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| Antist and Editor |
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| Associate Editor |$\cdots \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad$ W. Bengovgh.



## omments



The Empty Sad. DLE. - The great chieftain of the Conservative party has gone the way all flesh, and although he is succeeded he can have no successor. The $f_{a}$ ce and form which for efamany years ha e ende dthese pages $v$ have de parted for ever. It is a satisfaction to feel, as we do, that although few numbers of GRIP have appeared without "John A" being depicted in some shape, we have never treated hins with less than justice. This he was not slow to admit himself on the occasion of the only interview we ever had with him, and which took place at Ottawa a few years ago. "Grip has been conducted most fairly and impartially so far," said he. "I hope you will never let it get into the control of either party." It was not the least of Sir John's gifts as a public man (from Grir's standpoint) that he had a face
supremely good for caricature purposes. In that respect, as well as in others, we may say with Hamlet, "We ne'er shall look upon his like again.". This journal, however, like Her Majesty's Government, must be carried on. May he rest in peace.

Gagged.-Hon. Geo. E. Foster used to be a professional lecturer, and one of the themes he dealt with most eloquently and effectively was Prohibition. His views on this great subject were clear and firm, for he had thought it out thoroughly. Whencver a pettifogging "anti" in his audience had the temerity to propose the hackneyed revenue difficulty, the orator made short work of him. He was ready to show that the loss of the money paid for licenses would be really a gain, and a great gain. And he was equally prepared to answer the question of what was to become of the farmers' surplus corn when the distilleries were shut up, in the words of the Hoosjer yeoman, "We propose to raise more hogs and less hell." These views he carried into Parliament with him, and as a private member he urged them ably on the attention of the House. But now Hon. Geo. E. Foster is a member of the Government, and it unfortunately happens that the Government has no sympathy at all with the Prohibition. Mr. Foster must accordingly forego his feelings on the subject, or drop the honors and emoluments of a Cabinet seat. Under the circumstances it is not strange, perhaps, that the revenue argument now comes before his mind as something very formidable indeed-so formidable that it simply puts Prohibition out of the list of practical questions. In short, the hon. gentleman has been gagged by the liquor vote.


E must do ourselves proud, fel-low-citizens, on the occasion of the big meeting of the pedagogues in this city next month. It only requires that each one of us shall do his part, whether it be something officially important that is entrus'ed to our hands, or merely the exhibition of good nature and courtesy to the visitors in a private way, to make this meeting of the Educational Association the best that important body has ever held. We have the prettiest city they have ever honored with their meeting; let us show them that it is also the most genial and hospitable. The visitors are well worthy of all the attention we can bestow upon them, representing as they do the noblest profession in existence. We are fortunate in having Mr. James L. Hughes as chief engineer of the event; for a more consummate hustler could not be found. He is being splendidly aided by Secretary Hill and the various committees, aiod the prospects for a magnificent success are looking bright. Let every public-spirited citizen come forward and take a hand in the good work.
$0^{\mathrm{N}}$ the day that Sir John, with trembling steps, retired from the House of Commons never again to enter its portals, the Dominion of Canada arrived at the turning point in its history. From the date of Confederation down to that day, with but a momentary interruption, Sir John Macdonald was the absolute autocrat of our destiny. Whatever we are to-day as a people politically he made us. Never more shall we see one-man government in this land, and the prospect is not an unpleasant one, for the concentration of practically unlimited power in the bands of one man however great is not best for the nation. We make a new departure now ; but the great question ir, What shape will it take? The signs of the time point to the disruption of the Conservative party, now that the wonderful Old Man is gone, but they do not as plainly indicate that we are snon to have a straightout Grit Government."

