

parents tells them is not according to Holy Writ. The Roman Catholic Church has withstood religious intolerance for centuries, and will continue to do so, and there is no reason in the world why any one who feels so inclined should not come out and openly avow themselves in accord with that church. There can be no objection to a clergyman who conscientiously believes himself on the wrong road to take the right road at the earliest opportunity.

There is a growing demand for cheap reading. In olden times, the prices of books were so high and money so scarce that only the wealthy could enjoy the luxury of reading current literature. Now all this is changed, the poor as well as the rich, at a moderate expense can secure the works of the best authors for a small. Mr. Jamieson, the well-known merchant of Government street, is determined to give the public still cheaper reading, and with this end in view has started what is known as a "book exchange." He proposes to throw his entire stock of paper covered books, the largest in the Province, into the exchange. Every person who purchases a 25-cent book can, after reading it, by paying an additional 10 cents and returning the original book in good condition, secure another 25-cent book. The charge of exchanging a 50-cent book will be 15 cents. By this means every one has an opportunity of reading as many as he likes of the 10,000 books in Mr. Jamieson's book exchange. No doubt many will take advantage of the opportunity thus presented to secure cheap reading at a small expense.

SHORT AND TO THE POINT.

It is announced that immediately after the House prorogues Messrs. Brown and Cotton will "star" the Province in the great play which their opponents designate the sublime force of "Balaam and his Ass." It is scarcely necessary to say that Mr. Cotton will play the ass and Mr. Brown the rider, who will belabor his steed with all his might until he brays loud enough.

John Cunningham Brown, M. P. P., is understood to be training hard in the school of Prof. Twigg, so as to be able to handle Col. the Hon. James Baker, of the Royal Horse Guards Blue, also of Crimean and Cranbrook fame, and, it is said, as the latter has the choice of weapons would be just as ready to knock him down as talk him down.

The postmaster of the city of New Westminster, for it has not yet been announced whether he will resign the position or be removed from office, owing to the incompatibility of the positions of politician and letter sorter, is said to have been so well satisfied with his success in "taking off" the Premier that he might possibly study for the stage. In that event it is not unlikely that he would sing his own version of "Two Little Boys in Blue," the moral of the song being the impossibility of a man being the servant of the authorities at Ottawa, and a rival with the Attorney-General for the bossship of

British Columbia, who is also one of the boys in blue.

It is reported that in addition to the other features of the dramatic show which the Premier will pilot through the Island and Mainland in the course of a few weeks, Mr. Hunter, M. P. P., for Comox, will illustrate how, were he so permitted, he could represent the modern development of the Colossus of Rhodes by stretching himself politically from where he now is over to Alberni, and then overshadowing the islands, Messrs. Fletcher and Booth serving as the weight by which it would be possible for him to balance himself during the thrilling performance.

It is not certain whether or not it will be a case of fistcuffs or cold steel when Messrs. Punch and Sword enter the arena to champion the respective causes of the Government and the Opposition on one of the big events to which Westminster is looking forward. Dr. Watt, who, it would appear, has been wiped out politically will, it is probable, be stationed in the ring to supply the needed medical attentions.

Mr. Thomas Kitchen is, it is authoritatively announced, rehearsing under the careful instruction of a well-known master his own unrivalled composition, "I'm no nearer to the pantry than e'er I was before." The song will be sung in character, with a full orchestral accompaniment of spoons, forks, tumblers, frying pans and dish cloths.

Mr. Speaker—I cannot refrain
From passing a comment harsh again
Upon the conduct—but why dilate,
Why prolong by further debate,
Discussion of Theodoric depravity?
All I can say—I say it with gravity—
Without into detail caring to enter
All the questions before us must centre
Upon this point, and this alone
A fight's not lost until it's won;
As I said, the Redistribution bill
Is simply a compound of malice and ill;
The Budget—but pray excuse a tear—
I did not touch it, what more would you hear?
I point the finger of scorn at those
Who dare to ape in financier's clothes,
Unmindful that but one financier
Has ever been known in Columbia.
Modesty, my most redeeming feature,
Prevents my naming the humble creature.
But, Mr. Speaker—you may rely
That when the Committee on Supply
Shall bring in a Budget in ninety-five,
No unpaid drones will burden the hive,
I therefore move with very good reason,
That Davie & Co. be indicted for treason.
If the motion be lost I will appeal to the Times,
And then they'll be hung—whatever their crimes—
(He whispered to Keith, in very low breath,
"Our only hope is to be in at the death.")

It is rumored in local financial circles that the Duke of Montrose and a party of British capitalists will visit British Columbia during the summer, the object of their trip being, it is said, to thoroughly investigate the advantages which the Kootenay country offers for investment. We trust we shall not be considered too forward in directing the attention of His Grace and friends to the

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