

SIR JOHN'S MAGNETISM.

REV. W. W. CARSON, formerly of Kingston, who has just been "annexed" by a Presbyterian congregation in Detroit, was interviewed by a Free Press reporter the other day. Speaking of Sir John Macdonald's great personal magnetism, he said: "I have often heard his rivals say after an interview with Sir John, that they had better not become too intimate with the 'old man' or they might possibly be converted to his political faith."

This is by no means an exaggerated statement. The Premier certainly has a most winning manner, which accounts for his winning nearly every election he goes into. Mr. Grip is pleased to submit a few illustrations, more or less authentic, of Sir John's remarkable magnetism.

One day, just after Sir Richard Cartwright had left the Conservative party, Sir John happened to meet that vigorous financier on Parliament Square. Cartwright, wearing a scowl of scorn, was about to pass by without taking any notice of his discarded leader, but Sir John caught his spectacled eye and smiled. For a moment Sir Richard struggled to maintain his expression of contempt and hatred, but the smile was too much for him. His knees knocked together, his frame trembled, and gradually the scorn passed out of his face, being succeeded by a gradually growing look of geniality. denly remembering himself, Sir Richard summoned his iron will to his assistance, and with a tremendous effort broke the spell and hastily walked on. Another moment and he would undoubtedly have been back in the Conservative party.

When the announcement of the general election was made in February, Hon. Edward Blake immediately proceeded to buckle on his harness. He was feeling in great fighting trim, and proposed to make it the liveliest campaign of his career. For a few weeks he devoted himself to getting out the raw material for a series of remarkable speeches in support of the Liberal cause, but a few days before the meeting of the West Durham Convention he happened to meet Sir John. The willy chieftian grasped Mr. Blake's hand and gave it the peculiar magnetic pressure which has so often done its fatal work. The result is only too well known. Mr. Blake declined the nomination and remained in a state of semi-paralysis until after the election was over to the great damage of his party.

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During the last session of Parliament the Premier ran across Mr. Wm. Paterson, M.P. for Brant, in one of the corridors of the House. Bringing his hypnotic powers to

bear on the popular member, Sir John so influenced him that he (Mr. P.) involuntarily uttered a cuss word. There is no doubt the word was really projected into Mr. Paterson's mind and thence out of his lips by the magnetic one, for nobody will believe that William would cuss of his own accord.

One more instance must suffice for the present. It illustrates Sir John's marvellous influence over his friends as well as his foes. When Mr. Charles Rykert entered Parliament he hadn't the remotest idea of going in for a timber limit deal, but in an evil moment he happened to meet Sir John in the House restaurant. The Premier, in his characteristic way, gave Mr. Rykert a slap on the back and chucked him under the chin, acompanying the action with his irresistible wink. He didn't say a word about timber, but from that moment the member for Lincoln was a changed man.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND QUESTION.

(LATEST PHASE.)

John Bull-

After mature consideration, I send the case to arbitration—

Newfoundland-

I don't agree! It's 'gainst my will!
And what of this Coercion Bill?

John Bull-

I'm going to pass it to secure French fishing rights upon your shore.

Newfoundland-

It's monstrous, infamous and foul!

I won't submit to tyrant rule.

Canada-

Excuse me, but what's all this fuss, Refusing bait and fish to us?

Newfoundland-

Bah! we'll have nothing more to do With low-down Governments like you. We're going to end this strained relation By going in for Annexation!



PORTRAIT OF MRS. WESLEY.

All the illustrated magazines of the day are teeming with portraits of John Wesley, apropos of the centenary of Methodism. In the accompanying accounts much mention is made of the great divine's wife, but none of the magazines has favored the public with a portrait of that rather remarkable lady. GRIP feels called upon to supply this omission, and does so with the likeness herewith given, which is made from the descriptions of Mrs. Wesley by her biographers. If it errs at all, it is probably on the side of flattery.