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→* The Sanctum. *←

THE year Eighteen Hundred and Eighty seven has been and bids fair to be characterized by events which will mark it in the centuries as one of most noticeable political change.

The revolution in English politics which has recently taken place causing a division of party without parallel in history, will no doubt take a decided position before many months pass away. Popular feeling seems to indicate that the Irish Policy on which Gladstone was defeated is waiting for a chance, in the very near future, to again lift its head, and with newly acquired strength place at the head affairs in Great Britain the greatest man the world now nurtures.

In Germany and France things have assumed a decidedly alarming character. The wonderful rapidity with which France overcame the devastation and disadvantage in which the late war placed her, and the thoroughly organized army she now controls, has caused a powerful representative voice to be raised against Bismark's call for funds. Should affairs come

to a crisis, and the result of the late election gives every indication that they will, Germany will find France a hard nut to crack.

North America, especially the Southern portion, has ushered in '87 with a series of labor strikes. The war between labor and capital is both a serious and grievous one, and both parties interested seem yearly to be more unwilling to give up the battle. The legislator who may frame a law calculated to check the evil of strikes will be as much deserving of the laurel wreath as he who abolished slavery. The violent attitude taken by some of the United States' Senators in regard to the fishery trouble, is, to say the least, amusing. The only perceptible effect of their windiness is the sharp, severe criticism indulged in rather freely by the American Press.

Canada has returned to power with a reduced majority the Government of Sir John Macdonald, who has guided the ship of state successfully or unsuccessfully, as difference of opinion may suggest, for the past eight years. The opening of Parliament which alone will give the true party strength will be looked forward to with no small amount of interest.

THE election campaign is at length over. The battle for political honors has been lost and won. Sir John Macdonald has been returned to power with a decreased majority; the true strength of which can be told only when Parliament meets for the transaction of business. The universal interest taken, and all the prevailing excitement of the late contest were truly remarkable, almost unnatural, and those who, during the heat of the battle, had other business which must be attended to, whatever their political tendencies may have been, must have hailed with delight the evening of the 22nd of February.

The growing interest in politics which the young men are taking, especially college students, must be indicative of a brilliant future for any country. The time is not far distant when a more comprehensive