

"ascendant, but every man of sense perceives that if the faction fight continues to rage much longer it will bring disaster on the country." Such is the account given of Canadian parties by a writer who owes his influence chiefly to his having been systematically toadied for years by the Conservative press, while laboring to the utmost of his power to prepare the people for revolution.

The United States do not fare much better. We are told: "Thus in the United States, the death of party as a connection, sustained by distinctive principle, and the survival of mere faction seem to be in sight." In England it is said that "neither combination nor connection, in any moral or rational sense of the term, has anything to do with a system of government which perpetually sets up the great offices of state as the prizes of a contest between two organized factions, to one of which each citizen is bound to adhere, owing to his party an allegiance in fact higher than that which he owes to his political conscience or to the State." Having doubtless to his own entire satisfaction established his first position that party is faction, and that all free governments are necessarily party governments, the great forecaster of the future proceeds to point out his remedies for the existing evils.

We cannot enter into their discussion at any length. The Queen and the President of the United States are both to be abolished, and of course a Governor-General would no longer have a Crown to represent. The Executive is to be a Council elected by the Legislature, which is to consist of a single chamber. We shall spare the feelings of the Senators of the Dominion, and abstain from quoting what the favorite of the Toronto Conservatives says of them. They at all events are to be extinguished. The single chamber is not to be elected by the people, but by local assemblies, and the elections to the central legislature, "party being out of the way," ought to be by instalments, which would "prevent cataclysms such as now attend general elections." The Executive Councillors are to be elected for specific terms, and also the members of the central legislature, so that there would be an end to the ministerial prerogative of dissolution, "which has run into grave abuse, and may run into graver abuse still." The present system is we are assured by the forecaster "government by and for the wire pullers, not by or for the people." Representation of minorities is "a torpid compromise." The number of the central legislature must be limited. No matter how large

the population, "deliberation is impossible in a Parliament of six hundred or a thousand members." Two hundred is the precise number that can possibly "counsel together," so that the believers in forecast have the assurance of the precise number that will sit in the future Legislatures of Europe and America.

We are told that with such a mode of election to the central legislature it will be safe and moreover politic "to combine a widely extended suffrage." There is no real danger in "universal suffrage." All the imagined danger has been caused by "party government and direct elections." It is intimated that "an educated qualification is not odious." "Writing ought hardly to be required," but an applicant for registration ought to be able to read. The ladies, however, are not in the good graces of the great forecaster. He has already, he states in a note, given his views on female suffrage in an article in *Macmillan's Magazine*. There is a little difficulty not at all formidable to the projector as to the powers of the Executive Council. Nothing is needed in ordinary times but "a titular President of the Executive Council to represent the commonwealth on occasions of state." But then times of internal disturbance or of foreign war may arise, and "a provision might easily be framed enabling the Legislature in case of great public peril to confer on the Executive Council increased authority for a limited time, somewhat after the fashion of the Roman dictatorship, which worked well enough during the healthy period of the republic." It is certainly a novel idea to confer dictatorial power on an Executive Council. We have both ancient and modern history to inform us of the results of entrusting power to individuals, and we know how speedily the First Napoleon got rid of his associates in the Consulship.

We have been assured by Mr. Goldwin Smith on former occasions that it is "to renounce statesmanship" and an act of "flagrant improvidence" "to assume the permanence of the present system" after the solemn warning of the great forecaster of the future, and we have the same high authority for the dictum that "to tax forecast with revolutionary designs or tendencies is absurd." We must, if we have any faith in Mr. Goldwin Smith, believe that revolution is imminent in Great Britain, the United States and Canada, and that all the leading statesmen in those countries, who assume the permanence of the systems which exist, are guilty of "flagrant improvidence, and have renounced statesmanship." Our opinion of Mr. Goldwin Smith as a most dangerous

revolutionist has been frequently expressed, and we should be glad if some of his admirers, whether Conservatives or Revolutionists, would endeavor to establish his consistency.

**SALE OF THE Q. M. O. & O. RAILWAY.**—It is now generally understood that the portion of the Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa & Occidental Railway between Ottawa and Montreal has been sold to the Canadian Pacific Railway syndicate for \$4,000,000. The sale includes the works in this city and the properties included in the Quebec Gate Barracks. These will probably form the site of the grand passenger and freight depot of the Company. The workshops of the remaining portion of the road from Montreal to Quebec will be rebuilt at the latter city, and it is further understood that the Dominion Government will bear the expense of a first-class ferry service from Quebec to Levis. The North Shore branch is retained by the local Government who reserve the right to run their cars from St. Martin's, (some 7 miles distant) to Montreal over the present road free of charge, and are to have the use of the depot here as far as may be demanded by their business. The arrangements and conditions surrounding the purchase cannot fail to be of considerable importance to the people of Montreal east and west, as well as to the country at large. Mr. Chapleau and his co-laborers cannot be accused of neglecting the interests of their fellow country men, while the new treasurer will have a better filled cash-box.

#### MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

The Midland Railway Company intend to erect at Belleville next summer an elevator, similar in size to that in Midland, at a cost of \$100,000. The engineers are said to be in Belleville selecting a site.

An effort is being made to organize a joint stock company, with a capital of \$80,000, to establish a paper mill at Kingston Mills. The water power and facilities for shipping at Kingston Mills are perhaps unsurpassed in Canada.

A company of which Col. A. A. Stevenson, Senator Ogilvie, Mr. H. Shackell, and other Montreal capitalists whose names have not been made public, are members, has been organized for the establishment of a paper mill at Lindsay, Ont. The conditions agreed to include exemption from taxation for ten years, with renewal for another period. The company will carry on the manufacture of straw board, mill board and paper pulp, in a large building that has for some years been in disuse, and which contains very fine machinery. Twenty men are to be employed from the start, and it is expected the business will soon require fifty hands or more.

Lindsay is certainly one of the most rapidly growing towns in Ontario, if it is to be judged by last Saturday's news of enterprises starting there, as telegraphed to the daily press. In addition to the establishment of a new paper mill mentioned elsewhere in this issue, and in which several Montreal capitalists are interested, Mr. Sylvester is letting contracts for the construction of his agricultural works at that