

do not avow it still work for its attainment, and it is rapidly being attained. Such is the solid fact, avowed or unavowed, with which we have to deal. When Mr. Mercier himself threatens the minority in Quebec with reprisals, does he not imply that the minority are intruders and that Quebec is a French and Papal, not a British, Province ?

—Political circles are still debating what effect the Equal Rights' movement will have on the Machines. It is a serious matter for those whom it concerns. Equal Rights men have simply done a plain duty to their country and humanity by opposing the endowment with public funds of a dark and murderous conspiracy, not against Protestantism only, but against civil rights and human freedom. If they have been baffled by the exigencies of political party bidding for the Irish Catholic vote and countenanced in its surrender of national right to the Papal encroachment by the representative of the Sovereign who sits on the throne of Elizabeth and William III., that is no fault of theirs ; nor was it their business to inquire what the effect on Machine politics would be. We are quite prepared to see the Machines for the present reassert their power in the elections. It is surprising, and to the lover of freedom somewhat afflicting, to see to what an extent our people have been brought into thralldom to mere party names and Shibboleths. Conscience and substantial interest alike seem to give way at the crack of the party whip, and votes are cast for men who in private are admitted to be unworthy because they are the party nominees and because, if a scoundrel were thrown out, the Tory or the Grit, as the case may be, might come in. The phenomenon is not confined to Canada. Have we not just seen the farmers of the United States voting against that which clearly was, and which many of them knew to be, their own interest in the tariff question simply because they were "Republicans," though the name since the abolition of slavery has meant