

The Quebec Legislature has met, and M. Joly has so far held his own; and although it is not yet clear how the debate on the Address will terminate, it is tolerably clear, from the unbounded rage and intemperate language of the Opposition, that all is over with the old *régime*. Three of the five old Ministers were ignominiously defeated at the polls, and in the present House, Messrs. Chapleau and Church alone remain to mourn and scold over their untoward fate. The former is certainly a host in himself, so far as mad passion and impotent vituperation goes; but it is vain and foolish for a man to make so vile a use of his unruly member when caged in the pillory. Certainly coarser vituperation was never before vented in a deliberative assembly than that indulged in by the ex-Provincial Secretary and some of his supporters. The closeness of the division on the Speakership does not by any means fully express the state of public opinion. By a very large numerical majority the country has undoubtedly sustained the Joly administration, indirectly approved the Lieut.-Governor's action, and given the reckless and extravagant party their *coup de grâce*. It is a matter of very slight importance whether this Government shall endure or what is to succeed it; the great and valuable issue of the struggle is a cleansing of the Augean stable and the inauguration of a new political era in Quebec. Messrs. Turcotte and Price have been loaded with abuse because they have resolved to give effect to the popular verdict, and to extend fair play to the Joly Cabinet. They are consigned to "eternal infamy," "dishonour," and so on, through the copious vocabulary of party vindictiveness. It is all in vain, because most men know both the real meaning and significance of abusive language of this sort. The De Boucherville Government was all that its opponents alleged, according to the Opposition journals, and even more; and yet

they are now raging, like baffled conspirators, because Messrs. Turcotte, Price, and Lovell will not aid in giving them another lease of power, another opportunity of abusing the trust committed to them. The speech from the Throne has the true ring about it, and makes a courageous attempt to grapple with the mischief at once by vigorous and sorely-needed retrenchment. The abolition of the useless Legislative Council and economy in other directions form a preliminary policy which cannot fail to work the best results. If the entire Dominion will only deal with parties at the next elections on the Quebec plan, insure the return of men who will consider their country first and their party afterwards, there will be some prospect of an end to scandal and a healthy and patriotic tone in the conduct of public affairs.

The attempts made upon the life of the Emperor William of Germany, both, we most fervently hope, ineffectual, have sent a thrill of horror and sympathetic feeling through the heart of the civilized world. That an octogenarian monarch, during whose reign so much has been achieved for the fatherland, and who has always striven to be the affectionate father and friend of his people, should be marked out for destruction by a band of fanatical and reckless assassins, shocks the moral sense of humanity. A deed so gratuitously wicked and useless, even had it proved successful, passes and puzzles the understanding. Unhappily all the mischief is not confined to mere nervous alarm in high quarters, or the panic and shock public confidence has so rudely encountered. The bureaucracy of Berlin can comprehend but one method of dealing with the disease of which these insane attempts are but symptoms. The centralized system will tighten its cords, the military spirit will grow more imperious and exigent, and liberty of speech and opinion, with all other liberties, will