

prejudicial to his character. We have Mr. Dawson triumphantly elected by the reformers of Kent, and Mr. Fraser by the reformers of South Grenville. How much more may we expect when we evince a desire to return to our old allegiance, when we show symptoms of an earnest desire to come back to the ranks which in our folly we left. There shall be rejoicing in the Liberal camp when, like the prodigal, we return home.

There are, I doubt not, many members supporting the Conservative Government, who are individually Liberal in sentiment, free from bigotry, and who would ostracise no man because of the accidents of race or creed. This class of men support the Government for either or all of the following reasons:—1st. That the whippers in of the party flatter their vanity and allay their suspicions by a cunningly-devised system of laudation and lip liberality; 2nd. They are too unsuspecting to doubt and too lazy to examine; and 3rd. They consider the Government so strong that all attempts at their overthrow would be futile, and for the sake of small favours for their constituents, they continue to give it support. We often hear those slipshod orators, who act the whips of the party, exclaim that the utmost harmony prevails between all "clawses," and sectaries in this country; and take credit to their party for allaying the demon of discord. Yes, that harmony which subsists between a master and his slaves—the latter are allowed to live and toil so long as they are humble and obedient, and ready to do the master's behests.

Some will say what is the use of opposing a certain candidate, he will, nevertheless, be elected; and without effecting any tangible benefit we are converting a friend into an enemy. This is one of the misfortunes of open voting, one of the many strong arguments in favour of the *ballot* in preventing the disruption of social relations and friendly intercourse between those who differ on public questions. If the franchise is to be exercised from such considerations, it would be better for the individual and the public that such was disfranchised. Moreover, the man who in his private relations to another would be influenced by such considerations is wholly unfit to be a representative of the people. The elector in duty, in honour and in patriotism must banish all such considerations from his mind, and use this solemn trust in strict accordance with his own convictions. I can do no better here than quote a few extracts, clipped from the *Irish Sentinel*, from a pastoral of JOHN, the venerable and patriotic Archbishop of Tuam, so often and justly styled "the Lion of the fold of Judah," to his clergy.

The Archbishop says :

"We are again on the eve of one of those periods so disastrous to the interests of morality and religion that recur occasionally in Ireland. During elections the mind of many of the faithful are