

BUTLER'S JOURNAL.

Devoted to
NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE,
LITERATURE,
CURRENT NOTES and SOCIAL
GOSSIP.

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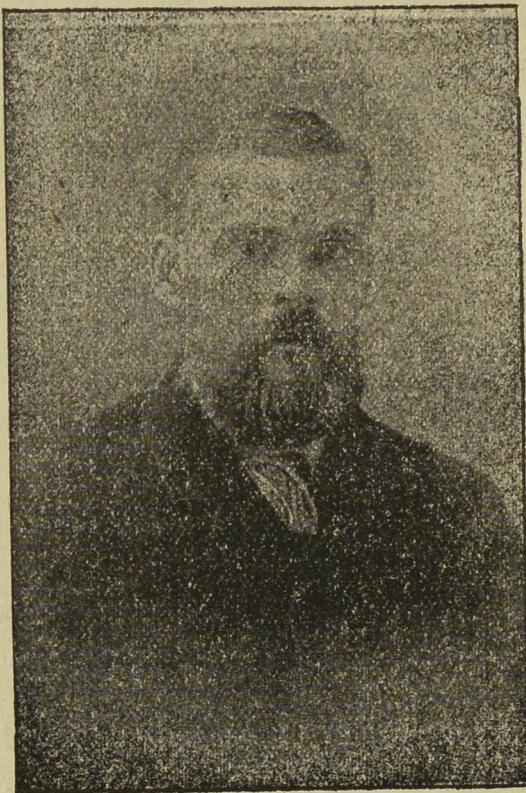
OUR SEVENTH VOLUME.

By the grace of God and the encouragement of friends, Protestant and Catholic, Liberals and Conservatives, we are enabled to come before the public this month with the initial number of our seventh volume.

We have little to say that has not already been said, and with the continuance of that kind patronage of our friends, untiring energy and industry on our part, and an abiding faith in "Him who hears the ravens cry," and has not withheld from us an independent livelihood, meagre though it be, notwithstanding our dreadful deprivation in the loss of an arm; but has raised up for us friends when least expected, we will let future issues speak.

We will, as heretofore, steer clear of political and religious discussions—never attack persons or creeds, and be slow to resent attacks upon ourselves. THE JOURNAL belongs to all—Catholic, Protestant, Orangeman, Infidel and Jew, and is in no sense the organ of any clique or creed.

In regard to matters Canadian, while not rebelling against the present status, we shall still look forward to something better and more in harmony with the democratic



Yours truly,

MARTIN BUTLER.

spirit of the age and as a consequence, the flag of Independence will still float at the masthead.

As we have gone to considerable expense in improving the paper, and have now much greater responsibilities resting upon us than formerly, we would take it as a great favor for our friends—advertisers and subscribers, to stand by us in the future as they have in the past, and enable us to keep the paper going by sending the "needful" when due.

It shall be our endeavor to cater to the wants and wishes of all classes in the monthly arrangement of our bill of fare, so far as lies in our power, with good original matter in prose and poetry, of our own and sent in by contributors. Fresh jokes and harmless local hits, and honest, independent and outspoken but never malicious comments on the doings of the month at home and abroad. We would be thankful to our friends for suggestions as to the introduction of new features which they would consider more interesting or the elimination of old ones that may perhaps have served their purpose, and will accede to their wishes so far as lies in our power.

There is nothing more to say. With these remarks we leave ourselves in the hands of our friends for the present volume.

AFTER THE BATTLE.

The people have spoken, and it seems in no uncertain manner, and the result is that the Conservative party which has administered the affairs of the country for the past eighteen years have been defeated

by a large majority, and Laurier and the Liberal party, who have for so many years sat in "the cold shades of opposition" have been returned to power, and will for the next five years, unless some unforeseen event transpires, control the destinies of the country.

We trust it will not offend our Conservative friends if we say that we are supremely thankful over the result. As ours is not a political paper and we have taken no active part in the late campaign beyond the recording of our ballot, we are not prepared to go into either praise of the Liberals or blame of the Conservative party, giving only general reasons for our thankfulness.

We rejoice at the infusion of new blood into the politics of the country and the needed lesson to the retiring party that they did not hold Canada and her people in fee simple, as they fondly imagined.

We rejoice in the well merited rebuke to the bishops by the sturdy independence, manhood and intelligence of the French-Canadian voters, and the nailing at once and forever of the lie, which has been so often reiterated by a certain faction (whom, however, it pleased in the last election to unite their forces with the bishops for political purposes) that the French Canadian people are "crushed beneath the heel of the Roman Hierarchy."

No! we Catholics do not take our politics from the bishops or the "Imperial" Privy Council either. We know what we want and secure it in a peaceful and honorable manner.

We rejoice in the emphatic re-

affirmation of the doctrine of state rights which has been menaced, and the securing of either Catholic or Protestant rights; not by coercion, but by pacific and conciliatory conference.

On the whole the campaign has been conducted on both sides with more decency and less abuse and virulence than any we have ever witnessed, and so far as we have observed with less money and rum. We only regret certain attacks on Mr. Foster's private character by certain ill-advised and indiscreet Liberals and the abuse of Mr. Gibson for the part he took in the campaign, which was wholly undeserved and did not redound to the credit of the detractors among honest and well-meaning Liberals.

For the future we do not see the ruin ahead prophesied by Conservative seers. There will be an adjustment of the tariff which will prevent the building up of monopolies at the expense of the poor man and cheapen the necessaries of life. Also a disposition to keep the expenditure of the country within the income; the lopping off of useless offices and the probable reduction of high salaries, and after the enormous legacy of debt bequeathed to them by the out-going party is met, a substantial lowering of the national expenditure.

There will be no imperial fads impossible of accomplishment such as preferential trade and imperial federation, but a good healthy Canadian sentiment that will resent alike dictation or aggression on the part of either the mother country or the United States. An extended trade with our natural market, the United States, if the Democratic party come into power, but no desire to hand over our market to McKinley protectionists without a substantial return. Lastly the government will be run less on Imperial and more on Democratic lines. We may reasonably look for complete manhood suffrage and perhaps the enfranchisement of women in the near future. Less truckling to royalty and aristocracy or acceptance of antiquated and useless titles. It will greatly encourage the advocates of National Independence by removing the obstacles in its path while taking no active part in its accomplishment and draw us farther away from London and nearer to Ottawa. In short the whole party will attend strictly to business in the interests of Canada and Canadians, exclusive of all outside influences, European or American.