

to be his successor. His ambition is challenged by Mr. Peter Lyall in the Liberal interest. It promises to be a battle royal. In the St. Lawrence division Mr. Bickerdike remains in the field and his election is conceded. He has been an excellent member, and where there is no reason for a change the old member is invariably returned. In St. Anne's division Ald Gallery the Liberal member maintains that he has a sure thing, and the Conservatives are devoting themselves more to stirring up disaffection within the Liberal ranks than they are to securing a candidate of their own. A Conservative writer regards the St. James division as hopeless for the Conservatives. No opponent has yet been named to oppose Mr. Gervais. The Liberal majority in St. Mary's division is so large and so sure that the result is a foregone conclusion. This is the division lately represented by Hon. J. I. Tarte. Mr. Tarte's chances of securing a seat are said by the Liberals to be slim. If he runs anywhere he will be denounced as the betrayer of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Laurier's prestige is so great that this alone may defeat him in any constituency in the province. It is said that he has a chance in one, Berthier. But Berthier is perhaps the most unlikely seat in the province to go back on the Liberal party. It has been steadfastly Liberal since Confederation and Mr. Archambault, the member in the late parliament, is just the type of man to retain the seat. The fact that Mr. Tarte cannot get a seat in his own province shows how absurd, even grotesque was the cry raised by the Ontario Conservatives when he was a member of the government, that he was the "Master of the Administration." That cry was raised for the sole purpose of forcing on the attention of the average Ontario voter the fact that the Prime Minister was a French Canadian and its adoption was a part of the public policy of Sir Charles Tupper that finds its best and most patriotic answer in the fact that the Tappers are now out of parliament, lock stock and baggage. The Tupper idea of loyalty to country and party was office and when deprived of office they quit the business, leaving a new and un-

tried leader to shift for himself and meet the rivalries and jealousies of the various Ontario factions of the Conservative party. Mr. R. L. Borden was entitled to better treatment. Sir Hibbert Tupper was elected in 1900 for the county of Pictou, N.S. What was his course? He deserted his leader, refrained from attending the sessions of the House and kept himself and his parliamentary experience at home just at the time when the Conservative party needed them the most.

In Ottawa there are four candidates because the city elects two members on a general vote. Last time Mr. Belcourt, Liberal, and Mr. Birkett, Conservative, were returned. Mr. Belcourt is certain to again receive the Liberal nomination and election. It is said that he will have as a running mate Mr. H. B. McGivern. Such a ticket would stand an excellent chance of winning both seats. Mr. Robert Stewart was on the ticket last time with Mr. Belcourt, and he is again available, but the consensus of opinion among the Liberals is that Mr. Stewart could not be elected. He is an excellent citizen, and would make a good representative, but if he cannot be elected he is too good a Liberal to stand in the way of complete victory. He has the opportunity now to place the party under a great obligation to him which will be probably of more value to him in the long run than anything else political. The Conservative convention met Friday night which is after we go to press but the daily press will have announced the result. At the present time there is a rather nasty situation owing to the institution of a most unjustifiable legal proceeding against Mr. Fred Cook, one of the aspirants for the nomination as upper town candidate. His rival is the late member Mr. Tom Birkett, and it is suspected that Mr. Birkett's friends are engineering the legal proceedings in an attempt to injure Mr. Cook's prospects in the convention. That sort of thing was likely to arouse sympathy for Mr. Cook instead of hurting him. Mr. Birkett probably disclaimed all knowledge or approval of the proposed legal proceedings and was likely nominated, along with Mr. Champagne as the Conservative ticket.

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