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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., DEC. 14, 1899

THE MANITOBA ELECTIONS.

The unexpected has happened in the local election held last week in the Prairie Province. The Greenway Government after holding office for 12 years has been defeated by a small majority, and as we predicted, our tory friends are suffering from swelled craniums as the result of their unexpected success. Sir Charles Tupper and Mr Geo. E. Foster are today assuring the people of Canada that the result of this local contest is a fair test of the respective strengths of the two great political parties in Manitoba. The Liberals have only to accept the statement of these gentlemen to derive much benefit from the political outlook over the Dominion. If local elections are to be regarded as a fair test of party strength, then the Liberals may expect at the next federal contest to win every Province in Canada except Manitoba. Since 1896 there have been local elections in Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Manitoba, and in every case except the last named the Liberal party has been victorious. Our tory friends who are so jubilant over the Manitoba election will now probably admit that New Brunswick is overwhelmingly Liberal in feeling, since last winter in our local contest the Liberals had a majority of 36 in a contest fought on straight party lines. Our Conservative friends will not be permitted to apply one rule to one Province and another or opposite rule to another Province. If Hugh John McDonald's victory in Manitoba is such a sure guide to tory success in that Province, then the Liberals are content to accept the ruling and apply it to each Province in the Dominion. No Liberal in New Brunswick will begrudge his political opponents all the consolation they can take out of the Manitoba elections, for the tory heart has been sore and triumphs unknown since the deluge of 1896 which sent into forced retirement the high priest of corruption and his followers.

THE CONSERVATIVE NEED.

After reading for months the tirade of the Conservative press, the people of Canada have come to the conclusion that the once great Conservative party has fallen on evil times in these latter days, and that ere it can hope successfully to gain popular favour two great needs must be filled. These two needs are a Policy and leaders to carry it into effect.

With all the bewailing of the tories at the lack of political morality shown by the Liberals in neglecting to carry out their tariff and other pledges, we have not even had a hint of what the Con-

servative Policy would be if Sir Charles Tupper and his friends were restored to power. Mr. Foster says the Fielding Tariff is but the National Policy Tariff in a new suit of clothes, but he does not suggest restoring the old clothes to the tariff if the Conservatives come into power. If his statement were true (which it certainly is not) he is beaten by his own argument, for it would prove that the Liberals can handle the National Policy to decidedly better advantage than the originators of that policy. Will Sir Charles Tupper increase or lower the tariff the country asks, and asks in vain, for this modern Delphian oracle is mute. When Mr. Foster asks the country to rebuke the Laurier Administration for not introducing prohibition as the result of the plebiscite, the prohibitionists too shrewd to be caught by chaff, reply by a question, "What pledge will you give us, Mr. Foster, that you will introduce prohibition if returned to power?" And Mr. Foster merely winks the other eye and says, "If I am returned to power you will see what you shall see," and when remonstrated with for the ambiguity of his utterance he angrily rejoins, "I am waiting to see if the people of Canada have sand enough to resent the insult offered them by the Liberals before I speak." No more moments of weakness evidently for this erstwhile champion of prohibition. No more need for recantation in the House of Commons when taunted with definite pledges to the country. In place of these a brazen attempt to fool the people and cover his intent with a multiplicity of words. Words, words, words, how they pour from Mr. Foster like the continuous flow of lava from the ever burning Vesuvius and about equally useful to the country. Words galore but never a sign of a policy, not a platform or so much as a plank even narrow enough to support the small souled Mr. Foster. Can the Conservative party hope to come to power on a "catch cry," or do they underestimate the intelligence of the Canadian people to such an extent as to believe that the electorate will go it blind and return to power a party without a platform or policy, a party existing merely on the memory of the past.

But if they should in their explorations throughout Canada happen to discover a policy, where are the leaders in whom the people have confidence to carry it into effect. Surely, not the same old discredited band of political things who in the name of patriotism committed nameless wrongs from 1886 to 1896, made Canada's name a byword of corruption among the nations and wound up by knifing their leader? Surely not the "nest of traitors" who in 1896 foreswore themselves before the world both to country and to Premier? The men who Mackenzie Bowell held up to the execration of true patriots as the paltry misfits of public life? These and none other are the Conservative leaders who are appealing to the country to entrust them with power. And the people of Canada are smiling at the folly of it all.

THE SITUATION AT LADYSMITH.

To realize how utterly at sea the newspaper critics have been on the action of the British forces in South Africa, it is only necessary to review the adverse criticism which has been poured out on the devoted head of Sir George White for his supposed blunder in allowing his army to be couped up in Ladysmith. But the newspaper world is beginning to learn that the British general did the only thing possible under the circumstances. The special corres-

pondent of the London Times writing from that place on October 17th before the investment of Ladysmith began, outlines the future events of the war just as they have subsequently come to pass. After speaking of the inability of the British to hold Newcastle, Glencoe, Dundee or Colenso in the face of the overwhelming numbers of the Boers, he says, "Thus while our patrols are skirmishing with the enemy in the vicinity of Ladysmith and Dundee, we cannot close our eyes to the fact that at any moment we may have to realize that we have been surrounded; and we will then possibly lie beleaguered until the time when a relieving force is pushed up behind us, or relieves the pressure by an invasion of the enemy's territory, or the Boers choose to give us battle." This correspondent further shows how impossible it was for Sir George White to prevent the entry of the Boers into Natal with the limited force at his control.

"The united Boers, having thrown down the gauntlet, have determined to pursue their own peculiar strategy. Thus we find that they have invaded Natal with at least seven different commands, each having entered the colony by a different route. Starting from the left we find that columns have crossed the Drakensberg by the passes Olivier's Hoek, Tintwa, Van Reenen, Nelson's Kop, Botha's, Langs Nek, Meyer's and De Jaager's Drifts. The subsequent movements of these columns have clearly indicated that the pre-arranged plan of the Boer leaders is to effect as complete an envelopment of the British position as we will allow. For this reason the columns advancing through Newcastle and Besters have hitherto avoided battle, preferring to keep us occupied on our front while the outlying commands work round both flanks, doubtless with the object of completely isolating the Natal garrison. A glance at the map will show how easily this end under existing circumstances may be carried out."

This statement of the case written a month and a half ago has a value that no later criticism can possibly have, for it shows the situation accurately as it then existed, and in view of later occurrences proves how unfair and unjust have been the maledictions heaped upon Sir George White. The fact that the British general provisioned Ladysmith for a four months siege is absolute evidence of his clear-sighted understanding of future events.

To-day, the British are still successfully holding their own at Ladysmith, and it has become evident to all that if it had not been for their stand there not only Natal but possibly Cape Colony as well, would have been overrun by the Boers. While Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking remained in the hands of British garrisons sufficiently large to be a menace in the rear of an advance force, the Boers dare not strike to the south. We have all along expressed the opinion that Sir George White was being unfairly judged, and are confident when the history of the Transvaal War comes to be written that the British general will be given due credit for the genius which enabled him to foresee the trend of the war, and by his occupation of Ladysmith to stay the southward advance of an overwhelming enemy until reinforcements could arrive.

FREE IMPORTS.

In our last issue we showed how absurd and misleading was the Conservative claim that the Imperial preferential duties clause was a mere sham. There is another point raised by the Conservatives in that connection which is even more absurd. The argument is being used that because Canada imports a large quantity

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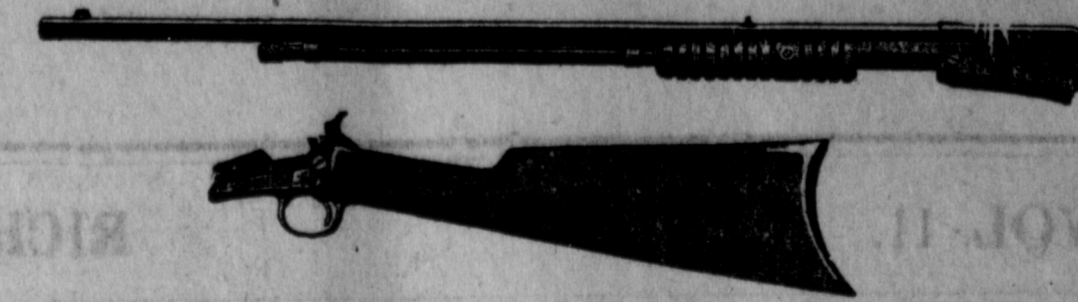
of free goods from the neighbouring Republic, that therefore the Fielding Tariff is unpatriotic and framed to favor the American producer. As the Montreal Herald points out, it only requires a glance at the list of these free goods to show the shallowness of the argument. The value of free goods imported from the United States last year was \$40,641,630, made up chiefly of the following articles:

Corn and bullion	\$ 3,880,630
Settlers effects	2,324,457
Grain in transit	5,000,000
Raw hides	2,229,000
Drugs for manufacturers	1,054,000
Raw rubber, &c	1,725,000
Raw wool	314,000
Fruits	506,000
Raw furs	243,000
Raw flax, &c	225,000
Gear for Canadian fisheries	225,000
Binder Twine	366,600
Undressed Hemp	218,000
Horses and cattle for breeding	150,000
Rags	170,000
Cotton wool	3,843,000
Anthracite coal	5,848,000
Iron and metals	4,000,000
Unmanufactured lumber	2,250,000
Corn for feeding stock	2,000,000
	\$36,671,687

Will the opposition critics kindly suggest one single item in that free list on which a duty should be imposed? Perhaps they would ask that the old National Policy duty of 25 per cent. on Binder Twine for farmers use, or the National Policy duty on corn for stock-raising, which the Liberals took off, should be restored.

A glance at this list will show that it is natural that these particular lines of raw material should be imported from the United States rather than from Great Britain. We can scarcely expect to get our hard coal, corn or cotton from Great Britain, which does not produce them, or indeed from any other country than the United States. The free list is made up very properly of articles in a raw state which Canada needs for her great agricultural, mining, fishing and industrial enterprises, and the more the imports of free goods increase the greater is the proof that Canada is building up a great system of industries, for in almost every case these free imports are turned from a raw state into the finished product and go to swell the volume of Canada's wealth. American corn is imported into Canada to be exported to Great Britain in the shape of Canadian beef, poultry, hams, bacon, &c.

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THE REVIEW, Richibucto, N. B.

Hides coming free into Canada from South America through the United States are converted into Canadian boots and carriage tops. American cotton passes through the hands of Canadian labour to clothe our people with all manner of cotton goods. It is sound Liberal doctrine that raw material should be duty free in order to foster our manufacturing enterprises and give employment to Canadian labour in the turning of the raw goods into the finished product. Our Conservative friends cannot understand a tariff which suits Canada's needs, so long have they been tariff tinkering to suit political friends.

NEW LOBSTER REGULATION.

An Ottawa despatch says the lobster regulation finally adopted by Sir Louis Davies, refers as follows to this district.

Between the 11th day of August in each year, and the 24th day May, both days inclusive, fishing, etc., is prohibited along the coast of Northumberland Straits, between a line on the northwest, drawn from Chockfish river in New Brunswick, to the West Point in Prince Edward Island, and a line on the southeast, drawn from Indian Point, near Cape Tormentine, in New Brunswick, to Cape Traverse, in Prince Edward Island.

From the 11th day of July in each year to the 19th day of April, both days inclusive, fishing, etc., is prohibited in any part of Canada coasts or waters thereof, not embraced within the limits described in the foregoing regulations.

Except as provided for above, in which cases size limits are fixed at 9 inches and 10 1/2 inches, no one shall catch, have in his possession any lobsters under 8 inches.

Cook's Penetrating Plasters.

COAL MINE ACCIDENT.

NORTH SYDNEY, C. B., Dec. 9.—An accident occurred at the mining pit of Sydney mines this morning whereby six men were seriously injured. As the second gang of men were being lowered in the mine to begin the day's work an accident happened to the hoisting gear and the cage went by the run three hundred and eighty feet to the bottom of the shaft. There were six men in the cage and all were more or less injured. Zachariah Burchell had both legs broken and dislocation of knee joint; Duncan Edward, leg broken; Robert Dickson, Alex. McDonald, Neil McKenzie, James Edwards, badly shaken up.

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No. 1 and 2 sold in Richibucto, by Estate W. W. Short, Druggist.

FIVE WEEKS WITH A BROKEN NECK.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—John Morarity, of Dobbs Ferry, has excited the wonder of the physicians at St. Joseph's Hospital, Yonkers. He is sixty-five years old, and when he walked into the hospital Dr. O'Neil asked him what ailed him. Morarity replied that his neck was broken five weeks ago by a fall from a scaffold. Asked where he had come from, he replied that he walked six miles from Dobbs Ferry. It was hard for the doctor to believe the story, but he promptly had Morarity put to bed. It was found that the man's assertion that his neck was broken was correct. The man will be obliged to undergo a delicate operation.

"He laughs best who laughs last." If you take Hood's Sarsaparilla you may laugh first, last and all the time, for it will make you well.