



Published every Saturday. \$2 per year in advance, postage free. Single copies, 5 cents. All business correspondence to be addressed to J. V. WRIGHT, General Manager; literary matter, sketches, etc., to the EDITOR.

J. W. BENGOUGH EDITOR.

VOL. XXVII. TORONTO, NOV. 20TH, 1886. NO. 20.

Remittances on account of subscriptions are acknowledged by change in the date on the printed address-label—in the issue next after our receipt of the money. The date always indicates the time up to which the subscription is paid. We cannot undertake to send receipts aside from this.

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.

ANOTHER APPEAL TO THE BREECHES POCKET.—There is a good deal of evidence to show that Sir John intends to rely mainly upon human cupidity to carry the forthcoming election. He has announced no policy capable of intelligent consideration, and he has specially repudiated the only organ of the Conservative party that has such a thing to its name. His hopes are built to some extent, no doubt, upon the new voters' lists, which, having been prepared by his chosen friends in most cases, ought to be of some use to him if friends are good for anything; and the Gerrymander is still a powerful means of repressing public opinion. But it is pretty clear from the interesting narrative furnished by Mr. Paul Pry of the Premier's recent movements in Toronto, that the appeal is to be made once more to the breeches pockets of the boodlers rather than to the consciences of the people. The "free and independent electors" with whom Sir John held vastly important conferences in this city, were nearly all of the *genus* Roodler, and it would not be too uncharitable to suppose that the chief topic under discussion was "funds," to be advanced on the one hand, and recouped on the other with more or less interest. But in the present temper of the people it may be gravely doubted that any arrangements can be made upon a financial basis to carry the country. It is as true now as it was in the mouths of the Conservative orators in 1878, that the people demand a change of Government every once in a while, regardless of the questions of the day. The time seems to have arrived for such a change, and the Government might as well gracefully accept the inevitable.

TIMELY WARNING.—If Mr. Mercier is called upon to form a Government in Quebec—a thing which is by no means certain as yet—he must be careful to have extravagance and corruption represented in the Cabinet, if he means to keep office for any length of time. Judging by the fate of the Joly Government, which was notoriously able and prudent, and the similar fate of the Ross Cabinet, which is declared by many to have been straightforward and capable, it would appear that the Province of Quebec cannot abide unmitigated decency.



MR. BLAKE'S TEMPERANCE POLICY.—It is stated that Mr. Blake intends to devote a speech at an early day to the Temperance question, and to take the opportunity of laying before the country his views on that commanding topic. This announcement will be received with gratification all over the country, and if the position he takes prove acceptable to Prohibitionists generally, the speech will do more than anything else to carry the Reform Party into office, where they will have an opportunity of translating words into deeds. Meanwhile a statement of Mr. Blake's idea on the subject has reached us from a reliable source. It is this: That the Scott Act should be so amended as to be a thoroughly workable measure; and that in every county in which it has been passed the officers entrusted with its execution should be earnest and sincere Prohibitionists. Under these new and fair auspices the Act should be given a trial, and the feasibility of Total Prohibition thus demonstrated, or its impracticability proved. In the former case, it is presumed that Mr. Blake would have no hesitation in proceeding to Prohibition.

MR. FRASER'S PAINTINGS.

THE collection of water color paintings of Rocky Mountain scenery executed by Mr. John A. Fraser, and kindly exhibited by that genial artist to his friends at the Queen's Hotel last week, was a rare treat to all who can appreciate first-rate work. We speak advisedly when we say that nothing to equal these water colors has ever before been displayed in this city. Mr. Fraser has long been known as a masterly painter of landscape, but it may be affirmed that never until he sat down in the presence of these stupendous work of nature, did the divine afflatus take full possession of him. At all events his brush was never before so deft and skillful. Not only has he translated the grandeur of the mountain peaks, the forests and the wild canyons—he has painted the very air. But it is mockery to attempt a description in words. We can only pity our picture-loving friends who failed to see these works, and congratulate Sir George Stephen on the possession of them.



THE music of "Pepita" was condemned as poor stuff by our critics, and their dictum was amply justified. The libretto was also very bad. How such a piece ever ran for three months in New York must remain a mystery.

MR. ARTHUR E. FISHER, organist of Grace church, has just published a very pretty song entitled "The Bells of Lynn," for tenor or soprano, with violin obligato. Messrs. Nordheimer are the publishers. Mr. Fisher's reputation as a composer is rapidly growing, and this latest effort will aid it considerably.

THE prettiest tenor song of the day is "I Am Waiting"—the musical gem with which Mockridge "fetched" the audience at the Trebelli concert. Young man, if you want to make a lasting impression on the coy Arabella, learn this ballad and sing it "neath her casement" some cool evening. You can get a copy at any of the music stores.