

We all regret the absence of the Hon. Mr Blake, whom illness temporarily keeps away from our country, and we fervently pray that he may soon return stronger than ever to renew his labours, continue his successes, and, in conjunction with our brilliant leader, Mr. Laurier, secure the triumph, at Ottawa, of the true interests of the Canadian people.

PREJUDICES

Before giving a sketch of what we have done since we have undertaken the management of public affairs, as well as of what we propose to do, it will not be perhaps inopportune to call attention to certain false notions industriously spread among the public by a certain section of the Press, for the purpose of injuring the Government, by arousing against it national and religious prejudices.

RELIGIOUS PREJUDICES.

The adherents of the Ministry are recruited for the greater part from the ranks of the Liberal party, the National Conservatives, who honor it with their support, forming, in the Legislature at least but a respectable and important minority, whom we most highly esteem. Unable to urge against the Liberal party accusations which they consider plausible or which they would dare to avow, our opponents fall back upon religious questions and endeavor to evoke from the depths the spectre of Liberalism, which has served them in such good stead as a political stock in trade in the past.

I have, on several occasions, defined the political principles which I hold and which are held by all Liberals who give their support to the Government; but the malice and bad faith of certain adversaries who falsify true doctrines to attack and slander a large group of the friends of the Ministry, compel me to here reaffirm the political creed of the Liberals of the Province of Quebec.

DISTINCTIONS TO BE MADE.

There are two kinds of Liberalism: religious Liberalism and civil or political Liberalism. The Liberals of this Province repudiate religious Liberalism, which is