

ing them very busy, he started to walk towards the Senators' Gallery of the House of Commons. An instant afterwards we heard a heavy fall, and someone called to us, "Senator Kaulbach is dying." We found him in his last agony on the floor of the corridor. Before a doctor could be summoned he was dead. The fact was known at once throughout the building, yet so great was the excitement over the approaching termination of the Parliament that not one of the hundreds who were waiting a few yards away for the opening of the doors of the Commons galleries came to see or help the dying Senator.

The remark has often been made that within three or four years after a change of government in all probability the two political parties will be evenly balanced in the Senate. That depends, however, on circumstances. You cannot always be sure of a Senator. There have been cases of conversion in the Red Chamber, not always the result of persuasive argument. One such instance was that of the late Mr. Wilmot, who was subsequently appointed Governor of New Brunswick. He was a Liberal at the time of his appointment to the Senate. He left it a staunch Conservative, and the change of heart is said to have occurred in this wise. He was the owner of a fertile island in the Saint John River, at a place known as the Oromocto Shoals. In an evil day for his party Premier Mackenzie undertook to improve the navigation of the river at that point. The dam at the shoals was so constructed that it turned the current directly against the head of the Senator's island, and began to wash it away. Each season saw the island growing smaller and beautifully less. Mr. Wilmot expostulated with the engineer, then complained to the Department, and finally brought the matter up in the Senate, but without avail. The Department stood by its engineer, and Mr. Wilmot's vote ceased to be counted on the Liberal side. What

has happened once may happen again; history has a way of repeating itself.

It is surprising how reputations made in the local legislatures fade away in the larger arena of the Dominion Parliament. It does not follow that because a man is a Triton in the provincial pool he will be anything more formidable than a sardine in the Dominion sea. Several instances in point could be mentioned, but one will serve as an illustration: Prior to 1896 Sir Oliver Mowat, as Premier of Ontario, was the most conspicuous personality in his Province. His popularity was great, his influence far-reaching, and his judgment was regarded as well-nigh infallible. The brilliant success of the Liberal party in the election of 1896 was no doubt largely due to the use of Sir Oliver's name in connection with that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. After the change of Government Sir Oliver became Minister of Justice, and was appointed to the Senate, of which he became the leader. I think it will be admitted that a more conscientious and capable head of a department could not be found, but Sir Oliver was never in his element in the Upper House, and as its leader he was a conspicuous failure. For nearly a quarter of a century he had led a majority in the local legislature. His party had unbounded confidence in his judgment and obeyed his every wish. In the Senate he found himself at the head of the minority, with men thoroughly versed in federal affairs and with large experience of Dominion legislation opposing him, and he never succeeded in adapting himself to his new environment. His prestige rapidly waned, and ere long the Opposition in the Senate treated him with a sort of good-natured tolerance that was more fatal to his reputation and influence than the fiercest criticism. He introduced on one occasion a Bill to amend the Criminal Code; it was riddled by the Opposition and finally withdrawn for repairs. When