

THE GREAT VICTORY IN CANADA.

The unexpected has happened. The Liberal Government of Canada, entrenched in power as it was by fifteen years in office, has gone down in sudden and overwhelming disaster. It is not merely defeated. It is destroyed. Nothing but a long penitence in Opposition and a plenary renunciation of the cause for which they fought can ever restore the Liberal leaders to the confidence of the people of Canada.

The victory is appallingly complete. In a House of Commons of 221 members (with one constituency, the Yukon, still to vote) a Liberal majority of forty is converted into a Conservative majority of fifty. From the Atlantic to the Pacific there is an almost unbroken tale of Conservative triumph. In the Maritime Provinces, where in the last Parliament the Liberals held twenty-five out of thirty-five seats, the returns now show the election of nineteen Liberals and sixteen Conservatives. To the advocates of Reciprocity this is galling indeed. Under Reciprocity Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were supposed to come to their own. The fish of the coastwise counties and the turnips of the inland townships were expected to flow again in to the market of a grateful Boston. Nova Scotia, rudely torn by Confederation from the embrace of the down-east Yankee, was to have turned again to its first love.

In Quebec the results are equally striking. Here until yesterday the name of Laurier reigned supreme. An unbroken French vote was cast according to the leader's bidding, and, in spite of the existence of the English-speaking population of the Eastern Townships—a plantation of the early Loyalists—and of the smaller half of the metropolis of Montreal, only eleven seats were held in the last Parliament by the Conservatives out