

As long peace, according to the military philosophers, rouses the ever latent craving for war, so lengthy conciliation in domestic politics may stimulate in contrary extremists a craving for return to conditions of turbulence. Spirited boys, held long from uproarious fight by a father gentle and persuasive, have been known to lock the door against him that they might fight out their quarrels. The door is now locked on Laurier, for a time at least. Meantime, we have the customary turmoil of years preceding 1896,—French brother battered by Orange brother; West and East at loggerheads that can never be ended save by submission of the Pharaoh-hearted; friendly neighbours, whose crime was to have granted what Canada had long sought, deliriously reviled every lawful morning; farmers threatened with a degree of disfranchisement; loud alarums by devotees of the opinion that Canadians should hasten to defend the shore of the Old Country while neglecting defence of their own; native Canadian protests against dragging the country into militarism wholly beyond Ottawa's sphere answered by roars in the familiar tone of "Croppies, lie down;" the familiar course of constitutional development in Canada threatened by hazardous experimentation; anxiety for the immediate future distinct in the aspect of business men. What a change from quiet conditions in one year !

Is Laurier vindicated ? It would be rash and unjust to premise that Mr. Borden cannot or will not quiet turbulents and truculents. Ah, but the West ! He is so deeply committed against accepting the boon without which the West can never be contented, the boon whose political value Saskatchewan and Alberta elections have enabled him to comprehend. Wish him well we must, for that is wishing harmony renewed in the Dominion.

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