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Comments on the Cartoons.



THE POLITICAL LEADERS AWAITING EXECUTION. —It is sad that two promising political careers should be ruthlessly cut off, but when, at the next election, both Sir John and Mr. Laurier are relegated into private life (together with their entire following in the House, barring only thirteen noble ones), they will understand that it is a case in which "the punishment fits the crime." They have gone back upon the country in a most treasonable fashion, all for the sake of supposed party gains, and the country

proposes to take it out of them in this constitutional fashion. They will do well, therefore, to avail themselves of whatever consolation their ghostly father, Mercier, can give them in the meantime. And let them not vex themselves with the thought that the country cannot get along without them. We have thousands of statesmen—hitherto mute inglorious Miltons and Village Hampdens—who will more than fill their places, and honestly seek to demonstrate that the Dominion of Canada can be governed without the base policy of sectionalism and grab which has so long been regarded as essential.

P.S.—The above prognostications are based on the idea that every voter in Canada who has declared himself in sympathy with the Equal Rights movement, is going to stand to his guns and act in accordance with his present convictions when voting

day comes round, and that every Orangeman is going to vote consistently with the principles of his Order. We surely cannot be astray in assuming this much, can we?

THE "LITTLE BIT OF PORK."—When the Jesuit Bill matter first came up in the House, Sir John treated it with his characteristic nonchalance, declaring that the whole agitation was "a little bit of pork." Since then the morsel has developed into a "whole hog," and a particularly rampageous animal at that. Perhaps Sir John has already noted this fact, but it is not certain that it has inspired him with very much terror as yet. He is by nature a cynic, and cannot very well be expected to understand people ever being in downright earnest—which he never is himself. And he may possibly be right in this instance in supposing that before next election the "whole hog" will have shrunk once more into "a little bit of pork." All we can say is that at present it doesn't look that way, and Messrs. Caven, Douglass, Charlton and McCarthy are only beginning to get warmed up to their work.



BEFORE the One-hundred-and-eighty-eight make their final exit from public life in an ignominious manner on the day of the next general election, fair play requires that they be heard in defence of their vote on the Jesuit Bill. And that the defence may be made in an able and orderly manner, we suggest that Mr. Edward Blake be the spokesman. It may be that the people at large are grossly in error about this business, and the arguments which proved so conclusive to Mr. Blake's candid mind may be equally convincing to theirs. It would be a thousand—or at least 188—pities to slaughter all these members of Parliament at the polls, and then find out that it was all a mistake. Now that the long vacation is over, and we are enjoying nice cool evenings, a large, intelligent and appreciative audience could be got together, say in the Pavilion, to listen to the eminent orator.

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THE commissioners appointed by the Local Government to investigate the question of French schools in Ontario have formally handed in their report, which, as was anticipated, is practically a modified edition of the *Mail's* statement of facts. The commissioners recommend the establishment of a special school for the training of French teachers in English methods; the compilation of French-English Readers; the rigorous exclusion of unauthorized text books; and the prevention of the use of the R. C. catechism in school hours. The Minister of Education showed in his speech at the reception of the A.A.A.S., that he has a good fund of wit. He will now have it put to the test in the accomplishment of the task thus categorically placed before him. That he will go at it with Scottish energy and discretion, and successfully perform it in a reasonable length of time, there is no ground for doubting. Political friend and foe alike ought to frankly recognize the formidable character of the job, and be prepared to give Mr. Ross a fair show.

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THE Scientists are with us, and to all appearance are having as good a time as strict scientific propriety will permit. We gave them a right royal reception, welcoming them in three distinct styles of oratory. On behalf of the city, Mayor Clarke addressed them in the Dignified and Civic style; for the Province, Hon. G. W. Ross—as the representative of a facetious ministry—