government and municipalities and the moneys paid by patients are not sufficient to maintain the hospital. It was understood at the time the hospital was established that these sources of revenue would be supplemented by annual subscriptions from those interested in this charitable work.

Some friends are contributing generously in this manner but much more is needed. Will you kindly help?

The needs of this important work must not be forgotten even at a time when so many other calls are urgent.

At present about twenty patients are under treatment. They pay in proportion to their ability, but this is only a small part of the cost. So far they have paid this year about \$1,000.

The grant from the Government for the present year was about \$2,500, an increase of \$100 over that of last year.

Grants from municipalities amount to \$1,550. The financial arrangements between the hospital and the municipalities are not satisfactory and require amendment.

The remaining source of revenue is the charity of the friends of the hospital and this must make up whatever deficiency exists. As the hospital was instituted and erected largely by subscriptions from the public generally it is reasonable to expect that its maintenance will be supported in a similar manner.

There can be no question as to the importance and value of the work being done by the hospital nor as to the efficiency and economy of its administration.

You are invited to visit and inspect the hospital at any time. Any assistance you can give will be appreciated by the Board of Directors. Subscriptions should be sent to the Honorary Secretary Treasurer, J. G. Elliott.

### WHERE TO VOTE ON MONDAY.

**For the Utilities Commission and the Incinerator.**  
Sydenham Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 1 and 2 at 90 William street.  
Ontario Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 3 and 4 at 216 Bagot street.

St. Lawrence Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 5 and 6 at 345 King street.  
Cataragui Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 7 and 8 at 72 Queen street.

Cataragui Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 9 and 10 at 277 Montreal street.  
Frontenac Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 11, 12 and 13 at 83 Colborne street.

Frontenac Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 14 and 15 at 63 John street.  
Rideau Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 16 and 20 at 270 Division street.

Rideau Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 18 and 19 at 346 Brock street.  
Rideau Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 17 and 21 at 621 Princess street.

Victoria Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 22 and 23 at 222 Earl street.  
Victoria Ward—Polling Sub-division Nos. 24 and 25 at 57 King street.

### If It Could Get A Contract.

Toronto Telegram.  
An Ontario industry whose output is 1,500 shells a week could raise that output to 6,000 shells if it could get a contract for 6,000 shells.

The Shell Committee has no immediate contracts to place for the production of 6,000 shells. Middlemen call on the owners of the industry with the offer of a contract from the Russian Government. That contract will carry the industry up to its output of 6,000 shells per week, but the price of the contract is an undertaking to pay twenty-five per cent, or \$1.25 on every shell, to the middleman who places the contract.

Middlemen would lay tribute on the output of one Ontario factory to the extent of \$1.25 per shell, or \$4,375 per week. The plunder exacted on the output of one shell factory is indicative of the \$500,000 "take off," which contract jobbers will claim from the Canadian manufacturers of \$2,000,000 worth of Russian supplies per week.

The people of France and Russia or the manufacturers of Canada are being despoiled by this damnable and unpatriotic system of commissions. The origination of that system could have been prevented by the foresight of Sir Robert Borden. The continuance of that system can be crushed by the vigilance of Sir Robert Borden.

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# Bibbys

## FARMS For Sale

The following are some of our farm bargains.

20 acres	Price \$ 600
200 acres	Price \$2,000
100 acres	Price \$2,000
200 acres	Price \$3,900
25 acres	Price \$8,500
50 acres	Price \$8,500
114 acres	Price \$3,750
100 acres	Price \$4,000
120 acres	Price \$4,750
150 acres	Price \$5,000
150 acres	Price \$6,000
200 acres	Price \$7,000
200 acres	Price \$10,500
400 acres	Price \$24,000

For particulars consult

### T. J. LOCKHART,

Bank of Montreal Building, Kingston.  
Phone 1035 or 1036.

## Clean Up Sale of Men's and Women's Oxfords and Pumps

Men's \$5.00 Patent, Gun Metal and Tan Oxfords ..... Now \$3.75  
Men's \$4.50 Gun Metal and Tan Oxfords, Now \$3.48  
Women's \$5.00 Pumps and Oxfords ..... Now \$3.98  
Women's \$4.50 Pumps and Oxfords ..... Now \$3.48  
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Lots of Odd Sizes at Clean Up Prices. One Lot of Women's Oxfords and Pumps.

## Clean-up Price \$1.00

Rubber Sole Shoes Not Included in This Sale.

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