

THE ONTARIO ELECTIONS.

On Tuesday, March 21st, the second general election under confederation was held in the Province of Ontario. The Province, the largest in point of population, and the second as regards territory, is apparently bound to be foremost in all that affects the working of the, as yet, new constitution. It was first to summon its Local Legislature; it is the only Province which has ventured to trust the law-making power to a single chamber, led by a responsible executive; and it must be said, measuring the venture by the result, that it has, up to this time, proved very successful. The elections were held at the earliest moment after the close of the fourth and last session of the first Legislature. They were also held under a new and most stringent election law; stringent as against bribery, treating, and intimidation, and also in respect of their being completed in one day, and all on the same day. These last provisions both militate very strongly against what may be called election *finesse* or generalship, but as they impartially affect all parties, only those who have been wilfully remiss can suffer by their operation. We fear, however, that their ultimate tendency will be to bring the elections more and more under the control of the professional politicians, to bring the direction of public opinion on political questions within the guidance of a couple of coteries, as in the United States, where the disappearance of healthy public sentiment is a matter of very general regret. Should this consequence follow it will be the fault of the people themselves, many of whom so foolishly shrug their shoulders at election times and declare that they do not care how the contest goes. Happily at present there need be no great anxiety on that score, but the day may come when those who have lazily, or from motives meaner even than laziness, shirked their electoral duties, will have cause to regret it. If men would regard the exercise of the franchise not as a right nor a privilege, but as a duty imposed upon them in virtue of their citizenship, and vote solely with a view to their country's good, there would be little occasion for the complaint, so frequently made that political contests are conducted in the interests of individuals without regard to the public. In Ontario it is generally conceded that the recent election was very fairly conducted, though there are, of course, several seats to be contested. Public opinion is very active and very independent in that Province, and it will be well should it always remain so.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature in these Ontario elections is that both parties claim the victory. Until the meeting of the Legislature, therefore, when one of them must suffer a shock to its calculations, they will have the pleasure on both sides of feeling that the country is on their side. The following summary of estimates of the result may not be unworthy of remembrance:

The *Toronto Globe*, omitting Algoma where the election does not take place until a couple of weeks hence, gives Opposition 41; Ministerial 32; Independent 8.

The *Toronto Leader*, counting Algoma as certain for the Government, gives Ministerialists 45; Opposition 35; Independent 2.

The *Toronto Telegraph* gives substantially the same classification, except that it puts the Opposition at 33, and the Independents at 4.

Going outside of Toronto the Ministerial and Opposition journals follow very nearly the lists laid down by their Metropolitan contemporaries, so that while it may be said that the Opposition claim a majority of two or three, the Ministerialists profess to have a majority ranging from six to a dozen. Time will tell.

CONSECRATION OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF QUEBEC.

The consecration of the newly appointed Archbishop of Quebec took place on Sunday, the 19th March, in the presence of nine Bishops, about two hundred priests, and six thousand of the laity. From the very full and carefully prepared report of the *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, we extract the following account of the ceremony:

"One of the most august ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church is the consecration of a Bishop. The essential rite by which the power of the Episcopacy is communicated, is the imposition of hands, with prayer; but the preparatory examination,—the delivery of the emblems of pastoral authority, and the various other ceremonies—form a whole, which is at once splendid and impressive, but in the words of the illustrious Archbishop Kenrick:

"Those who regard it as an idle display are strangers to its nature and meaning."

"According to the rules of the Church, it is exacted that, when possible, at least three Bishops should assist at the ceremonial. Nevertheless, it is admitted that one Bishop is competent to the full and perfect conferring of the rite. Yesterday, the ceremony of the consecration of the Revd. Elzéar Alexander Taschereau as Archbishop of Quebec, took place in the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception of Quebec, with all the pomp and ceremony of the Roman Ritual, and nowhere, perhaps, outside of St. Peter's itself, is the Ritual more gorgeously elaborated than within the walls of the Church we have named—the oldest Cathedral Church, we believe, in North America. The consecration of a Bishop must take place on a Sunday or the Feast of an Apostle.

Yesterday was deemed by His Grace the Archbishop-elect as a peculiarly appropriate occasion for his consecration. It was a Sunday, but it was moreover, the first occurrence of the Feast recently proclaimed by the Pope in honour of St. Joseph, under whose special patronage he has placed the Church throughout the world, and which has been decreed a Feast of the first class. The ceremony of consecration was performed by His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto, Doctor Lynch, and the Assistant Bishops were Doct^r Horan, Bishop of Kingston; and Doctor Larocque, Bishop of St. Hyacinthe.

"The consecrator was attended by Very Rev. Mr. Cazeau as Archdeacon, and Rev. Messrs. Buteau of St. Anne's, and Lagace of the Normal School, as Deacons of Honour. The Deacon and Sub-deacon of the Mass were Rev. Messrs. Godbout of the Cathedral, and Coté of the Seminary. Rev. Mr. Laliberté, of the Archbishop's Palace, acted as Notary Apostolic and Master of Ceremonies.

"The other Bishops present were: Doctors Bourget of Montreal; Guignes of Ottawa; DesGroses Briand of Burlington, (Vermont, U. S.); Farrell of Hamilton; Langevin of Rimouski; and Laféche of Three Rivers. Amongst the other clergymen present we noticed Rev. Messrs. Mailloux, Proulx, McGauran, Rousseau, Hamelin, D. Racine, Langevin, Resther, Sullivan, Durocher, Lobergan, LeMoine, Kilroy.

"His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by Major Taschereau, A. D. C., occupied the principal seat in front of the sanctuary rails. The French Consul-General occupied a prominent position, as well as the Professors of Laval University, who were in full academic costume. Among others present were the Judges of the different Courts, members of the Legislative Council and Assembly, Judge Maguire, of New Carlisle, a large number of officers of the Volunteer force, the representatives of the city press and of the *Canadian Illustrated News*, Sheriff Taschereau, &c., &c.

"The scene presented on entering the sacred edifice was truly grand. Over the High Altar and around the Sanctuary was draped in scarlet and gold. This, with the magnificent altar furniture and carpeting of the sanctuary, produced an effect difficult to describe to those who were not present. Surmounting all were the Papal arms, having on either side the flags of Great Britain and France.

"Contrary to the custom usual on these occasions, however, there was no drapery in the nave, and this we are informed was in order not to interrupt the view of the sanctuary from the galleries and organ loft. Near the railing on the gospel side was a temporary altar for the use of the Elect, and on a credence table were placed the offerings he was to make to the Consecrator, and which consisted of two tapers, two small barrels of wine and two loaves of bread. This is a relic of ancient discipline—when all the faithful were accustomed to present at mass various offerings for the support of the clergy. The next object that challenged attention was the magnificently carved Archiepiscopal throne, which is a gem in its way. The procession entered the Church about half-past nine, and passing the Chapel of the Holy Family, returned through the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin, passing through the main entrance to the Sanctuary, where each clergyman took the seat assigned to him.

"The Consecrator after being vested, seated himself with his attendants in front of the altar, where the Elect wearing his biretta was led to him by the Assistant Bishops; after saluting the Consecrator they seated themselves, the senior assistant on the right and the junior on the left of the Elect. After a pause their mitres were removed, and all rising the senior assistant addressed the Consecrator as follows:

"Most Reverend Father, our Holy Mother the Catholic Church, requires of you to raise this Priest here present to the burdensome office of a Bishop."

"The Consecrator—Have you the Apostolic commission.

"Ans.—We have.

"Consec.—Let it be read.

"The document was then presented to the Apostolic Notary by the Assistant Bishop and read, at the conclusion of which the Consecrator said "Thanks be to God."

"The Oath of Office was then taken by the Elect, and is as follows:—

"I, Elzéar Alexander, elect of the Church of Quebec, will be from this hour henceforward obedient to blessed Peter the Apostle, and to the Holy Roman Church, and to the most blessed Father Pope Pius and to his successors canonically chosen. (a) I will assist them to retain and defend against any man whatever, the Roman Popedom, without prejudice to my rank. (b) I will take care to preserve, defend, and promote the rights, honours, privileges, and authority of the Holy Roman Church, of the Pope, and of his successors, as aforesaid. With my whole strength I will observe the rules of the Holy Fathers, the decrees, ordinances, or dispositions, and mandates of the Apostolic See. (c) When called to a synod I will come, unless I be prevented by a canonical impediment. I will personally visit the Apostolic See once every ten years, and render an account to our most blessed Father Pius and his successors aforesaid, of my whole pastoral office, and of every thing in any way appertaining to the state of my Church, to the discipline of the clergy and people, and to the salvation of the souls entrusted to my care, and I will humbly receive in return the Apostolic mandates, and most diligently execute them. But if I be prevented by a lawful impediment, I will perform all the things aforesaid by a certain messenger specially authorized for this purpose, a Priest of tried virtue and piety, well instructed on all the above subjects.

"I will not sell, nor give away, nor mortgage, enfeoff, anew nor in any way alienate the possessions belonging to my table, (d) without the leave of the Roman Pontiff. And should I proceed to any alienation of them, I am willing to contract, by the very fact, the penalties specified in the Constitution published on this subject." (e)

"The foregoing formulary having been recited, the Consecrator holding with both his hands the book of the Gospels open on his lap, the Elect who was still kneeling before him touched the sacred book with both hands and said: "So may God help me, and these Holy Gospels of God," at which the Consecrator said: "Thanks be to God."

"The following comments on the foregoing oath are from the pen of an eminent Divine, and we think it well to the proper understanding of it to give them:

"(a) *Canonice intrantibus*. The canonical entrance into office by regular election, in conformity with the sacred canons, is the ground of the Pontiff's claim to obedience; and his authority is exercised in the just and equitable spirit of the Canons.

"(b) *Salvo meo ordine*. This exception is worthy of attention. In supporting the privileges of the Pontiff, the Bishop

does not forgo any of the rights of his order, or pledge himself to any act inconsistent with his office.

"(c) The various decrees, mandates, or other enactments here referred to, are such as are strictly within the limits of the ecclesiastical authority.

"(d) *Mensa* means the provision for the support of the Bishop, especially the revenues, or real estate appropriated for that purpose. The actual incumbent is not allowed to dispose of this property or to encumber it to the prejudice of his successor. This clause, however, has little reference to us, as we have not ecclesiastical benefices.

"(e) The penalties are ecclesiastical censures, inflicted by a Papal decree on such as alienate Church property contrary to the Canons."

The Elect and his assistants then seated themselves, and the Consecrator proceeded to examine the Elect on the principal articles of faith, and the questions having been duly answered the Mass was proceeded with, and the prescribed ceremonies for the consecration of a Bishop having been performed and the Mass concluded, the officiating Archbishop, Mgr. Lynch, of Toronto, intoned the *Te Deum*, which was sung by the choir, the newly consecrated Archbishop, attended by the Assistant Bishops, in the meantime, passing through the Church and administering his benediction to the assembled congregation. It is at this stage of the service that our artist took the sketch which is copied on another page. The sermon, a most impressive one, was preached by His Lordship the Bishop of Rimouski. Of the music the *Chronicle* says:

"The musical portion of the service, Haydens' 16th Mass, was under the management of the able organist of the Cathedral, Mr. Ernest Gagnon, and consisted of a full choir, numbering at least 200 voices, including the members of the Musical Union. The instrumental parts were played by Messrs. Lavigne, Lavigner, Pare and other amateur musicians. The *Gloria in Excelsis* and *Credo* were given with great effect and power. Mr. Gagnon deserves special credit for the perfect and uniform training of this voluntary choir. At the offertory the orchestra with most brilliant effect played Mendelssohn's Priests' March."

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

SENATE.

Monday, March 20.—The Act for the Extension of the Church of England Synod to New Brunswick, and the Revenue Collection Corrupt Practices Bill were read a second time, after which the House adjourned.

Tuesday, March 21.—After some conversation relating to the entry of British Columbia into the Dominion, the Revenue Collection Corrupt Practices Prevention Bill was passed through committee.

Wednesday, March 22.—On motion of Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL the House adjourned as a mark of sympathy for the Speaker in the severe affliction that had overtaken him in the loss of his daughter.

No sessions of the Senate were held on Thursday and Friday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 20.—Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER, after expressing a hope that the House would be enabled to adjourn by Easter, moved for a double Saturday sitting, and also to grant Government measures precedence after half-past seven on Thursdays. Some minor matters then occupied the attention of the House, after which the following Bills passed their second reading: Mr. Harrison's Bill relating to the Stamp Duty on Notes given to Mutual Insurance Companies, which also passed through committee; the Bank Bill; the Bill to amend the Fishery Act; the Independence of Parliament Bill; and the Bill to extend the provisions of the Militia Act to Manitoba and British Columbia. In reference to the latter Act, Sir GEORGE CARTIER read a letter from Mr. Reade, Registrar of Her Majesty's Government, expressing very great approbation of the Canadian Militia Act. The House then went into committee and passed the items under the following heads:—Penitentiaries, \$289,634, excepting Directors of Penitentiaries, \$9,000; Lighthouse and Coast Services, \$303,697; Fisheries, Marine Police, \$70,000; Cutting Timber, \$73,400; Steamboat Inspection, \$8,500; Indians, \$8,100; Miscellaneous, \$584,900. The last item under this head, the vote of \$400 for opening up communication with the North-West, provoked a lengthy discussion, in the course of which Sir George E. Cartier took occasion to allude to the injudicious article in *Blackwood*. The items for the Collection of the Revenue were passed formally, it being understood that the discussion on these would be taken up on the concurrence. Committee then rose and reported and the House adjourned at 11.30.

Tuesday, March 21.—The Currency Assimilation and Fenian Raid Indemnity Bills were read a third time and passed, Mr. BLAKE taking occasion on the latter of paying a high tribute to the courage and promptitude of the volunteers. Hon. Mr. MORAN moved concurrence in the resolutions to exempt paraffine, wax, grease, etc., from excise duties, and also to reduce the excise duties in Manitoba to rates proportionate to those levied on customs. The resolutions were adopted, and a bill in accordance introduced. Sir F. HICKS moved concurrence in the resolutions of the Committee of Supply. The various items were passed with more than the usual amount of objections and explanations, a lively skirmish—in the course of which the SPEAKER was several times obliged to call the House to order—taking place between the Ontario and Nova Scotia members relative to a subsidy to a steamboat line between Halifax and St. John. The House adjourned at 12.40.

Wednesday, March 22.—Mr. TREMBLAY introduced a bill to provide for voting by ballot. The Bill to amend the Customs Act received its second reading and passed through committee. On the motion for the third reading, Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved in amendment that it be referred back to committee for the purpose of repealing the duties on coal, wheat, and flour. It was stated on behalf of the Government that they would be guided by the sense of the House, and after a long discussion the amendment was carried by 83 to 54.

YEAS.—Anglin, Barthe, Beaty, Beaubien, Bechard, Benoit, Blake, Blanchet, Bolton, Bourassa, Brousseau, Bowman, Burpee, Caron, Cartwright, Cheval, Chipman, Currier, Coffin, Coupal, Crawford, [Leeds] Cimon, Delorme, Dufresne, Ferris, Forbes, Fortier, Fournier, Gait, Gaudet, Geoffroy, Gendron,