

self-improvement and shackled to the end of time by a compact made with the Bourbon past?

Special interest will attach to the contest in Toronto, where owing to the ingenuous attempt of the Grits in the last gerrymander to give themselves by Act of Parliament one of the seats for the city, utter uncertainty and perplexity reign. We are not without hope that a respectable vote, at all events, will be cast against the Machines. In Mr. E. Douglas Armour not only have the friends of Equal Rights a thoroughly good representative of their principle, but all independent citizens have a candidate by supporting whom they may enter a telling protest against Machine domination and all that it brings in its train.

—The cost of the Parliament buildings, of which the Opposition makes a strong point, will very likely be three times the estimate. This is the universal story, told by the unfinished piles of Albany and Philadelphia, with their ever-growing builders' bills, as well as by their humbler counterpart in the Queen's Park. Democracy, whatever else it may be, in its present phase is not economical. Wastefulness never overthrows a democratic Government, and it is not likely that the expenditure on the Parliament buildings will prove fatal to Mr. Mowat. What might righteously prove fatal to him, so far as Toronto votes are concerned, is the paltry policy of the budget-maker, who, to boast of a petty saving, destroys a park which is essential to the enjoyment, the health and the morality of the people of Toronto. Why had Toronto no Hampden when this was done? Unhappily, for some reason which perhaps Dr. Bourinot and other profound students of our institutions can explain, our political soil is more fruitful of oratory and some other good things than it is of Hampdens.

—In this as in other general elections questions of administration and questions of principle, matters of the most various