66 THE TRUE W. TNESS"

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WEDNESDAY.....DECEMBER 29, 1886

1887.

When this number of the TRUE WITNESS reaches the hands of our readers the old year will be approrching its last hours.

It has been a year of public discord, social strife and general depression. Were we to attempt to review the events which fill the pages of the journals of the last twelve months, the story that the summary would tell would not be a pleasing retrospect. The sun of 1886 sets on vast armies waiting the word to loose the dogs of war and cry, "havoc." It sets on atories of wickedness in places high and low, on sorrow and suffering in labor circles, and strife between the rich and poor. From Ireland there comes a great cry of sorrow, and the indications are that her chains will be rather riveted anew tian loosened as, a few months ago, there seemed good reason to hope.

The sun of 1886 sets in an herizon of murky clouds, Have they within a bright lining, and can we see a bordering of color like the fringe on a funeral pall, telling us to be of good cheer, of strong heart, and to hope for better things? Are we in the midst of munlans honors, such as are described by the Laureate in his last stirring poem, touching which he bids us-

Hope the best, but hold the present, fatal daughter of the past:
Shape your heart to front the hour, but dream not that the hour will last?

Who shall say with confidence? Through the shades of darkness comes the white-robed in ant year, but its lips can lisp no mesa writer in the Mail, into the controversy sage nor whisper aught as to the future. We can but "hope the best" and each do his best individually to make the year 1887 better than that which has preceded it. We very uncalled for remarks concerning Mr. wish our readers a Bright New Year and a Farrar. The latter occupies exactly the same | the true lesson of the crime; does not dimin-Happy One throughout.

It is pointed out that the English Government has no longer a friend in Ireland. All hope of any measure of justice at its hands has been abandoned, and what is more anusing, the "loyalists" themselves good argument in the one case is surely good have turned against their former friends, and have passed resolutions blazing with anger. They have been smartly rebuked by Lord Hartington, for what he considers a too great degree of sloth on their parts. The landlords are furious, because they think, and probably with reason, that the governmental action is driving them into bankruptcy. The Attorney-General himself has been compelled to give an opinion against the administrabive interests. General Buller was sent out to curse the League, and he has blessed it instead. It is said that no one now wishes the Government good progress but the League itself. The situation is, if it were not for the grave and sad features it possesses, intensely comical, and is certainly one without parallel in the history of the world.

Ir is doubtful whether the tactics in election matters which have generally obtained a name from old Gerry, the American Governor, having not been invented by him, should be called "Gerrymandering." The Germans have a better name, " wahlkreisgeometrie," or electoral geometry. But the effect is just as bad as Gerry's arrangement and the imitations in this country, so far as obliterates the principle estensibly at the suppression of the will of the people is concerned. For many years in Bayaria an ingenious scheme of electoral geometry has kept the Catholic majority in subjection to an anti Catholic Government. The Augsburger Portzeitung, referring to this, says :-

Even with the limited suffrage we have in Bavaria the Catholic party must command a wast majority in the House of Representatives,

verted and misrepresented altogether. The suspected of "truckling-to olericalism," that thick and thin. Prince Luitpold is neither sfraid nor ashamed of being taken for a true Oatholic; surely, then, it is impossible that under his regency the divisions can be mapped out again in such a way as to yield a and now this must disappear together Parliament like the one that is just coming

But as "constitutional government" pre vails, and the ministers are of the anti-Catholic stripe, it is not expected any material reform will be witnessed.

THE resignation of Lord Randolph Churchill is significant in a double sense. It proves that the Imperial Cabinet is going to move on purely Conservative lines and in accordance with the traditions of that great party. The frothy pretensions of the somewhat conceited and priggish young nobleman will not be permitted to bear away in the Council Chamber. It also seems to indicate that coercion in Ireland will be pushed to extremes. There is no doubt that Lord Randolph was more inclined to stretch points in the direction of granting the demands of the Irish people than his colleagues, and it may be safely inferred that the Irish question was not without much influence in bringing about his withdrawal from the Cabinet. It remains to be seen what course he will tollow now that he is freed from the restraints office has imposed upon him. He is not a man any especial principle, and has always been governed by an overweening ambition and love of notoriety. Having failed to pull with the Conservative party, he may endeavor to form a combination of his own. In such a combination Mr. Chamberlain will probably be found, as in very many respects Lord Randolph is in sympathy with the mathetic and experimental radicalism of that gentleman. In a cabinet purely and OR WITHIN 30 DAYS OF COMMENCEMENT OF Simply Conservative Lord Randolph Churchill was out of place, and especially in so high and important position as that of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. His resignation may cause relief to the Cabinet, but his resignation is a proof that the road which the Government is travelling is a rough one.

> FROM an American source we learn, on the authority of a "distinguished military officer," that some of the regular army will in future be stationed in Canada. We are inclined to think that the statement is not wholly correct, and it is certainly to be honed that it is very incorrect. When the internal cities and towns of Canada were garrisoned. it is sufficiently notorious that the presence of the soldiers had a very demoralizing effect on the highest and the lowest circles. Further, the presence of the regular army in the interior of Canada is needless. and affords unpleasant facilities for desertion. No doubt some troops may be stationed at Esquimalt, and if the Pacific Railway is utilized as a means of transit for the Indian relicfs, a halt in the genial climates of British Columbia, and even on the plaius of the been the details, the comments have been ab-North-West, will certainly be valuable from surd. The idle prattle about aristocracy in sanitary point of view. Military settle connition.

now raging in political circles. We note nations throughout all time. A pharasaical that the Hon. Mr. McDougall was, as we upturning of the eye or pointing at the peorthink, inconsiderate enough to make some the Globe a few years ago, who was described by Mr. Gordon Brown in his evidence given mitted. How best to do this is a problem which | Secretary of the Treasury, points out that in a libel trial as an "amanuensis." Mr. McDougall, in the electoral contest in New York, made much of this fact, and what was in the other. Mr. Farrar, no doubt, could write professionally as vigorously for a Mahomedan paper as for an anti-Catholic paper. But he acts simply under instructions and writes to the order of his employer. It is therefore extremely unfair to drag Mr. Farrar's name into a controversy for which he has no more responsibility than the lawyer who helds a brief. We shall probably next hear that some one has discovered that Sergeant Buzfuz had relations with Mrs. Bardell of which the world has thus far not known

THE death of General Logan is an undoubted loss to the Republican party in the United States. It was confidently thought by a large proportion of that political division that he would have received the nomina. tion for the presidency in 1884, and there is no doubt that his selection would have been acceptable to the Republican portion of the country. There are many who have asserted that if he had been chosen in the place of Blaine the victory of Cleveland would have been more uncertain and his victory certainly less than it was. But all this. of course, is merely the speculation of party in a country where party spirit too frequently stake. General Logan was certainly a pillar of the Republican party, and his death is a decided blow to it. But, while a leading politician, it is more as a soldier war he saw his first service, and passed through the civil war from Bull's Run to the close of that fratricidal strife. His military ability scon raised him from the command of groundless. We cannot bring curacives were it not for this exectable system, by a regiment to the rank of Major General, and to believe that Lord Sallsbury, out of

which the true feelings of the nation are per. | when the war ended he was in command of the | mere lightness of heart, is about to throw late King Ludwig had such a horror of being has been prominently before the public, and supported his anti Catholic advisers through in 1871, '79 and '85 was in Congress & Senator from Illinois. The "salon" of Mrs. Logan has always been regarded as an important feature in Republican politics, with the potent influence of her husband.

THE iniquitous attacks against the Church

in Italy are continued in a peculiarly vindic. tive manner. The Minister of Justice and " Worship"-save the mark-Signor Tajani, is at work on a very elaborate and comprenoheme to effect what he styles the latter same muse or recognized by England "reorganization of ecclesiastical affairs." This project proposes to "convert," so the term runs, all the property now belonging to the Church. This scheme of organized theft and robbery-for such it is purely and simply-kindly purposes to exempt ing to the poet, sometimes gives, when he Episcopal residences and some other buildings of a minor nature. Everything class is to be athlesely swept into the coffers of the State. The work of persecution in the interim goes bravely on. Expulsion follows expulsion, and the religious are being hunted down with a degree of cruelty that could bardly be called in England, will in effect be protection excelled in China. It is announced that a and nothing clas. The policy may be called number of them were sheltered by the Canons of San Cataldo. This being discovered, quick as possible came the mandate for their is this principle gaining that the Shefejection, and others were warned against field Telegraph alleges that "it is receiving them. The Minore Conventual, the Carmelites and the Oratorians at Verona have been ordered to evacuate their homes, which are declared confiscated. The nuns of San Magliore at Faenza have been driven into the streets, and the government seems determined that none shall find a rest for the soles of their feet. How long is this the position. They speak of protection as a to last? Surely it cannot be long before the devastating work inaugurated by Cavour and his friends will be visited with befitting punishment. The picture is one sad to contemplate.

THE CAMPBELL CASE.

A very large proportion of the press, nota bly in the United States, has by its line of conduct in relation to the Campbell case proved the fact often alleged that Englishspeaking people "dearly love a lord." The spirit exhibited by Thackeray in his Jeames" and other publications, was of the most flunkeyish character. While endeavering to deride that "high life above stairs" satirized so much better in the play of the envy that was his real motive. Disraeli in his "Endymion" has drawn Mr. Thackeray as St. Barbe, and evidently, from a personal acquaintance, has shown him to have poshe affected to despise. So far as the American press is concerned in connection with the ing" throughout, and has not exhibited itself, by any means, in a creditable light. Two London papers, it seems, have been the subjects of injunctions. But disgusting as have connection with the subject seen in many quarname of Mr. Farrar, who is an editorial is the subject of one of the ten commandments and has vexed all the ages and the age is about as ludicrous as it is con- ning to realize this-hence the diemay of temptible and childish. Such comment misses position as that of a gentleman connected with | ish the evil or tend to check the increase of the gravest domestic offence that can be com- report, Mr. Manning, the United States may appal the social moralist. The records "Protection" is a misnomer. It im of divorce courts in general show a sad sight. plies superiority elsewhers. It implies In countries where divorce is chear, as in infants here and adults elsewhere. It imsome States of the Union, they seem to indi. plies that amid competition universal where cate that they are, save for registration purposes, waseful and ridiculous excesses, for in reality marriage hardly seems to exist except land, in returning to a reasonable trade in form. This is probably the result of | rolicy, should do so under reformed terms. creating facilities for divorce, and we commend the fact to those who advocate the establishment of a divorce court in Canada. Cumbrous and costly as is the present procedure, it is better than the erection of such a moral sewer as exists across the border and to a lesser, but still too great, an extent

in England.

A VOICE FROM ROME. reasons, that no misconceptions concerning tion Moniteur de Rome recently contained some comments on the new famous "plan of campaign," and having summarized the arrives at the conclusion that "The 'principle of the plan is almost identi-" its application to agricultural tenancies." Here is a very important opinion from a very important source. Nothing could be more repugnant to the Vatican than revolutionary or illegal tactics, but it regards the "plan" in the light indicated. This will greatly strengthen the hands of those struggling in the face of such overwhelming difficulties, that Logan made his mark. In the Mexican The Moniteur proceeds in the following important and significant words :--

We are still willing to hope that the rumors which are thus in circulation may prove

and the second second

The war and the control of the state of the

army of the Tennessee. Since the var he things into confusion just when they had begun to show such indications of improvement. Regard for his own interests, even if he were influenced by no other consideration, should lead him to realize the L'uty of acting towards Ireland with the greatest moderation. A policy of repression has never yet had in that country any other result than one to widen the chasm that still separates it from England, and to give strength to the hope of those who look forward indeed to the legisia tive independence of their country, but who looked forward to it only as the minimum of the concessions which they seek. Notwithstanding the check which the policy of Mr. Gladstone met with at the polls, the current of events is rapidly leading on to the day, which is now not far distant, in which the granting of legislative freedom to the as inevitable.

PROTECTION IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Bright hardly spoke with the pro phetic lere which the winter of age, accordsaid Protection in England was 'as 'remote a contingency as the restoration of slavery in the United States. On the contrary the signs of the times all point to very speedy establishment of some species of a trade policy which, whatever it may be Fair Trade, but it amounts to protection purely and simply. So great strongth with alarm Free Traders see the rapidly increasing power of their opponents, and it is with dread they look forward to the day of battle." The Telegraph says the Free Traders have to give way before the advancing tide, but they are making a hard fight, and are generally misrepresenting policy which is productive of evil, and assert that commercial progress was impossible be. ore 1846, rather that any progress was retrograde. With reference to this contention the Telegraph says in contravention :-

Now, in 1819 the export of cotton manufactures amounted in value to £16,631,709, in 1839 to £58,471,806; of silk ditto in 1819 to to £122,809, in 1839 to £774,410; of woolen ditto in 1819 to £4,602 270, in 1839 to nearly £7,000,000; of linen ditto in 1819 to £1,547,352, in 1839 to £4,777, 711. The same progress is seen in yarns. In the former year cotton yarns exported were valued at £1,585.753, in the latter year at £9 400,904; and linen varus in 1833 at £50,-126, and in 1839 at £846 036. These figures dispose of the assertion that no advance was made commercially during the period when raw materials were taxed. Equally striking are the figures which mark the further great Irish writer, he showed that it was mainly advance made up to the year 1846, when most raw materials were liberated by the Conservative Government of which Sir Robert Peel was the head. Much of the success which attended the course of British commerce subsequent to 1846 is admittedly sessed an intense love for the very tr fles due to the great development of machinery in which we were immensely ahead of Centinental competitors, for while the lattr depended upon long hours, Campbell trial, it has simply been "disgust-wages, and unflagging industry, maof steam. But with the advent of machinery on the Continent foreign competition began to be felt more keenly. Here, in England, however, our monufacturers were, in many branches, easily able to hold their Import duties still prevailed upon own. manufactured articles from abroad, and it is ince the abulition of those duties in 1865 ments might also be profitably encouraged, tors seems very purrile. The aristocracy is, that foreigners have obtained such a strong But to re-establish garrison towns in C. nada | we presume, mortal, and neither worse nor of British labour from British workshops. 1t is not at all to be desired, however pleasing better than others. Vice, unfortunately, is is an arrangement based upon the lines existthe prospect may be to the "purveyors." It not the peculiarity of a class, and it would ing previous to the French Treaty of 1860, would be not undesirable for the Government be well if it were. If it could be cribbed, which Fair Traders desire. Continental to request that some of the Royal Engineers cabined, and confined to so small a body as the competitors can then only trade in England be sent to Quebec. That noble fortress is House of Peers, it would be well for society. borne by Englishmen, and Ministers ac being allowed to fall into a very discreditable But unluckily such offences as have been quire a lever for negotiating treaties in charged in the recent repulsive case which advantages given would command are neither national, local, or peculiar orresponding advantages. As things now An attempt is being mode to drag the to any rank in society. The principle crime | abroad is not the natural value. Fair Traders aim at rectoring as far as possible the natural English workmen will then gain the benefit which attaches to superior physique and greater skill, which advantages are now absorbed by the foreigner. They are begin-Fr. e Traders.

There is perhaps more force in the term Fuir Trade than in Protection. In his recent the fittest survive we shall perish." This is a correct view, and it is not amiss that Eng-

THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

The Hamilton Times of a recent date, editorially, said :-

The Globe has information that "Sir George "Stephen expresses himself very anxious to "carry Ontario against Mr. Mowat." No doubt. But the people have been robbed of enough already to enrich Sir George Stephen, and the alliance of the Canadian Pacific influence with Ontario's enemies is a warning to It is particularly desirable, for obvious the people of Ontario to fight for self-preserva-The employes of the Grand Trunk know the Irish question should exist at Rome. It why their wages have been kept down. The traffic which their company used to enjoy is gratifying to know that the position is has been divided with the Canadian Pacific, thoroughly understood in that city. The and the very rolling stock on the Canaof the people's taxes. The Grand Trunk Company is the 1-reest contributor of taxes in the Dominion. Its money has been used to estabcampaign," and having summarized the lish and sustain a rival road. The Grand position for the benefit of its readers Trunk has to pay more than half a million dollars a year in taxes on coal and other sup-plies in order to satisfy the Government which "principle of the plan is almost identi-cal with that of a trade strike, modified in company willingly pay a portion of that large company willingly pay a portion of that large aum in extra wages to the workingmen in the service of the company, if the money was not taken from the company to advance Sir George Stephen's schemes? Depend upon it, the fact that Sir George Stephen wants the Mowat Government defeated is an excellent reason why every employe of the Grand Trunk, and every believer in fair play, should vote for the condidates pladged to support Mr. Mowat andidates pledged to support Mr. Mowat,

As to the truth or incorrectness of the statement concerning Sir George Stephen, we have no opinian to give, though we are bound to say that we do not see the connection. But the treatment that has been extended to the Grand Trunk by the Government, it connection with the Canada Pacific,

The state of the s

and so far the remarks of the Times commend themselves to Canadian readers. While the ultimate importance to Canada of the Pacific Railway cannot be doubted, the favoritism it has re ceived at the hands of the administration of the day is, in view of the position of the Grand Trunk Railway, not justifiable on any ground. It will be a long while before the country can expect a tithe of the benefits the old line has conferred on it from its pretentions and lavishly aided competitor. It is almost impossible for the imagination to picture what would have been the condition of Canada to-day had it not been for the Grand Trunk. It has in fact made the country, and tua, in the face of the most tremendous difficulties. Competing lines to the sea board in the United States have had to be contended with. Combina. tions of the most powerful description abroad bave had to be fought, and domestic opposition of a political and most unaccountable character met. Yet, in spite of all this, the line has attained a degree of commercial success and a position in the railway world not be excelled by any railway on this continent. Canadians, then, owe a debt of gratifude to the Grand Trunk, and had it not been for the extraordinary hostility exhibited to the line in local political circles some years ago, even the original stockholders might have to-day less cause for complaint. The earliest wounds which the Grand Trunk received came from the hands of those who ought to have been its friends, just as the last blow has come from the same source. While we do not say that the Capadian Pacific is not quite entitled to governmental assistance, there can be no doubt that the manner it has been showered upon it, in view of the posi tion of the Grand Trunk, has been very unjust, and the legislature that has permitted itself to be so derelict in its duty deserves the strongest censure from the people.

THE LATE JUDGE RAMSAY.

The death of Mr. Justice Ramsav, so sudden and unexpected, makes a blank on the judicial beach not easily filled. The country has lost a judge of sterling integrity, great legal ability and personal worth and purity. He dies a Bayard in the judicial ermine which has gained lustre from his presence on the bench. His present death makes the loss seem the greater as we live in times when it is the evil fashion to treat the judicial office with what may be termed a species of social and public levity. The names of judges are bandled about in connection with political appointments. Men who, with all respect to them, we think ought to know better, accept judgeships and then treat the high and important office with as little respect as the most insignificant political "berth." "Descents from the Bench" to wallow in the quagmire and cesspool of political strife, acts the suggestion of which, in former days, would have brought the flush of anger to the cheek of any judge so approached, are now actual facts. Political expediency has no hesitation or compunction in degrading the effice which should be as unsultied as the priesthood. This being the tendency of the under his frown. times, a fatal tendency, and one which will bring in its train most disastrous results. the death of a judge like the late Mr. Ramsay, who magnified his office. and felt and respected the grave responsibilities strached to it, is a special and not easily repaired loss. He represented a type of judicial officer which is unhappily necoming rare, to the great detriment of that great and important pillar of the State, Justice.

_____ A SCHOOLBOY'S ANSWER.

It has eften fallen to the lot of the schoolboy to teach an important lesson to those who are in need of one. This seems particularly to be the case with Mr. J. L. Hughes, the Orange Tory itinerant lecturer of Toronto. Before we examine his dase, let lis refer to that of other great sectaries who have preceded him, and let us take Mohammed as the representative. As a modern writer pointedly remarks, since the religion of Mohammediam is very hard to believe, all it requires from its subjects is to believe; furthermore, Mohammed was undoubtedly a clever man, but he made one mistake-HE WROTE A BOOK. Lit us return to our parallel, for here is the similarity." Mr. J. L. Hughes also wrote a book, and in reference to that book we quote a schoolboy writer in the Vox Lucei, the organ of the Ottawa Collegiate Institute Lyceum. He says :-

"The Toronto Public School Board has licensed an individual named J. L. Hughes to stump the Province and pose as the aposile of School Reform. .. As com ponents of the great Public School system of Oatario we claim the right to protest against any one School Board having the power to set loose upon unoffending people crank of the calibre of J. V. Hughes.
This J. L. H. would like to believe that he is a historian. We have before us 'The 'Topical History of England,' in Gage's Series of Examination Primers (which might be more appropriately designated 'Cram Handbocks'). Its author is Mr. J. L. Hughes. A person without know-ledge of the dates and names of English history might reasonably take the little quarto of 128 pages for the advance sheets of some new railroad guide or post office directory from the conglomeration of dates, names and abaurd contractions of which it is composed. Just turn to page 109, section 5, where J. L. Hughes, with that majestic force of creative power that loses respect " for well known and freely accepted truthe, calls the sarepatio, shrewd, fancinating Voltairean and king of letter writers, Horace Walpole, -what? What indeed but 'the " first of England's great peace-ministers!" "We will go no further, draw your own con-"clusions. No doubt Mr. J. L. H. will strike Ottawa, and if he is not better in-"formed upon educational matters than he " is upon the subject of teaching, he might " be donated a free course at the Collegiate

There are Mr. Hughes and his book dis-

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is certainly one that must be styled unjust, | posed of by a schoolboy, and a public school boy at that. The religious ory raised by such bigoted partisans as Hughes and Co. does not seem to be taking a strong hold among sensible.Ottawa people.

OUR QUEBEC LETTER.

All Shuffing New at an End—The Position of the Premier-Larochelle-A Letter from him in "La Justice" to-day—It Tells its Own Tale - The English-Protestants-Some of the Men who Must "Go."-Bumors about Abandoning the Contestation — Despondency vs. Buoyancy—How the Two Parties Feel.

From Our Own Correspondent 1

QUEBEC, Dec. 22.-Ross must either meet the House flow or the Government must resign before January 27th. There can be no more shuffling. He cannot now resign himself and recommend an outsider to take his place, He has called the Legislature together, and the law says that he must meet the Chamber in person or he and the members of his Government must resign en bloc. So we shall have no more talk about Angers or Mathieu or Tail on. It is now Ross or Mercier, the leader of the Government or the leader of the Opposition. And the general opinion among independent Conservatives is that Ross was quite right in determining as he did. They know that when he failed no one clar of the same political stripe could succeed. He is as good as the best of them, and he will meet the House and take his punishment like a man.

LAROCHELLE.

Larochelle, the M.P.P. for Dorchester, arrived in Quebec to-day. He is, as you know, the genthem whom the government organs have all along been claiming as a supporter of the present administration. Although he signed the Round Robin and attached his name to the document published the other day, which expressed no confidence in Dr. Ross, yet the government organs claimed him as their own. They did this on the strength of a letter Lalochello wrote to a friend on July 2nd. That letter was publish d in the Government organs. yesterday and to day, and now Larochelle con es out in La Justice and gives good and solid reasons for his change of base. He says that since July 2nd the political situation has changed that Dr. Ross has proved himself the enemy of He says that since the Nationalists by the opposition he gave to Garneau, Trudel, Pelletier, Duhamel, LeGros and others. He charges DA Ross with having divided the Conservative party into two camps, and with proving himself the subservint tool of the conspirators at Ottawa. Whatever lingering doubts the friends of the Government had as to Larochelle's position must now vanish. Indeed they admit as much, and with Larochelle this last hope of retaining power vanishes into thin air.

THE ENGLISH PROTESTANTS.

I wonder who is to represent the English Protestants in the Cabinet of Mr. Mercier, if he attains office? There is a chance for some good man row. It is a tide in the affairs that may lead to fortune. That is, I mean, fortune in honors and good repute, if the coming man is equal to the occasion. If Cameron had stood his ground he would undoubtedly be Mr. Me cier's choice. But Cameron did not stand his ground, and now no one appears to know a actly where Cameron is. It will be somewhat difficult for Mr. Mercier to open a constituercy for an English Protestant, and if he could find one ready made it would be all the better. That the party Mr. Mercier leads got fair Protestant support I know, Indeed, I this k I told you this before. Although the Protestants failed to return one of their own to Mr. Mercier's side of the House, yet he got a scattering vote in the different counties, and he will recognize it. But at present no one appears to know who the coming man, if needed is likely to be. I know one English Protestant who, I think, would be welcome, but I dare

A CLEARING OUT.

The friends of Mr. Mercier here yow that, if they can, there will be a clearing out of it noxious officials should any charge occur. Every one of them who took part in the late elections will, they say, go. C. P. Daviden will, of course, lose the Crown proscentius, worth its \$2,000 or \$3 000 a year; J. J. Curran will lose his Fire Marshakings, worth S800 a year; Mr. Stevenson, the Secretary to the Board of Arts, will lose his position, which I suppose is worth \$1500 a year, and a number of men in Quebec will walk the plank as a matter of course. But there are two men who hold Government positions, and who did their best to def at the Nationaliste, and they will be lucky if they do not all go, too. Not because they are Conservatives, but because this thing of government officials interfering in politics is immoral, and an effort will be made to put an end to it. That is the pith and substance of the rew revolution as I under stand it.

THE CONTESTATIONS.

There is a good deal of talk to night about withdrawing several of the contestations in the district of Quebec. It is rumored that there is a desire on both sides to "pair off" and to allow many of the contestations to be abandoned. How true this may be I do not know. I give it to you as a rumor. From all I can learn it looks as if both sides were werried by the situation and that they were willing. the situation and that they were willing, Bo far as many of the contestations go, to cry "quits." I do not think there is any arrangment between the parties, but, from all I can learn, there appears to be a leaning in that direction. Of course I only speak for the district of Quebec. As for Montreal I suppose they will paddle their own cance up there.

DESPONDENCY AND BUOYANCY.

The friends of the Government are despondent to-day, while the friends of the Nationalists are buoyant. The Government side here does not admit defeat, but they look it. That letter of Larochelle's in La Justice broke the camel's back. Indeed, I heard one of their leaders admit almost as much. All they can say now is at the 27th of January is a long way off, and no one can tell what may way off, and no one can tell what may happen before then. That is their stock in trade, as far as hope goes, and it is the only silver-lining to their heavily-charged cloud of anguish. But we must not forget that the government will be over three months in power when the house meets, and that ought to le enough to satisfy them. On the other hand the Nationalists are buoyant. They are satisfied to wait the ordinary course of constitutional procedure. January the 27th will settle all questions now in doubt.

MONTGOMERY.

A LESSON IN SCRIPTURE.

MR. BLAKE ON SIR JOHN MACDONALD.

In the course of his speech at Orillis, Mr. Blake took occasion to expose, in a dever and humorous way, Sir John Macdonald's utter ignorance of Scripture history, from which the premier is so fond of quoting. In a previous speech Sir John had compared Mr. Islake to Haman and likened himself to Mordecai. Referring to this, Mr. Blake said :- "Now, we have all heard of somebody quoting Scripture; and I do not object, therefore, to Sir John's doing it; but I object to his following the rejected method of the earlier quoter. He said at Stratford:—

Mr. Blake was a very able man; but he was consumed with ambition, So long as Mordecai sat at the king's gate, so long would