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EDITOR.

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NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

OUR friends are reminded that the magnificent lithographed plate, "Prominent Conservatives," issued as a supplement to Midsummer GRIP, will be sent to every subscriber applying for same and enclosing five cents for postage.

Comments on the Cartoons.



OLIVER'S HASTE.—The dissolution of the Ontario Assembly came upon the political public like a clap of thunder out of a clear sky. It is the sensation of the hour and tongues are wagging about it all over the land. The reason assigned by the Government for taking this step four months in advance of the natural end of the term, is the high constitutional one that no Parliament should remain in existence one moment longer than is absolutely necessary after an enlargement of the franchise. There are perhaps other reasons, less statesman-like but highly practical, for this hasty dissolution. A good many people suppose that the Anti-Catholic-encroachment agitation, so vigorously kept up by the *Mail* has something to do with it. Four months more of Farrar's sledge-hammer might produce a good deal of mischief, and this danger is to be thus

discounted. Others are inclined to the view that Hon. Oliver's chief motive was to check-mate Sir John. Mr. Meredith is of this opinion, and he makes himself very absurd in declaring that Mowat's action is "unconstitutional." In this absurdity he is followed by the *Ottawa Citizen* and other Conservative papers. Both he and they are of course perfectly aware that Sir John has often done the same thing, and even now is supposed to have a premature dissolution in contemplation. If they can't frankly give Mr. Mowat credit for having done a mighty smart trick on the old man, they ought to have sufficient grace to keep their mouths shut and not display their terror to the amused community.

AWAITING HIS DOOM.—The Legislature of Quebec is to meet on the 9th December, when it is anticipated that the Ross Government will be put out of its misery as tenderly as possible. Its desperate efforts to patch up a coalition and thus retain office, have failed, and its doom is sealed.

HARMONY AND PEACE.—Mr. Meredith is going through the country in company with Sir John Macdonald, and advising that the Mowat Government be turned out because it does not harmonize with the Ottawa Government. This is very poor tactics indeed.

The one thing which makes the Mowat Government popular in Ontario is its pluck and persistency in repelling the encroachments of the Federal power. The people of this Province do not want the sort of Harmony Mr. Meredith is after. They know very well that if the lion and the lamb lay down together, after his fashion, the lamb would be inside the lion.

HE'S GOT TO GO.—If you want a sure and certain pointer as to the time of the Dominion Election, keep your eye on Hon. Frank Smith. When you see him "dropped," you may expect the dissolution—not before. Sir John would not dream of going to the country with such a *bete noir* of the Knights of Labor upon his back.

THE COY, CONSISTENT MAIDEN.—It is said that Sir Donald A. Smith is to be the Liberal Candidate in Winnipeg. Sir Donald is a representative monopolist, and is consequently a queer choice for the arte-monopoly party. For the sake of political consistency, the Winnipeg Reformers ought to find a better standard bearer.



THE Grand Opera House stage is this week devoted to variety—being occupied by the Australian combination. The artists composing this troupe are highly capable, and the entertainment is a good one.

MR. MANTELL, who may be described as a masculine Langtry, made a profound impression upon our young ladies as he has done elsewhere, but the play in which he appeared, "Tangled Lives," was a poorly constructed affair.

MR. COLLIER, who finished a successful week of the "legitimate" at the Toronto on Saturday evening is an actor of very high promise, and is regarded by many as the rightful heir to the honors won by Forrest and McCullough.

MR. MCKEE RANKIN, who is well known throughout Canada, is doing the ever fresh "Danites" and "49" at the Toronto Opera House. Next week Mr. P. F. Baker (late partner of Farron) will appear in his old-time success "Chris and Lena," at this popular house.

DENMAN THOMPSON is coming to the Grand in the last week of November, when he will present his new play, "The Old Homestead," for the first time here. This play is described as producing the general effect of a first-rate sermon, combined with a healthful visit to the country.

A NEW ESTEEMED CONTEMPORARY.—"To the making of books there is no end"—and the same is true of newspapers. The latest arrival at our desk is *Forest and Farm*, a bran new journal started by Mr. Charles Stark, and edited by W. Fox, late special of the *Mail*. As the name implies, the paper is to be devoted to agriculturists and sportsmen (meaning by the latter the genuine sportsman, who goes in for a few days fishing or shooting every season—not the professional idler who does nothing but "sport"). Mr. Stark ought to know the exact wants of this large class, as his business has long brought him into relations with them, and he has, besides, the wherewithal to give them the very sort of paper they demand.