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has extraordinary merits, and is in good repute with the public, is that it is EXTENSIVELY Imitated. The imitations resemble the genuine article in appearance only. They lack the general excellence of Geniue.

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THE DAILY EXAMINER

MARCH 30 1900

THE SENATE AND THE GERRYMANDER.

The Guardian displays its wit (shall we say to advantage?) when it says that "the bald and spectacled veterans of the Senate, in the plenitude of their Conservatism and the fullness of their power, have rejected the Liberal Government's redistribution bill for the second time." Experience is always, and wisdom often, associated with bald heads and spectacles. It is true that the exuberance of youthful fancy and the folly of youthful indiscretion extend, in some cases, into the term of life in which baldness and spectacles hold sway. Such a case may be found in The Guardian office. But it will be admitted that "bald and spectacled veterans" usually possess the plenitude of knowledge and sagacity, while they are removed from the influences of passion, whether begotten of personal ambition or political strife.

These "bald and spectacled veterans"—"grave and reverend fathers" was the term applied to Senators in the good old days of Cato and of Rome—have, it is true, for the second time, given the six months' hoist to the Government's Gerrymander bill; and The Guardian wants to know why they "intermeddle in such affairs?" The answer is that, as to the House of Commons, The Senate of Canada under the constitution, possesses co-ordinate powers of legislation; and that its special duty is to stop legislation that is deemed by it to be unjust, untimely and inexpedient—all of which the gerrymander bill undoubtedly is—until such time as the people shall have had an opportunity to constitutionally express their opinion concerning it. The British North America Act provides that the Senate of Canada shall exercise the same powers concerning legislation as are exercised by the House of Lords in Great Britain;—and the House of Lords has repeatedly rejected bills respecting the redistribution of seats in the House of Commons.

The Guardian, however, argues that the Senate ought not to have interfered with the passage of the Redistribution Bill because it involves only the House of Commons. Senators, it points out, have life appointments, and are altogether removed from the strife of political conflict; they ought not to interest themselves about a gerrymander bill for the House of

Commons. If the members of the House of Commons only were interested, this argument might be a good one. But the whole country and every interest in the country are involved in the bill which the Senate has rejected;—and therefore The Guardian's argument goes for nothing. Take, for instance, the provisions of the bill as to Prince Edward Island. It actually gave Queen's and Prince Counties two representatives each, and every elector in these counties two votes, while it gave Kings County but one representative and each elector in Kings County but one vote! A monstrous injustice affecting the people of the entire Province. Surely the Senate had a right to stop the passage of such a bill and to let the people of Canada first say, by their votes, whether or not they are willing that such an injustice shall be perpetrated! Possessing the power (as it does) it would have been untrue to itself, its bald heads and spectacled eyes and all that these imply, it would have been untrue to the people and to the clear dictates of justice, if it had not rejected the Gerrymander Bill.

But the Guardian pleads that the Conservatives perpetrated a gerrymander in 1892, and that the Liberals should have been permitted to perpetrate another in 1900. A sufficient answer to this argument would be that one wrong does not justify another. Of the Conservative redistributions we have no special knowledge except as to their application to this Province; and we know—we all know—that the redistribution of the five electoral districts in 1892, was about as fair as it could have been made—although it was denounced equally with the redistribution of Ontario, as a scandalous gerrymander! Arguing from what we know to what we don't know,—we conclude that no weight ought to be attached to this last plea of the Guardian.

Then, there is the question of untimeliness which the Guardian, astutely, avoids. The British North America Act provides that the redistribution shall take place immediately after the taking of the decennial census. Surely it would have been going contrary to the spirit, as well as to the letter, of the constitution to pass a Redistribution bill in the year preceding that in which the decennial census will be taken! Surely the Senators—bald-headed, spectacled, grave and reverend, though they may be—are to be justified upon that ground alone, in the exercise of their undoubted right to reject the Gerrymander Bill.

At all events, the people will now have an opportunity to judge between the Government's dead Gerrymander bill and the statesmanlike policy of Sir Charles Tupper, according to which all succeeding redistributions will be made by an impartial commission composed of the highest judges of the land.

—Mr. C. C. James, deputy minister of agriculture for Ontario, maintains the principle that the wealth of a country lies in what it produces. In elucidation of this principle he referred, in the course of a speech recently delivered by him, to fields, forests, fisheries and mines as sources of wealth to Canada, the first being greatest, and said: "Per capita, the fisheries yield \$4, the mines \$6, forests \$16, and agriculture \$120, showing that the latter is immeasurably the more important. Gold is valuable, but the entire world's gold production, \$250,000,000, is only equal to the returns realized from farm produce in Ontario alone. Canada's mines are no doubt very important, returning about \$30,000,000 annually; yet our cows return very near as much in value as the output of Canadian minerals of all sorts."

THE FIELDING PREFERENCE

As a cheap and useless concession to the Mother Country, the Fielding Preference is all very well. To say that it is of any direct value to the people of Canada as a whole or that it has operated to increase the volume of our trade with Great Britain is to say that which is not true. While it is true that our imports from Great Britain have, in the past three years, increased to the extent of four millions of dollars, it is also true that our imports from the United States have increased to the extent of thirty-four millions of dollars. Our imports from France, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Holland, Belgium and South America have increased proportionately, two or three times as much as from Great Britain. It is a fact, that while our total imports have increased thirty-nine per cent, our imports from Great Britain have increased but twelve per cent. In the light of the statistics the Fielding Preference afforded to goods imported from Great Britain is little better than a pleasing deception.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—The Stanley came in at noon today, in fine style, breaking the ice all around the harbor.

—Carnegie and Frick have buried the hatchet, and will watch for chances to make a pile out of the Cape to Cairo railway.

—A Lorenzo Marques special says the Transvaal authorities are evidently recruiting actively, as large numbers of French, Hollander, and Belgians volunteers are constantly passing through that place to join the Boer forces.

—Providence favored the passage of the Second Canadian Contingent from Halifax to Cape Town. The Montreal Star's correspondent reports that "Everybody on board, officers and men alike, looked hale and hearty. Not a sign of the long, trying voyage, cramped up in such a wretched old tub as the Pomeranian, could be seen on any of the boys, excepting the healthy-looking tan that came from the kiss of the tropical sun."

—Our young men do not enlist for garrison service in Halifax as eagerly as for active service in South Africa. The fascination of immediate danger is wanting in the garrison. Yet there are some attractions in the latter for a young man who desires to be physically built up and he may besides, if he be careful, save in cash \$100 to \$150 in the run of a year. Besides, he will be prepared for active service for which he may, ere long, be needed. Colonel Moore has been desired to call for a few more recruits.

—The Ottawa correspondent of the St. John Sun remarks that "Mr. Pineau, member of the Prince Edward Island Assembly, has gone to Paris. He is not going on his own charges, but is in the pay of the people of Canada, as a member of the staff of the Paris Exhibition. Therefore he will not be present to vote against the Farquharson Government in the coming session, as he was elected to do. It is not likely that Mr. Pineau would have been sent to Paris on his merits. Sir Louis Davies does not send Conservatives when he can employ Liberals, except in cases like these, when it is necessary to subvert the wishes of the people and deprive them of their representation in order to save a friend from loss of power. On general principles the gentleman whom Mr. Pineau defeated would not have been chosen. But that would not have saved Mr. Farquharson. It will be seen that Sir Louis, by the seduction of Mr. Pineau, accomplishes half as much as he would have obtained by successful bullying of the electors of Belfast, and Murray Harbor which was attempted and failed."

Wear the latest and most fashionable hat, the Wilkinson, for sale by D. A. Bruce.

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Can sell anything

"Is the most pernicious falsehood ever stated." The confidence which the public has in this store was gained and is maintained by selling only the highest character of merchandise at fairest prices. This store's reputation for Dress Goods was earned by the most earnest and exhaustive seeking out of the new and beautiful from every home of textile handicraft. The watchfulness is constant the seeking never ends. PATON & CO. can sell anything that Paton, buys is a better truism. This because of the taste and skill, the knowledge and experience with which all fabrics are selected and bought. Women buy Dress Goods with the utmost confidence at Paton's, because they know that a half dozen pairs of expert eyes have examined all, and pronounced the fabric shown to be the best of its kind at its price that is to be found; else it would not be found in these counters. This is the key to their confidence. This first—and yet not always first—there is the test of their own eyes. The beauty of the fabrics with its direct appeal is strongest of all with the brightest store in the city to see what they are buying. 100 pieces of Dress Plaids for Shirts, 38, 40, 41 and 42 lengths; over 150 New Ready-made Dresses; 500 New Shirt Waists; 100 Shawl Wraps, "Historical Clan Tartans," largest range outside Toronto. All Clans represented. Bicycle Skirts \$5.00. See our New Goods.



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While these are not the only bicycles constructed in this country, they represent the equal of the entire output of really high-grade bicycles made in Canada by Canadian mechanics with Canadian machinery, and have led for years in material, workmanship and improvements that have won the praise and patronage of the general public.

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