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Artist and Editor
Associate Editor

J. W. BENGOUGH.
PHILLIPS THOMPSON.



Comments ON THE Cartoons.

WILL THE SHOES FIT?—The papers (probably for want of something better to discuss), are debating the probabilities of an early dissolution of Parliament and the springing of the general election. It is alleged that the

matter has been talked over in the Cabinet, and it is counter-alleged that the old Premier hasn't even dreamed of such a thing. The *Globe* steps in to say that even if Sir John advised a dissolution just now, the Governor-General has the power of declining the advice, and would no doubt use it, in view of the necessity of another general election shortly afterwards, when the new census is taken. It seems to be generally believed that, whether the election is brought on prematurely or at the regular period, the coming campaign will be the last under the old chieftain's leadership. The subject of the Successor is, therefore, up for discussion in this connection, and the name of Sir John Thompson is mentioned among the knowing ones as that of the gentleman who stands best at present in the Old Man's limited list of availables. Notwithstanding the deprecatory query of the late Mr. Shakespeare, "What's in a name?" we cannot help

thinking that a "Sir John," with very moderate gifts would stand a better chance of wearing the Chieftain's shoes successfully than a man of any other name with twice the talents. There's a good deal in continuing business under a well established firm-name, and why shouldn't this rule hold in politics?

HOLDING HIM UP TO PUBLIC CONDEMNATION.—Gen. Middleton's open letter to the public is being discussed all over the country, and the comments upon it are not flattering to the Minister of Militia, who is shown to have been primarily responsible for both of the offences with which Sir Fred was charged—the looting of furs, and the withholding of promotions from deserving officers. It would have been at least manly for Caron to have stated at the time of the investigation or before, that in giving orders for the furs to be taken General Middleton was acting upon a reasonable interpretation of a telegram from the Militia Department; and he might also have relieved him long ago from the severe reflections which were being made upon his selfishness, etc., by stating that the Government's rule is—no promotions for French Canadian officers (who happen not to deserve them) no promotions for any. But it was left to the General, as a last resort in defence of his own honor and self-respect, to give the public the facts. And the facts as they now stand, add emphasis to the long-continued demand for the removal of Caron from a position which he was never fit to occupy.



LECTION day, anywhere—"I'll bet you ten dollars that you will not deposit a ballot in this election." "I'll take it; put up your money." The cash is deposited, and the day after the polling the non-voter is \$10 ahead. It is proposed to put an end to this insidious form of bribery by having a compulsory voting law passed in Ontario. The idea is a good one. We fail to see what objection there could possibly be to such a law, applying to every voter who cannot furnish good and sufficient reason for not going to the poll. The franchise is a privilege, a badge of manhood, and the State has a right to demand its use at the hands of all to whom it has been entrusted. Let the voter nullify his ballot by marking all the names or none of them as he sees fit, but compel him to cast it, anyway, if he is physically able to go to the polling booth.

IN a recent cable despatch we read :

The eyes of all Catholics in England are anxiously directed to Rome; but not only these, for so great is the regard for the dead Cardinal that most people of other religious denominations are waiting with interest to learn who will be declared worthy to occupy his chair. Speculation has been rife since the vacancy occurred, and many men have been mentioned as likely to be selected, but so far all is speculation.

And yet we have not seen it anywhere stated that the eyes of all the religious world are strained in their sockets to see who will be appointed to succeed the late Dr. Williams as General Superintendent of the Methodist Church in Canada. We would like to know why such an invidious distinction should be made?

BERLIN, Aug. 27th.—Prince Bismarck, in a speech yesterday to a visiting deputation from Heilbron, declared newspaper criticism of him was mere dust, and he awaited the verdict of his tory. His only ambition now was for a good epitaph.