

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EDITOR,
GLASSVILLE NEWS.

Sir.

Professor Weldon, M.P., has introduced an act to disfranchise voters who accept money at elections. Why do electors accept money at elections,? the answer is easy. The candidates furnish the money, the electors are told it is the proper thing to take it. Candidates are selected for election who have money to use for that purpose, or who can induce their friends to supply the money to be so used. Is it wrong to use money at elections.? Has the use of money prevented the electing of the best men.? Look at the long list of men who have been elected, and the answer must be, that such use has done the public no injury. The greatest abuse of money in elections, has been, that owing to the penalties prescribed by law, those to whom money has been given for the *Poor Elector's* benefit, have absorbed it instead of paying it out. Why should not money be taken by the voter, aside from the prohibition by law. Voting is a public duty, so is attendance as a juror. The law at one time compelled jury duty without pay, no jurymen receiving pay for that service, considers his act venial. Take the case of the voter in elections in the winter months, many of them are at work in lumber camps, at a distance of from ten to forty miles, from the voting place. Their wages are necessary for the support of themselves and families, others live at home within an easy distance of the polling place. Why not pay each voter for attendance at the poll and mileage as jurymen are paid. If that does not suit send paid officials, to every voter's residence and take his ballot. If accepting money is a public danger, then paying out money (or pocketing it) is also a public danger. There are several ways of disposing of this evil, Pay voters for loss of time, or send a paid officer to the residences and collect all votes. Either way would remove any excuse for accepting money unlawfully. The Candidates want the honour, are willing to furnish money. This money is urged on the voter, and is a benefit to him. Such laws are passed by men who *repent having spent their money.*

yours &c.;

JUDEX.

We are pleased to insert the foregoing letter, for it is a subject on which we entertain very decided opinions. We don't believe in sending an auctioneer round to sell votes, to the highest bidder. But we do believe that an elector, who wastes his time and money, in travelling to the polling place, has a right to expect some gratuity to recoup him for his loss. We also believe that successful aspirants for parliamentary honours, are often sorry, for having spent their money. And those who spend it and don't get elected are more sorry still. Both these, would like to have things altered, but for their own benefit only. Ed. Glassville News.

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F. B. THOMAS,
GLASSVILLE,

PIPE-LIGHTS.—There is a story of an officer in command of a troopship who, having embraced a somewhat sensational form of religious belief himself, was active in distributing tracts setting forth these views among his men. To his extreme gratification these leaflets were received with thankfulness, and even asked for. So great, indeed, was the 'run' on these special publications that the amateur missionary's stock was soon exhausted, and he had to fall back upon a collection of less exciting literature. "These tracts are not equal to the old ones," remarked the officer, as he dealt them out to the sergeant; "I daresay the men find the difference." "Yes, sir; indeed they do," was the prompt reply. "There never was such good paper for pipe-lights as the first lot made; them others ain't to be named with them."

Here is an ingenious conundrum for a fisherman who has been toiling all day and caught nothing. When asked what he has caught, without admitting that he has had never a bite, he might say I have caught six without a head, nine without a tail, ten without an eye, and eight cut through the middle. If anyone will put down the figures, and cut off the heads and tails, &c., it will be seen that the result is four noughts.

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BITTERS

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