

tions will be followed, and that ministers may be called out of the union—thus “spoiling the Egyptians.” The world is moving forwards or else whither in spite of us. *Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis.*

It cannot be denied that the “hard times” are pressing heavily upon all congregations. We were somewhat struck the other day by a conversation on this subject between two neighbours. The first remarked “I don’t know on earth where things are going to.” To which the second replied with some seeming irrelevancy, “that’s so, and more than that, things are going there uncommonly rapidly.” It is very difficult for people to meet their demands. This makes men fretful, and it often happens that ministers are greatly discouraged by the gloomy aspect of affairs. From the centre of the frying pan the prospect may not be very encouraging, but the experience of mankind as expressed in the proverb, would go to show that there may be even a less fortunate situation.

The parliament of the Dominion was prorogued last month. The session will long be remembered for the passing of the Tariff Bill, increasing the duties upon manufactured goods, or to put it more pleasantly, the inauguration of the National Policy as it is called by its friends, or the great N. P. as it is nicknamed in utmost scorn and derision by its foes. We regret to have to say that the House did not rise without passing through scenes which reflect anything but credit on those who originated them. If gentlemen of the House of Commons will persist in calling each other slanderers, traducers, liars, and copper-faced knaves, can they blame outsiders for coming to the conclusion that the revenues and spoils of the Dominion have fallen into the hands of a band of dangerous brigands.

The Governor General himself has received scant enough courtesy at the hands of some of the members from Quebec. “Go forth my son,” said a Swedish Chancellor once upon a time, “and see with how little wisdom the world is governed.” Whatever Lord Lorne may think of the wisdom of his

parliament, we fear he can’t say much for the civility of some of the tribunes of the people. Perhaps however, the ovation in Montreal on the Queen’s birthday may bring solace and comfort to the somewhat berated Marquis. There is some consolation in the thought that like others in public life, the treatment he has received will have made him hardy and pachydermatous so that hereafter the assaults of the wicked will prevail less against him.

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