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THE TIMES.

THE enemies of M. Joly have shown their teeth. The Conservative party in the Quebec Legislature have played the part of Obstructionists. It was said they would prevent the passage of the supplies, and they have done it. The party in the Assembly attempted it, but were defeated on a square decision by 3 votes, but the Legislative Council by 15 to 7 refused to pass the Supply Bill. In all the Provinces there is a feeling against "the Upper Bodies" in the Legislature, and this obstructive act will strengthen the prejudice against them in the minds of those who would like to see them abolished. What, with reckless riots, and frantic partyism, the reputation of Quebec has suffered.

WHAT the end of the dead-lock at Quebec will be, no one can yet foresee; but M. Joly has the sympathy of every one who feels indignation at the Government of the Province being bedraggled through the slough of party; M. Joly accepted office under very peculiar circumstances, and he has faithfully and honourably performed his duty.

REFERRING to the position of affairs at Quebec, the *Evening Post* says, "The Tory party would not be sorry for any calamity that would place their friends in power!—scarcely for a civil war." There's many a true word spoken in jest!

I MIGHT call the attention of the Legislative Council at Quebec to the anecdote told of George Stephenson, the eminent engineer, when on examination before a Committee of the House of Commons, with reference to granting the charter of one of the earliest railroads in England. When asked derisively, "What if a cow was to get on to your proposed railroad, Mr. Stephenson?" He replied with the utmost sang-froid, "It would be a very bad thing for the cow!" The astute engineer well knew that the cow's "usefulness would be gone."

HOW to dispose of our Provincial Parliaments, Senates, and numerous Lieutenant-Governors is the problem which must occupy the attention of the next Reform Government. How to attain power by such a platform cry, which puts an end to the "moral" support of all the political hangers-on our present glorious constitution entails, is a still more practical difficulty. But it must be faced—just as soon as the people have been "educated up" to it. Where are the educators? Dark hints as to an elective Senate are a very defective system of education. The "coming man" is yet to be heard from.

THE schools had a warm day for their fall re-opening on Monday last, but probably there was not much study, the time being spent in arranging classes and getting everything into working order. Teachers and pupils may be supposed to have come back again equally reinvigorated, while many parents, to whom vacation has been a source of increased anxiety and trouble, will not be sorry to have their little ones, for some hours each day, under public supervision. It is perhaps the teacher who most needs recreation and rest; and this, it is to be

hoped, both the schoolmasters and schoolmistresses have found this summer, so that they return to their tasks lighter-hearted, clearer-headed, and by no means heavier-handed.

THE visit to Toronto of the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise is developing its legitimate effect upon the Western mind. There is an increasing demand for parchment and vellum. The pen of our Governor-General's private secretary rests not night nor day, and a new portfolio of excessive breadth and volume is in preparation to hold the several hundred new and startlingly original addresses which will shortly be bestowed upon Toronto's fortunate guests. Good address is a thing not much needed in a Canadian Governor-General. It is supplied him gratis, and profusely.

TORONTO has, of course, turned its attention to building arches, but has been somewhat unsuccessful, if the *Telegram* is correct; in speaking of the "civic arch" it says:—

"It is supposed to be some sort of an imitation of a mediæval tower, but it really looks like nothing in heaven or on earth, or in the waters under the earth. There is one point upon which all are agreed, however, and that is that the arch is an intolerable nuisance and a stupid expenditure of money. If it only serves to show how silly our civic representatives can be on given occasions, it will not have been erected in vain, for the idea of spending a thousand dollars in such nonsense is absurd."

Our correspondent "Fidelis" last week pointed out the folly of wasting our young trees in this especial nonsense of street decoration. This is the more to be regretted when we learn that the *arch-itecture* is such a signal failure.

HERE is a practical instance of the origin of "Bank Scares." A friend in Toronto writes us:—

"We were assured the other day that a certain bank was gone. Several storekeepers, we were told, were refusing its bills. The wisdom of this course had been fully impressed on our informant's mind by the fact that the shares of said bank were not quoted at all in the evening papers, either of that or the previous day. This he took as conclusive evidence that it was all up with the poor bank. Is it not a little hard on a financial institution to suppose that because nobody wants to *force* sale of its stock, therefore it must be insolvent? Still ignorance is capable of much mischief in panicky times. Ignorance ought to be repressed; and the newspapers ought to do it."

THE New York *Herald* has suggested that negotiations relating to questions interesting Canada and the United States could better be conducted directly, instead of through the medium of Great Britain, and is "glad that the Toronto *Globe* favours what seems a practical method. As to the doubt it (the *Globe*) expresses whether the result of such direct negotiations will be satisfactory to the people of the United States, we (N. Y. *Herald*) reply they will be entirely satisfactory in this, the most important particular, that whatever arrangements are made will be made directly between those concerned; and in this way the conclusions arrived at will always be conclusive, and not merely the bases of new misunderstandings."

THE *Evening Post* of 29th ult., says:—"Alas for poor England, unhappy England! She has to send away 20 or 30 tons of gold every day for provisions for home consumption." Good *Post* don't take on so, it isn't half so bad as that! think for a moment, call it twenty-five tons, and work out how many barrels of flour it would give for every man, woman and child in England.

SIR ROWLAND HILL, the author of the Penny Postage system is dead, at the ripe age of 84. He was the son of a schoolmaster at Birmingham, and therefore not of the order to whom promotion comes as of right; but he rose steadily against opposition and ill-usage. Sir Rowland Hill lived to see his cheap postal system prevailing all over