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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE election campaign is now in active progress. It differs from previous campaigns in one essential respect. There is no real party cry before the electors—at any rate in this Province—and the question practically resolves itself into a choice between Sir John and Mr. Blake. If a Conservative be asked as to the guiding-star of his political principles at the present time, he will reply that he is going to "support Sir John," and he will probably point to the C.P.R. and the N.P. as all-sufficient reasons for so doing. Ask a Grit, and the pretty certain reponse is that he will vote for any man who opposes Sir John, without much reference to anything else. The large number of people who have no political opinions at all will vote for a good "local" man; one who takes up zealously some local demand, and can persuade a sufficient number of electors that his return will secure its realization. There is no doubt that the elections will turn very much on Provincial as opposed to Dominion interests. This state of things is much to be regretted, though it will always be so to some extent, and especially in the absence of any question of vital interest. Mr. Blake has made no pretence of placing a policy before the country, and, under existing circumstances, he must not be surprised if people decline to take him entirely upon trust. While it would be folly to attempt any sort of forecast as to the result of the contest, it is unquestionable that

a large majority of those to whom one speaks on the subject incline to the opinion that Sir John will be sustained, though by a very narrow majority.

FOR the present, competition among Liberal Conservative newspapers for the distinction of becoming Government organ-in-chief is over. The question has been solved by the establishment of a new journal in Toronto, called *The Daily Standard*, which has been placed under the editorial management of Mr. Louis P. Kribs. There is a prevalent opinion that the new venture has merely been set up to answer the purpose of a campaign sheet, and that it will cease to exist as soon as the elections are over. We are no better informed on this subject than our neighbours, but it may not unreasonably be supposed that in a Conservative centre like Toronto there exists an opening—almost a necessity—for a permanent advocate of the Conservative policy. Should the *Standard* prove equal to such a position there can be no reason, so far as an outsider can see, for its discontinuance. Its continued existence will probably depend partly upon the extent to which it may realize the expectations of its founders, and partly, perhaps, upon the result of the elections. Its articles so far have not been deficient in vigour. The following, *apropos* of the *Globe's* recent allegations as to the impending insanity of Sir John Macdonald, is a not unfavourable specimen of its journalistic style:

"The late Mr. George Brown and Mr. Gordon Brown were manly fighters who gave and took and wore honourable scars won in many a fight. But their spirit has passed out of Grit journalism, and in its place has come small-souled mediocrity, with its brutality that disorganizes and its servility that disgusts. But although the new and vitriolic pens of the new dispensation have poured out their venom on the reputation of a man whose greatest crime is that he loves his country well, yet they have not prevailed, nor will they ever prevail, against that great and unmeasurable character that has a place in the hearts of his countrymen that Mr. Blake can never hope to fill."