

THE MORNING GUARDIAN

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1903.

THE CATTLE-SALE DEBATE.

By a party vote in which not all the Liberal party in the House would join, the Government has escaped the censure of the Legislature in the matter of the sale of fat cattle from the Stock Farm to the D. P. Company. It remains to be seen whether the unmistakably adverse judgment of the country can be as easily disposed of. The law is plain as to how "the surplus or increase" shall be disposed of. It seems a quibble unworthy of serious consideration to claim that the law only governs the sale of young stock and that the stock sold was not surplus stock. We doubt not that nine out of ten fair-minded persons, would say the stock sold to the Packing Company was both surplus and increase stock within the meaning of the law. And if so, they must conclude that the sale was illegal.

On the part of the defence there has been great searching of heart and searching of records in this matter. After the quibble as to the legality, the Minister for Agriculture professes to find that some man now deceased did sell Stock Farm cattle at private sale fifteen years ago. It is not worth while to verify Mr. Rogers' citation. We choose rather to admit that after a search through the dusty files, entry by entry for fifteen years, he may have discovered that the law was violated in 1888. But that can in no way avail for his defence. What would be thought if some man in these days charged with a violation of the Scott Act, or any other law, were to plead in his own defence that another man since dead had broken the same law fifteen years before? It was well stated by Mr. Matheson that the defence put forward by the Minister for himself could hardly have satisfied his nearest friend.

And those who watched the debate closely could not have failed to note the very gingerly manner in which Mr. Rogers' colleagues in the Government came to his rescue. The Premier's brief plea for him was nothing more than that a good man might make a mistake. Hon. Mr. McLeod who spoke briefly with bated breath, did not attempt to defend the transaction, nor did any other of Mr. Rogers' colleagues in the Government put up a defence. It is true that both inside and outside the House the previous good reputation and high moral character of Mr. Rogers has been put forward as a reason why his indefensible action in this case should be judged leniently. But in public office all that is done should be justifiable on its own merits, without borrowing from the previous reputation of the doer. Each transaction should not only be right in itself but should appear right. It is a weak defence to say that a certain action is proper because a good man did it. It is fair to ask how the same

transaction would look if done by a man who is not good.

If we turn from the attitude of members of the Government to that of members of the Ministerial side of the House, what do we find? Although the Minister thought it necessary to raise the party war cry by pointing out that the motion was one of want of confidence, none of the rank and file of the party would rise to defend him save Capt. Read, who appears to have the same sort of relations to the D. P. Company in Summerside as Mr. Rogers has in Alberton. Mr. McLaughlin expressed his objection to the private sale as he had before done, and as he said the loss had been small, felt justified, on party grounds no doubt, in voting to relieve the Minister from censure. Other members of the Ministerial party outside the Government, remained silent. Some of them voted with apparent reluctance and only to save the Minister from public reproof. In eloquent silence Mr. Irving, than whom there is no more honest or conscientious man in our public life, refused to vote to condone a transaction which he believed to be wrong. One or more other members left the room before the vote was taken. We believe the country will honor these men for refusing to sanction a wrong for party's sake.

"Not guilty, but don't do it again" is therefore the best interpretation that can be placed upon the Legislature's finding in this case. The Guardian greatly regrets that Mr. Rogers has placed himself in a position so unfortunate. This journal had been for years most friendly to him. It had even recommended him for the Premiership at the time of the last vacancy in that position. We did this because of the ability which he possesses, his long experience in public life and his mainly faithful public course. We cannot, however, because of such considerations refrain from condemning his recent course when we feel assured that his action is wrong in principle and against the public interest. It is only because we are firmly convinced that the sale is question was illegal, unfair and wrong that we condemn it. We doubt not that had the Conservative party been in power, and had a Conservative Minister of Agriculture done the same thing as is now charged against Mr. Rogers, every Liberal member of the House would have honestly recorded his protest against it. But the transaction is one not likely to be repeated in the face of an indignant public, and if the repetition is prevented The Guardian's purpose in performing an unpleasant duty will be served.

Some ill-natured person who evidently owes Hon. Mr. Simpson no good will, intruded into The Patriot's editorial columns yesterday with the evident purpose of destroying the good effect of our kindly words. We congratulated Mr. Simpson in hearty fashion; referred to the fact that promotion had come to him early in his political career, and intimated that he might expect further progress and advancement. No one but an enemy

of Mr. Simpson would pervert these kindly words into irony and disgust as The Patriot writer does. Apparently some one, perhaps feeling sore over the utter and inglorious failure of the Privileges Committee, seeks now on that account to vent his spite upon Mr. Simpson. He was in no way answerable for that failure. He had conducted himself with dignity and fairness so far as the Committee went, and it is unjust that he should now be slurrd by the Patriot because he was the only Liberal member of the Committee to whom the Guardian did not object.

The Patriot has pursued a policy of unfairness and suppression both in regard to the citizens' meeting and the debates in the Legislature, giving all prominence and space to speeches on one side. If its readers are satisfied with this course, well and good. If they are not, they will find both sides fairly reported in The Guardian.

Today's Probabilities.

Toronto, April 17—(Special)—Northerly winds, clearing at western districts. Northerly winds and showery on the Island and Cape Breton.

CHICAGO MARKETS.

CHICAGO, April 17.—(Special).—May Wheat 77½; Corn, 43½; Pork, \$17.95. July Wheat 71½; Corn, 43½; Pork, \$17.37½.



The diver dies without air to breathe. The consumptive dies without lungs to breathe the air, or of lungs rendered incapable of breathing by disease. The blood as it flows in and out of the lungs indicates the consumptive's progress. As the lungs grow weaker less oxygen is inhaled and the blood changes from scarlet to purple. Oxygen is the life of the blood as the blood is the life of the body.

The effect of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery upon weak lungs is to strengthen them, to enable the full oxygenation of the blood, arrest the progress of disease, and heal the inflamed tissues. Lung diseases have been and are being cured by "Golden Medical Discovery," in cases where deep-seated cough, frequent hemorrhage, emaciation, weakness, and night-sweats have all pointed to a fatal termination by consumption.

"Some years ago I was almost a helpless victim of that dread disease—consumption," writes Mr. Chas. Fross, F. M. of Sitka, White Co., Ind. "I was confined to my room for several months; my friends and neighbors had given up all hope of my recovery, until one day a friend advised me to take Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and after I had taken the contents of the second bottle I began to improve. After taking six bottles I was, I honestly believe, delivered from the grave and entirely cured. I am now a strong and hearty man."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cleanse the clogged system from accumulated impurities.

PERKINS' MILLINERY DRESS GOODS.

There's no mistaking the fact that we have the millinery the women most admire. Never before have we had as many stylish Hats and Bonnets, at no time has the assortment pleased ourselves so thoroughly. We desire to again emphasize one of the most noticeable features of the Millinery Department, viz, the prominence given to becoming, yet new and fashionable headwear for children.

Our showing of ready-to-wear and outing hats, eclipses all others. Another large shipment received yesterday will get first showing to-day. Every order has the personal attention of our head milliner

Niss. C. Helen Wallace.

DRESS GOODS

We are showing this season an extraordinary large range of thoroughly up-to-date and high class dress materials. We have been very careful in our selections, so as to secure the most desirable weaves and colorings, our aim especially being to please you and secure your entire confidence of our entire confidence of our steady growing supremacy in this department.

47c. Today we place on our centre table 40 pieces of Dress Goods to sell at 47c. per yard. In this lot you will find some very 47c. plain goods in the new shades, and plain and figured black goods. Come early and get first choice

F. Perkins & Co.,

THE MILLINERY LEADERS.

GRAND MILLINERY OPENING TODAY

We cordially invite the ladies of Ch'town to call today and tomorrow to see the grand display of new Spring Millinery. You'll find hats that were trimmed in Paris, hats that were trimmed in London, hats that were trimmed in New York, hats that were trimmed in Boston, hats that were trimmed in Canada and many elegant creations from the hands of our Miss Rendle who is well known for her artistic skill and polite attention to her many customer's wants.

You'll also find millinery trimming material from all over the world. The Canadian and American goods were personally selected by Miss Rendle and Mr. Prowse at the big wholesale millinery openings which they visited this Spring.

Come today and we'll show you more pretty millinery than you ever saw in this city before.

PROWSE BROS.,

The Stylish Milliners.