

since 1712, when the Whig majority in the House of Lords was swamped by the creation of twelve Tory peers, thus bringing the House of Lords into harmony from the standpoint of party, with the Commons. Sections 26 and 27 provide for a limited application to the Canadian Senate of the mode by which the British House of Lords is, when necessary, brought into harmony with the House of Commons.

Senators, under s.-s. 26 and 27, must be appointed in equal numbers from Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces respectively.

About 1877 the Queen refused to appoint additional Senators under section 26. The despatch from the British Government on the subject stated that: Her Majesty could not be advised to take the responsibility of interfering with the constitution of the Senate, except on an occasion when it had been made apparent that a difference had arisen between the two houses of so serious and permanent a character that the Government could not be carried on without the intervention and when it could be shown that the limited creation of Senators allowed by the Act would apply an adequate remedy.

## CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

THE *Youth's Companion* continues a weekly pleasure in every household where it appears. Not only are the stories stirring and interesting, but they possess a sensible strain often sadly lacking in children's stories. The management is to be congratulated on the articles they furnish from noted people. The medical hints on the last page are of great value.

MRS. RITCHIE'S fascinating chapters from some unwritten memoirs are being reproduced in *Littell's Living Age*. The issue of the 22nd October contains allusions to the English Humorist readings, and two letters from Carlyle. "How to Drive Home Rule Home" (*Fortnightly Review*) and "The Statesmen of Europe" (*Leisure Hour*) are among the valuable articles in this number.

THE *Toronto Saturday Night* announces in its last issue the arrangements for a Christmas number. The illustrations and supplements are said to be particularly fine by those who have seen them. The excellence of the stories promised is attested by such well known names as George Parsons Lathrop, Julian Hawthorne, John Habberton and Octave Thanet. Edmund E. Shepard is to contribute a story of Mexican life; the only other Canadian contributor is Miss Ida Burwash. This is an entirely new venture for Canada, and we heartily wish it the success it deserves.

THE *Dominion Illustrated Monthly* announces an attractive Christmas number to be ready the end of November. Besides the all-important supplements, Canadian authors such as Charles G. D. Roberts, Prof. Le Moine and J. Macdonald Oxley will be contributors. We bespeak for the number a hearty welcome.

THE October number of the *Century* completes another year. Three important series of articles and Miss Foote's serial are brought to a conclusion. Many a rich treat is promised for next year, including continued stories by Mrs. Burton Harrison and Wolcott Balestier. To the present number Archibald Forbes contributes a paper on "What I Saw of the Paris Commune."

"A FAMILIAR Talk on Books and Reading" is a valuable paper by Prof. C. F. Richardson in the *Sunday School Times* of October 22nd. Mrs. Merrill E. Gates contributes a short but fine article on the "Nearest Way to the Celestial City." Mrs. Crafts has a paper on the "Kindergarten and the Sunday School." "Worth Repeating" still flourishes among the advertisements.

"PAYNE'S History of America" receives the leading review in the *Critic* of October 22nd. It is rather a serious issue, dealing almost exclusively with Theological and Scientific works. But there are many fine