

ness of the Opposition, Mr. Mowat has won the Ontario elections, there is a strong ground-swell of repugnance to Ultramontaniam and priestly domination. To reconcile British and Protestant Liberals to French and Catholic leadership, the leader must at least bring a substantial accession of force. But Mr. Laurier brings with him no such accession. If he leads French Liberalism, it is as a man leads a wild horse by clinging desperately to its tail. At the Mercier Banquet he faintly breathed Moderation, while Nationalism thundered applause at the salutation of the Tricolor. Sir Richard Cartwright, who is now practically the head of Ontario Liberalism, may not be an ideal leader, but at all events he is a strong and resolute man, he thoroughly knows his own mind, he is a political not a forensic speaker, and he is perfectly master of the question upon which battle at the coming election will be joined. Mr. Laurier's character is such as to make it comparatively easy for Sir Richard to maintain with him a relation which might be awkward if he were not so unselfish or his temper were not so good. Unless a heaven-born leader should appear, the Liberals had better remain as they are. If, however, they have made up their minds, as at present appears, to an alliance with Rielism and a flirtation with Socialism, their choice of a leader is not of so much importance.

—At the triumphal banquet given by the Club National, Mr. Mercier pointed to the Tricolor and said, "This flag, gentlemen, you know. It is the National flag. The Government which you have you know. It is the National Government. The party which I have before me I know. This flag, this government, and this party are to-night honoured by the National Club. It is a national triumph which we celebrate to-night, and not national merely in name but national in tendencies, aspirations and sentiments." After this who can question the aims of the party which the late election has shown to be dominant in Quebec? Who can doubt that be-