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Artist and Editor Associate Editor

J. W. BENGOUGH. PHILLIPS THOMPSON.



Comments

ON THE Cartoons.

A PRIVATE VIEW.—That eminent political artist, Sir R. Cartwright, is putting the last touches (with *Globe* ink) upon his great picture entitled "The Future of Canada"—a few touches a day, as readers of the *Liberal* daily are aware. Just after the Budget speech has

been made the canvas will be exhibited to the public, and if it doesn't make a sensation it will not be the artist's fault. The picture is a nocturne in black, and although it conveys but one broad effect of desolation, the mass of color is the result of an elaborate composition. The well-posted critic will be able to distinguish therein, for example, the fact that the estimates for the ensuing year are forty-three millions, independently of the sums that may be voted

for the P.E.I. tunnel, the Quebec bridge, the Trent Valley canal, or any of the other projects now under consideration. He will, also, on close examination, see the exodus, the public debt and the high taxation policy, duly worked into the basis of the picture, and here and there touches suggestive of extravagance and corruption. But the whole thing will be elaborately explained by the artist himself on the occasion mentioned, so that none of its fine points will be lost. Whatever the thick and thin admirers of Sir Richard may think of the picture, however, it is not likely to enjoy much popularity with the public. Gloom and despair are things the people do not go in for, and some eminent authorities in the Canadian press contend that such a picture should never, under any circumstances, be painted. We do not share this view. The only question is, is the representation a true one? It is for Mr. Foster and other experts to show—as we hope they may—that facts will warrant the introduction of a good deal of half-tone and a few strong high-lights into the sombre production.

MERCIER ENNOBLED.—Hon. Honoré Mercier, Premier of Quebec, has been honored by the Pope with the title of Count. The political effect of this will, no doubt, be most marked. Already we hear of a movement on the part of Mercier's opponents to equalize the chances by securing some countships for the Conservative side. We are not informed, by the way, that the Quebec Premier thought it necessary to enquire whether Her Majesty had any objection to his accepting a title from the Pope.



REFORM CLUB prophets, who a few days ago were sitting round on soft chairs after dinner and confidently predicting a Government majority of not more than eleven at the very most on the first division, must have felt like letting the club house taps run on their heads for a while after the vote on Cameron's bill was

taken. They were "out" only eighteen. But this is about as close as your 'know-it-all-had-it-straight-from-headquarters style of prophet ever gets.

PEOPLE wondered at the fatuity of Hon. Frank Smith in setting himself against the strong arm of the law in refusing to give up possession of the street railway. It was a foregone conclusion that he would be beaten, and merely have the pleasure of handing over the proceeds of the few additional days business to the city authorities. The explanation, however, was very simple. The Hon. Frank Smith is an Irishman.

MR. GUNN has been made superintendent, and the present manager and staff continued during the "interregnum," the civic interest being represented by an advisory committee consisting of the Mayor, Alderman McDougall and City Engineer Jennings. A very sensible resolution was introduced by Ald. Hallam at the first meeting of the Street Railway Committee, prohibiting all interference on the part of aldermen with the management. This passed by a unanimous vote. A proviso was also placed in the minutes forbidding any alderman to send men to the officials of the road for work. Meanwhile, new tenders are being called for, and of one thing we may be sure—no tenderer will offer as much as the city could make for itself if even the present organization of the business were declared permanent.

WHERE, oh where was Brother Foster when the prohibition debate was on? Has he forgotten that he was put into that snug Cabinet seat simply and only because he was supposed to represent the "temperance element?" We greatly fear Brother Foster is a Pious fraud. The reason we think so is that he acts like one.