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## THE TIMES.

Quoth the *Toronto Mail*, "No honest Reformer can review the past five years without feelings of indignation and contempt. Parliamentary control over contracts, the independence of Parliament, purity in elections, economy, every principle of administration has been violated; while the idea of governing the country from a purely national standpoint is scouted with abuse which is often as ignorant as it is malignant." That is strong language; but will the *Mail* tell us who the "honest Reformer" is, or what he is like? And when we have found him, may he not be invited to look a little farther back and beyond the period of five years? And may not the "honest Reformer" be also invited to give us his opinion of the prospects for the next five years? Ordinary mortals, who care little about parties and much about the country, are getting somewhat bewildered over all this fussing and fuming of the papers. Names are being appropriated in a marvellous way. The Conservatives are earnestly declaring that they are not Conservative at all. First they became Liberal-Conservative, and we were invited to believe that they held and represented, and would carry into active politics, all that was good of both parties. They said: Gentlemen, are you Liberals?—we are your friends. Are you Conservative?—shake hands. Are you Ultramontane?—bless you. Are you Orangemen?—good boys. And now our versatile friends are posing as the Reformers of the day. Well, perhaps they are. Certain it is they have long been penitent—served, in fact, five years in the political penitentiary at Ottawa.

But men sometimes merely change their evils, and call that reformation. Parties may do the same; and we want to be quite sure that the party which follows the lead of Sir John A. Macdonald is not only penitent but converted, taking a better, because clearer and juster view of its duty. At the meetings to be held in Toronto for the advocacy of a National Policy for Canada, will Sir John tell us what he means clearly and definitely; how he proposes to legislate for Ontario and Nova Scotia, and if he did not suggest a 35 per cent. tariff at Strathroy, what he did suggest, and how he would make his National Policy work? There is a good deal of haziness in our politics, and it would do us good to know that our leaders are sure of their whereabouts. We hear their voices always, and when the fog breaks can see the speakers, but we do not see things clearly. The protective tariff wants defining,

Both parties are making desperate efforts to secure a majority in the coming election—the Conservatives—as it seems—displaying the most earnestness and speaking with the most confidence. Mr. Langevin has given up hopes of again carrying Charlevoix, and has decided to offer himself to the electors of Rimouski, in place of Dr. Fissette. His brother is Bishop there, and will, of course, render some clerical help. Last Sunday week Mr. Langevin held a meeting outside the church, after service, and triumphantly proved cases of bribery and corruption against the party at present in power. Dr. Fissette got up and said, "You're another," and proved it, too. And the poor electors and non-electors were sorely puzzled. They first believed that Codlin was the friend, and then felt sure it must be Short. On the whole, the chances are in favour of Dr. Fissette—and, if the elections prove the prediction correct, Mr. Langevin will be a disappointed man—also—his brother, the Bishop.

Mr. Tilley returns to active life with a deep sense of the importance of that life, and his own place in it. His reception at St. John, N.B., was enthusiastic, and so was the speech he gave on the occasion. It was a time of general rejoicing. Mr. Tilley rejoiced to be free once again from the burdens of Lieutenant-Governorship—he rejoiced "to meet the people and commune with them." He thanked the press for kindnesses received—cleared his own past from the imputations of Mr. Mackenzie, to the effect that he had sat and voted in the House of Commons with his commission as Lieutenant-Governor in his pocket, and from the charges that he had been a partizan Governor; and then

Mr. Tilley indulged in a slashing criticism of Mr. Cartwright's fiscal policy. It really looks as if the Conservatives will make a clear gain by the return of Mr. Tilley. He talks well and sensibly, and seems in no way afraid to face and examine his own past public life.

On the whole, both political parties may be congratulated on the fact that a better tone prevails in the speeches given. There is a sensible decrease in the amount of personal abuse and bitterness. That is a good sign, and if our daily papers will copy the example it will be better still. Violent language is always foolish and hurtful. Let us have criticism and fault-finding, and argument and counter-argument, but personal abuse is bad—always everywhere bad. Besides—neither party can afford to indulge in it—for both parties live in glass houses.

There is some reason for the talk that is going, as to the effect upon the trade of Montreal, of the action of Mayor Beaudry and his pet lambs on the 12th of July. It is true—"and pity 'tis 'tis true"—that many houses in Ontario and elsewhere are refusing to deal further with Montreal. This is as foolish as it is unjust; it is to punish the innocent for the sins of the guilty. The industrious part of the community—Protestant and Catholic alike—are opposed to the scandalous doings of the mob-leading Mayor—but with Ontario, politically separated from it—lending it little or no help against the tyrant majority, poor Montreal has to bear the burden of Roman Ecclesiasticism. This attempt to turn business away from the city will make the burden heavier, at least for a time, and display only childishness on the part of those who do it.

We add our congratulations to those of our contemporaries, at the appointment of the Marquis of Lorne as our next Governor-General. We regard it as an evidence of the great interest which England takes in the welfare of Canada, and we trust that our highest hopes and good wishes may be realized. The Marquis will have such an opportunity placed within his reach as has probably never fallen to the lot of a Viceroy before; for the Royal lady, his wife, we hold already the most unquestionable love and affection, which nothing can alienate or bedim for one moment; but let us not

"Wear our loyalty on our sleeves, for daws to peck at;"

let it remain spontaneous and from the deepest recesses of our hearts. We think there is just a fear to be expressed that our loyalty may degenerate into snobbism and lip-service. We may very well leave the presentation of sleighs, harness and such very small potatoes until we have the Marquis and his consort amongst us, when we may best show how much we love them, and how highly we prize the parentage whence we have sprung, by "quitting ourselves like men."

The appointment of the Marquis of Lorne will be very popular in Canada, if for no other reason than because it indicates a new departure in English politics. When the British Government is willing that one of the Royal Princesses shall join in the serious duty of presiding over a Colony, it has given the best proof possible of its belief in the organic unity of the Empire. With such a hand of Court cards it would have been folly not to play one out. Royal personages are useful, in spite of Republican cant, and when we get our Princess at Ottawa, we shall be the proudest people on this Continent, and the envy of all our cousins in the South. They will be sorry they ever rebelled against her good old great-grandfather.

All were agreed that England had undertaken a great responsibility by entering into an alliance with Turkey; that to bring about something like good order in Turkey in Asia; to put a stop to the systematic pillage carried on by the Governors; to put down the marauding tribes of robbers; to see that Christians were fairly treated in the courts of justice, and in a general way to stop the misrule and waste for which the Porte has hitherto been responsible, was to incur a responsibility before which any nation might well pause. But this was all a mistake, as it now turns out. That great political prophet of these latter days, who so grandly and confidently commands the future, the Gartered Earl of Beaconsfield, tells us we were all wrong, for in the nature of things there must be a war between Russia and Turkey again in a few years, and the alliance with Turkey will make England's way clear—she must go in and blaze away at Russia to defend Asia Minor.