

THE REVIEW.

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Best Advertising Medium in Northern New Brunswick.

RICHIBUCTO, N. B., APRIL 30, 1891.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION.

The Dominion Parliament is again in session. Its proceedings are always watched with interest, for there is always important business on hand. It does not seem likely, however, that any unusually important measures will be submitted this season. The question probably that will this session specially arouse and fix attention will apparently be the question of the Government majority. A fair working majority may confidently be looked for; and it will not matter materially whether the majority shall be found to count up somewhere between thirty and forty or between forty and fifty. In any case, for the transaction of business, a compact, well-constituted reliable majority of moderate size is preferable to a large loosely connected one. More than common interest is felt this session, in the Maritime Provinces, in the size and character of the Government majority, because so large a proportion has been contributed to it by their electorate.

Much curiosity is entertained among Liberal Conservatives as to the ground on which the Opposition propose to manoeuvre for victory. Its hopes of winning the mastery by Parliamentary tactics or strategy cannot, in the nature of things, be bright. In neither the one nor the other are they equal to their rivals. It was announced with considerable solemnity while ago that the Manitoba School Law was to be the chosen battle field. But recent disclosures have thrown doubt on that point. Probably the Mowbray system will be practised—waiting for something available to turn up.

Two very notable men are absent from the present parliament—Sir Leonard Tilley and Sir Charles Tupper. These would be accounted able and influential men in any legislative assembly in the world. One would like to see them in their old places in the Dominion Parliament. Nevertheless, the Maritime Province delegation is a highly respectable one. It compares well, man for man, with that from any other section of the Dominion, containing a large proportion as it does of gifted useful men.

The absence of Mr. Blake from the Reform ranks this session is a tremendous loss to that party. The distance between him and the ablest man left on the Reform side is, in point of ability, very great indeed. Laurier is a lovable, ornamental sort of man. Cartwright has a certain sort of ability, but not the ability required for successful leadership.

At first view, the session just begun promises to be a short and uneventful one. It may, however, prove long and critical.

AN UNUSUALLY ABUNDANT CROP

After every general election in Canada the crop that never fails is the election protest crop. But this year the crop seems far above the average. In Ontario and Quebec especially the protests have been coming in thick and fast. More are on the way. Something in the same line has been going on down here by the sea. When the last days allowable for the reception of protests arrive the number will apparently loom up large.

Of course, both parties will be found zealously engaged in this work. A movement on one side naturally provokes one corresponding on the other. If many seats should be declared vacant in the contests to fill them the gains must necessarily be the greater losers. In the general election, they had the benefit of, at least, Mr. Blake's reticence, and of some fibs in the use of his name, resorted to by some of his friends. In the coming contests his celebrated letter will be found operating against them in full force. In the general elections they were animated by the hope of victory on a large scale. In the new isolated contests no such hope can animate them.

But as a general thing, election protesting is but a sorry performance. Commonly it grows out of bad feeling, and bad feeling in politics rarely works well even for those indulging it. Granted, it is important to guard the purity of elections. But the fact is that the number of elections free from all grounds, substantial or technical, on which protests may be based is wonderfully small. The lesson is that reasonable discrimination should be shown in the protesting practice, and careful moderation displayed in pushing it. It was a maxim of the great Cavour that rancor in politics was to be especially eschewed.

THE LIMIT OF FORBEARANCE REACHED.

Most sensible British subjects keeping themselves well posted on the differences between the British and Portuguese governments on the South African question, must have been pleased at the long patience and large forbearance exercised by the former toward the latter. The British people have for ages been friends of the Portuguese. Much British blood and treasure have been expended in defence of Portuguese independence. It would have been unseemly for the British government to have been quick to take offence at the unfriendly action of Portuguese officials. Then, England is one of the greatest powers in the world, and Portugal is one of the weakest. The patience of power with weakness is always commendable and attractive. But there are limits which even weakness is bound to respect. These it seems have been reached by the Portuguese officials in Eastern Africa, and the British government has ordered a squadron of warships, to defend British rights, to the African localities in which they are liable to be violated. Their presence where they may do most good will render blood shedding probably unnecessary. It was, no doubt, time to put an end to the insolence of the Portuguese officials concerned.

The torism of the Salisbury government is softening down wonderfully. It has just issued a commission of enquiry on the labor question, and is about laying before parliament a measure to promote free education. It has indeed been doing excellent work in almost every direction. It has been leaving the region of theory to deal practically with the questions in the concrete.

Scotchmen in the Front Rank.

It has been said with some show of reason, that Scotchmen rule Canada in the domain of politics. The recent Australian convention has also brought out the prominence of men of that nationality at the Antipodes, such important delegates as Hon. William McMillan, treasurer of New South Wales, Hon. James Munro, premier of Victoria, Hon. Duncan Gillies, ex-premier of that colony, Dr. Cockburn, ex-premier of South Australia, Sir Thomas McLivraith of Queensland, and Hon. A. A. Douglas, of Tasmania, all being Scotchmen.

A Remarkable Man.

NEW YORK, April 23.—John Carlin died this morning at his residence, West Twenty-fifth street, at the age of 78 years. Mr. Carlin was born a deaf-mute in Philadelphia in 1813. From a child he showed a taste for art. He was one of the first pupils at the Philadelphia Institution for Deaf Mutes, whose advantages by the time he was 12 years old he had exhausted. His studious and artistic tastes, however, were always incentives to self-improvement and practically he was self-educated. At twenty-five years of age he went to Paris, and there studied art for three years with Delarocche. When he returned to this country Mr. Carlin settled in this city as a miniature painter. As a master of this calling he was most widely known by speaking people. His clients were chiefly among the old Knickerbocker families of this city and prominent people throughout the State. At Washington in the days preceding the war he was on familiar terms with most of the distinguished men of the day. He counted among his friends William H. Seaward, Thurlow Weed, Horace Greeley, Hamilton Fish, and other men of equal prominence. Outside of his profession Mr. Carlin was known also as the deaf-mute poet. In an article in Harper's Magazine, March, 1884, he relates his poetical experience, illustrating some remarks by Edgar E. Poe on the subject. As a child he was very fond of reading Shakespeare and Milton, and in his own way constantly attempting to write poetry. As he grew older he realized that something was wanting. On submitting his effort to literary men he learned that the difficulty arose from his ignorance of rhythm and sound. This difficulty he set himself to overcome. How well he did so is shown in a poem printed in the article entitled "The Deaf Mute's Lament," and beginning I move a silent exile on the earth. Mr. Carlin's interest in deaf-mutes was wide and untiring. He contended against restricting their education to their supposed limited faculties. He was especially earnest in their cultivation of the sciences. For these reasons he was widely known and loved by deaf-mutes both in this country and in Europe. His own house, where he had lived for forty years, was a centre of interest for others afflicted like himself.

Inhuman Slaughter by Chilian Troops.

TAMPACA, April 24.—On the morning of February third, upwards of 3,000 workmen collected at Bazo Almonte to proceed to Iquique and make formal representations respecting the scarcity of provisions. On the following day a train appeared loaded with government troops. Without halting or parleying these troops opened fire on 900 defenceless workmen, women and children. The forces marched forward and killed all the men. After this 890 men were arrested. Of this number 18 were murdered.

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