

Now, in the name of all that is sensible and spirited, let us learn to practise a fair judgment on ourselves, for ourselves, and not receive our good opinions all second-hand from anybody.

Many as have been our hindrances, small as has been our faith, it has at length been conspicuously and demonstratively illustrated, even to ourselves, that God has given us a good country—a country grateful and generous in its requitals for our labour. An honest and independent self-respect will at once and clearly perceive that, as a people we are not deficient in intelligence to avail ourselves of those requitals. What we do need is the self-reliant courage to use the intelligence, and reap the harvest.

Even in the matter of Education in which so many harsh things are said of us and in which it may be truly said we have not done all or nearly all we ought, there are circumstances to be considered which should mitigate the severity of censure. A scattered population, in a new country, with few facilities for inter-communication—short of labour, where, in-door or a-field, the assistance even of children becomes important—where no corps of properly qualified teachers have been available—where systematic teaching and books have been next to impossible—all these are circumstances which offer excuse to every reasonable mind for our defective education. Our schools in cities and towns are rapidly improving; even in the rural districts there are many cheering indications that a better feeling and a better system are beginning to prevail. Our public schools have been placed under competent and liberal supervision; arrangements have been made for regular inspections; uniform class books have been provided and some encouragement is offered to develop pride and emulation in the teacher.

Let any one who entertains an unfavourable opinion of the average and comparative intelligence of the young men of this Province, go through the country and visit the Division-rooms of the Sons of Temperance—he will be surprised and delighted, let me assure him, with the evidence which will meet him in most of those of an intelligent aptitude in applying rules of order and debate, of ability in discussion and in the transaction of business. One of the many advantages of this form of Temperance organization is found in the inducement which it presents to the cultivation of the intellect to qualify the individual for office and influence in the order.

This leads me to remark, that when we regret the imperfection of our common school system, and the too frequent indifference of Provincial parents to the education of their children, we should always accompany the regret with the recollection that while through all our country, since its first settlement, there has always existed an immediate and pressing necessity for the labour of every hand, youthful and adult—while the difficulties of teaching school have always been and still continue serious in our country parishes—the direct advantages of education, the desire for advantages have been obscured by the paucity of books and newspapers, the meanness of our postal accommodations—the absence of those electoral municipal institutions which would offer local honours and rewards to instructed intellect—in a word, that the example, the curiosity, the incentive, have all been wanting; and we need wonder little, if in this case, our people have received more instruction at the plough-tail than in the academy.

All these things are improving now, and we are improving with them. What we have already done offers great encouragement to the public heart—the “glorious inspiration of success,” is abroad on its hopeful embassy, and enterprise is a-foot throughout the Province. The day-dawn of a brighter hope now cheers our industry with the tempting promise of future prosperity, and beckons us to new exertion. While we were yet afar off, and only partially recovered from the humiliation of the swine-husks, the World has seen us, and fallen on our necks and blessed us. We are received, or are about to be received into communion with the wisest and wealthiest countries of Europe and America. Already we seem to hear the prophetic “Ha! ha!” of the iron horse welcoming this Millennium. Capital, labour and productive works are to spirit up our courage and our industry; schools, factories, and churches will multiply abundantly within our borders; our hands will improve in skill, our heads in wisdom, our hearts in manly ambition and contentment.

But bear in mind it is genuine self-respect I want to incite, and no sickly vanity and pride, of which, perhaps, we have over much already. What we want is a public spirit and public confidence which will keep step with every advance of public prosperity. At present we have more prosperity than courage—more pride than independence. As an evidence of this, regard the fact, that while the prosperity of other countries is always taken to be indica-

ted by the increased use of luxuries among the people—by improvements in the character of their food and ourselves sufficient for the achievement of a great success; all we want is confidence in our country and ourselves, and that great success is certain.

Your position, your wealth, your population, your intelligence, give you a commanding influence, not only in the Legislature and the Government, but in the country. By your political weight in the council of the Province, by the character of your Civic Press, by your commercial relations and influence, you can accomplish a vast amount of good in developing this confidence, in generating and distributing a wholesome Provincial patriotism.

Do not, I pray you, call me a mere sentimentalist or visionary, because I talk in this way; there is, believe me, force and power, a motive and propelling power, in sound sentiment. Patriotism makes a man a more useful citizen, as Christianity makes him a better one. No national renown was ever achieved without it. Will Saint John assist in teaching this sentiment to New-Brunswick?

To do so, you must yourselves cultivate and enlarge this Provincial spirit. You must learn to study the general good, even at the expense of your own; you must regard the Province as bigger and better than Saint John; you must keep before you the recollection that God, in his Providence, has made you secure for ever of the great highway which, in our magnificent river, traverses all the length of the Province to bring its wealth to you; that these Railways are to be to you as other rivers flowing down with all the riches of our Northern and Eastern farms and fisheries. Remember this, and that as these interior Counties improve in circumstances the benefit is still assured to you. Remember that if, with large hearted liberality, you exercise your power to increase the area of prosperous industry and happiness within the Province, you will enlarge the circumference of enterprise and wealth, which must flow back upon yourselves. If, on the other hand, you isolate your condition, and selfishly, pursue a policy unfriendly to the general interests of your country, you will narrow the foundations and limit the proportions of your own prosperity.

For patriotic reasons, then—for political reasons—for the reasons suggested by a philosophic and far-seeing selfishness—promote as you may the public weal.

Employ your doubted power for the common good, and with the sense of strength associate the noble impulse of magnanimity—

“It is a glorious thing to have a giant's strength;
’Tis tyrannous to use it like a giant.”

When you rejoice, as you may well and frequently rejoice, in the possession of your metropolitan honors involves a trust and responsibility for which you are and will be held accountable. You stand with one arm stretched out upon the sea, to gather in the trade of distant lands, while the other reaches over the swelling undulations, the far-winding valleys, the flowing rivers, and spreading intervals for our own fair Province, and sweeps to your harvest-home the surplus of domestic industry.

Be bold, be wise, be liberal in your commerce with the world, be just, be generous, be politic, be patriotic in your dealing with your brethren at home.

Learn the true value of your position in the good it enables you to do to yourselves in doing good to your country; and my prayer is, that your good fortune, your good sense, and your good nature may all unite to elevate the character and enhance the fortunes of New-Brunswick.

Above all, and before all, and beyond all, let us with reverend and dutiful gratitude acquit ourselves of our obligations to the Sovereign Governor of the Universe, for that in the beneficent arrangements of His Providence the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places, that He hath allotted us a goodly heritage.

Then, with manly uprightness and courage, we can stand erect in the light of our own unsullied conscience, and in the face of a respectful work. Then, with fearless step, we can go forth to attest and vindicate the respectability of our own character, our willingness and ability to march in time with the animating air of human progress.

FRIDAY'S MAIL.

EUROPE.

From English Papers to 18th December.

THE DIVISION.—The House has just divided, amid a scene such as would be difficult to describe. I went down shortly before one o'clock, just as the Chancellor of the Exchequer was finishing a three hours' speech. He spoke under great excitement, and amidst the cheers of his supporters. I

was informed—for I could not speak of the fact, and I write at least two or three hours before the morning papers are published—that he made a very coarse and ungentlemanly attack on Sir Charles Wood, the late Whig Chancellor of the Exchequer, and that he was hardly less severe on Sir James Graham. He referred to coalition as something that “loomed in the future,” and which would prove to be most disastrous to the best interests of the country. But on this and on the other heads of his speech the morning papers will, of course, be very explicit. Mr Gladstone immediately rose, and, although there was some few calls to “divide,” the right hon member for the University of Oxford and the brother of your townsman, Mr Robertson Gladstone is evidently a favourite with the House.

Mr Gladstone is a man of great power, his reasoning was so strong and consistent, his illustrations so happy, his diction so eloquent and flowing, and his manner, at one moment calm and dignified, at another impassionate and eloquent, that, late as the hour was, he carried the house with him. The applause was not vociferous,—it was a reflex of the speech,—the expression of men who could appreciate the very highest order of forensic eloquence, combined with the most enlarged political philosophy. The peroration disappointed me in force and power, for, although in keeping, it hardly excelled the beautiful and finished address which he delivered to the house,—one of those things which those who listened to it will never forget. The house was densely crowded.

Judging by its appearance, I should have unhesitatingly declared that the Government would have a majority, and naming my impression to a friend, the rejoinder was, “Ah! you forget the members who are not in the House. Depend upon it the Government will be beaten by at least a score. The refreshment rooms, the smoking rooms, the library, are all full of members, who are listening for the division bell.” Mr Gladstone sat down at a quarter-past three. After him rose some Mr Connolly, who was assailed by the most terrific cries of “divide, divide;” but still he proceeded, and several sentences which he uttered were distinctly heard. Nevertheless, as they appeared to be rambling from the question, the indignation of the opposition rose to a high pitch, that as nobody should presume to occupy their time at that hour of the morning and Mr Connolly was literally roared down. It was understood that if any man of mark had followed Mr Gladstone, Lord John Russel would have wound up the debate, but he did not speak. At length, about twenty minutes past three, the question was put, and the “Ayes” and “Noes” contended for the mastery. The members then went into the lobby, to count “noses,” and in exactly half an hour after—at ten minutes to four—the result was announced—Ayes, 286; Noes, 305. Majority against the Government, 19.

“Beaten, by—!” was the exclamation of the editor of a Liberal morning paper, who was just at my elbow.—“They must resign.” “They’ll be in again before a week has elapsed,” was the rejoinder of a gentleman at the head of the leading Ministerial print. “Who, pray, is to take their places,” pursued he; “surely not the rope of sand which you call the Opposition,—composed of the Peelites, the Brass Band, the Whigs, and the Manchester School?” And with this colloquy the parties separated, the one laughing heartily at the result and the other, with great good humour, consoling himself with the belief that the days of a Tory government are over. We shall see.

Just below the gangway, and under the Speaker's gallery, sat Lord Derby, next to him Lord de Warden (a fine, large, grey-headed, and most benevolent-looking old man), and next to his lordship, Mr Sharman Crawford. The Premier paid the most marked attention to Mr Gladstone's speech with his arms occasionally folded across his chest, and looking in a temper the reverse of pleasant. Your member Mr Forbes Mackenzie, with his bald head and his bland, oily presence, was seen frequently flitting across the floor of the house. What account, think you, will he give of his “whipping-in,” after a majority of 19 has declared against his employers? No doubt he did his best; and if any question as to the fact would exist, his having £1200 staked on the issue would be sufficient to dispel such an ungenerous imputation.

As I left the House groups of members were also leaving it. I met one whom I knew, and his impression was that on Monday the Ministry would come down to the House and tender their resignations. He attributed the result entirely to Lord Derby “snubbing” the Irish liberal members: But for that, he said, the Ministry would have a majority. I ought to state that he does not belong to the Emerald Isle but represents a borough in the Midland Counties,—so that his opinions on this

point has, at least, no self-glorification in it. It must be taken for what it is worth.

Half-past Four p. m.—To-day considerable excitement has prevailed respecting the division of this morning, involving as it does, the resignation of the Government. Ministers met about noon, and after sitting an hour Earl Derby returned to his house in St. James's street, and before going to Osborne a telegraphic message was sent from the Admiralty to the naval authorities requesting them to have a steamer in attendance on the arrival of his lordship at Gosport. What, “looms in the future” time only can develop; but every one is inclined to regard Mr Disraeli's budget as a great and ridiculous failure—made more so by the secrecy in which it was involved and the high expectations which it raised in every quarter.

The Standard of to-night takes exactly the same view of the division as the one already referred to in another communication by a Liberal member of Parliament, to whom I alluded immediately after the house broke up. “The division list,” says the Evening Conservative organ, “has come into our hands, and from it we learn that the ‘Brigade’ has won the battle. The Irish members who voted were 82 in all; of these 52 voted in opposition, and 30 with Ministers.”

There is, of course, plenty of food for conjecture in the Ministerial interregnum, which is certain to follow the present crisis. In the existing state of parties there are only two alternatives,—either a coalition Ministry, or the re-organization of the Government, which tumbled to pieces this morning.—*Correspondence of the European Times.*

From France there is nothing important. Napoleon sits triumphant, and firmly upon the Throne. Three of the French Journals have published articles vindicating his right to the title of Napoleon III.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

FIRE.—About half past 6 o'clock on Sunday evening, a fire broke out in the double house in Mecklenburgh-street, occupied on the one side by Mr James Bustia, and on the other by Mr E. M. Hoyt. The flames spread with great rapidity, and as some time elapsed before the alarm was given, and a supply of water could be obtained, the building was completely gutted, and also seriously injured on the outside. Our City firemen exerted themselves with their usual energy, and thus confined the fire to the premises in which it occurred. The Portland Company, No. 1, came over to render assistance, and having placed their engine in a commanding situation, rendered most efficient service.—The building was owned by the estate of the late Mr Longmaid, and was uninsured. Mr Bustia lost a considerable portion of his furniture. The fire is supposed to have originated from a stove-pipe.

The Bermuda Herald of Dec. 20, says that the French frigate L'Armide, which lately left that island, had thrown ten men overboard who had died of fever. The surgeon of the vessel also died.—*St. John New-brunswick, Jan. 4.*

We have been kindly furnished by the Parish Clerk with the proceedings of the meeting for the election of Councillors and Parish Officers for the Parish of Woodstock, held in the Hall of the Institute on Tuesday last. The Resolutions speak for themselves, and loudly too, setting forth that the people of Woodstock are able and willing to manage their own affairs.

This is what we call true legitimate reform. We do not believe in the Legislature forcing measures like these upon the people before they are willing or prepared to receive them—but when required they should be granted. We fought hard in favor of the Municipal act, and now that a charter has been accepted, and the principle has undergone a trial, we find even its former enemies in favor of it, and the people are prepared and willing to go further. Carleton is certainly in advance of all the other Counties in the province, and we see no reason why the Legislature will not assist them on still further, by granting what they now require; if other Counties do not wish to be included in these measures of reform, Carleton can go on her way alone.

We may here state that the 2nd resolution was adopted under the conviction that Woodstock, as the law now is, would not be likely to receive a fair share of the road and School Money, if granted to the County in gross: a division of the parish, or a representation according to the number of inhabitants would render action on this resolution unnecessary.—*Carleton Sentinel.*

WESLEYAN ACADEMY.—Mount Allison, Sackville. From an account of the recent examination of this Institution, furnished to the Halifax Wesleyan by the Rev. Principal, we learn (says the Courier) that the number of Students in attendance during the term has been considerably greater than the corresponding one of any previous year. The total number of names on the