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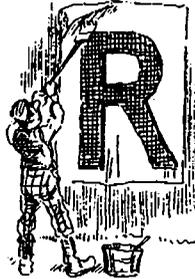


THE TIDE IS RISING.—If the leaders of the parties in Parliament supposed that the vote upon Col. O'Brien's motion would put an end to the agitation of the Jesuit question, they made a serious miscalculation. The popular discussion is every day growing more animated, for it does not circle round a mere technical point of law, as the debate in the House did, but takes cognizance of the broad and general issue presented as between Church and State. What the friends of civil and religious equality throughout the Dominion contend is that it is contrary to sound public policy to encourage Jesuitism in this country. Nothing can affect this position short of a demonstration of the harmlessness of the Society

—in other words, a demonstration of the falsity of all history relating thereto, and an impeachment of the common sense of all those Catholic rulers who have driven the Jesuits from their domains. The fact that the Quebec Jesuits have withdrawn their action against the *Mail* is not suggestive of their confidence in the results of an examination before a court of law, and naturally tends to strengthen the public opinion we have alluded to. But without this incidental acknowledgment Canadians at large have pretty well come to a full appreciation of the danger, and are manifesting a patriotic determination to "head it off." The vote in the House has apparently only had the effect of marking the English-speaking members of the majority for con-dign punishment when next they come before their constituents. They are probably aware by this time that neither the Grit doctrine of Provincial Rights nor the Tory doctrine of the Absolute Necessity of Sustaining John A. are regarded by the people as

more important than the preservation of British liberty in our midst. The tide is rising, and certain eminent ones are in extreme danger of being drowned.

MASTER OF THE SITUATION.—What the Irish vote is in the United States the French Catholic vote is in Canada. It holds the balance of power in the Dominion Parliament, and both parties find it necessary—or at least consider it so—to humor it in every possible way. Our cartoon is intended to convey an impression of the masterful position of the Quebec vote in Canadian politics. It is not necessary to suppose that Edward Blake and others who are generally regarded as high-minded and honorable men, consciously "truckle" to this influence. In this Jesuit Bill vote, for example, Mr. Blake, had he seen fit, could no doubt have given some reason for his course. But it would certainly have been short of the highest reason—the good of the country.



EARLY, it does look as though Mr. Minister of Finance Foster was "dans le potage," over this \$20,000,000 loan. It appears that, according to the bond attached to the loan, the money is borrowed for fifty years at three per cent.; but, according to the terms of the prospectus attached to the bond, it is really a loan for ten years at

from five to seven per cent. The question is, how the bond is to be reconciled to the prospectus. Mr. Minister Foster seems to propose to solve the difficulty by ignoring the latter document, which he does not regard as binding.

* * *

THIS is startling talk from such a quarter. It simply means repudiation, and if the Canadian people are prepared to support a ministry in any policy looking in that direction, the sooner we put up our national shutters the better. There is no question that a huge blunder has been made in connection with this fiscal transaction, and that the country is in for a smart loss of money; but bad as this is, in our present far from flush condition, it is not so bad as the loss of honor, which is coolly contemplated by the blunderers.

* * *

THIS seems to be a good season for new parties. Brother Sheppard, of *Saturday Night*, has just been presiding at the interesting ceremony of galvanizing into life the late lamented Canada First idea. In due time the new organization will be fully equipped, and labelled No. 4 in the list of Canadian political parties. Amongst its sponsors we observe the name of Hon. G. W. Ross, from which we infer that that distinguished statesman intends to cut his connection with the moribund Grit party. Just what the programme of the new party is to be is as yet something of a mystery. We gather from the speeches at the preliminary gathering that its chief function will be to "cultivate a national sentiment." This, at all events, is an admirable object, and the short cut to it is to make the country worthy of the love and admiration of its citizens.

SYMPATHY.

HOW strong the bond of sympathy!
 How touching is its power!
 How sweet to feel that someone sighs
 When clouds around us lower.

But though they're sweet, the fond regrets
 Of friends when luck is hard,
 I've no use for an editor's
 When he sends them on a card.