

THE BYSTANDER.

FEBRUARY, 1880.

THE BYSTANDER now bears a motto embodying our main object and our guiding principle in treating Canadian affairs. Whether our aim is a narrow propagandism or as broad a view as we are able to take of the events of the time, our readers will judge not from hostile or fanciful representations, but from that which is before them. Our success has greatly exceeded our hopes, and promises a circulation at least double of that for which we were prepared.

The next great Canadian event will be the meeting of Parliament. The Ministerial majority is overwhelming; under ordinary circumstances it would be too large for party discipline; but its members will be kept in order by the fear of losing their seats, as some of them undoubtedly would, if they were now compelled to go to the country. Even the friends of the N. P. admit that there is a certain amount of disappointment. Election promises are always pitched too high; and assuredly the N. P. campaign formed no exception to the general rule. But there is a deeper cause of disappointment than this. The new tariff is a right measure in itself, taking for granted the soundness of the general policy to which it has relation, and which consists in carrying Imperialism into our economical affairs; but, as we are persuaded, that policy is the reverse of sound. The other pillar of the party, besides the tariff, is the ability of its chief. There is a good deal of talk, premature and therefore impolitic, about the successor of Sir John Macdonald, and attempts