

liness to second the charm of gentleness by the mastering force of decision ; by the breadth and liberality of his mind, which rises without effort far above the paltry considerations that too often sunder communities as well as individuals, and soars unfettered in the calm atmosphere of philosophic and truly Christian tolerance. Such, and such alone, were his weapons. Before them, fanaticism could only sheathe its claws, and the whole host of prejudices beat a retreat.

The meetings were crowded with opponents, some of them fully determined to interrupt the speaker, to hiss him, to answer all he might say by derisive yells, and to do their best to prevent his even making himself heard. All of them went away, if not converted and convinced, at any rate mollified and charmed. Never had a public speaker found himself confronted with greater obstacles to overcome, and never did one attack them more victoriously.

In short, what had been dreaded as a formidable campaign, was turned into a triumphal progress ; and the outcome of the last elections in the Province of Ontario bears testimony—perhaps more than is generally recognised—to its successful results.

Laurier's great power lies in the fact that he does not submit to being mastered by circumstances, but masters *them*. It is not for him to obey, but to command. He is, moreover, uniform and consistent throughout. The profound and philosophical cast of his thought leads him to refer to first principles in all things, and from first principles his methodic mind impels him to deduce systematic results. We see in him a man governed not by expediency, but by reason. Hence it is that all the achievements of his career make up one compact and symmetrical whole. While he is not by any means an Ideologist, in the narrow sense of the word, he may be said to be under the domination of one germinal and originative idea, which we may regard as the synthesis, so to speak, of an intellect as diversified in its qualities as it is free from confusion or complexity.

The idea to which I allude may be summed up in the phrase : " Liberalism in the service of Patriotism." An advanced patriotism, let me add, and a temperate Liberalism. By an advanced patriotism,