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Comments on the Cartoons.



REMARKABLE SNAKE-CHARMING EXHIBITION.—There does not seem to be any division of opinion amongst Protestants as to the evil character of Jesuitism, and, in view of the expulsion of the Order from Catholic lands and its suppression on one occasion by the Pope himself, Catholics do not all feel disposed to deny the correctness of the prevailing estimate. It may be assumed, therefore, that both the political parties into which the people of Canada are divided, are to a certain extent alive to the danger of having this Order incorporated in the Dominion. Neither party is taking any particular pains to guard against that danger, however, and the reason, no doubt, is that both entertain unlimited

confidence in their own power of coping with the enemy should occasion arise. Jesuitism is a great and powerful serpent, but, pshaw! haven't we, in the two party leaders, a couple of most accomplished snake-charmers? Why all this ado, then? It is too bad that the *Mail* and other cantankerous journals, aided by a host of clerical and lay correspondents, should be permitted to raise a totally unnecessary alarm about this matter just at present, to the disgruntlement of the Catholic vote. It is quite upsetting to the plans of our patriotic party managers, and is putting them in a state of distress. To aid in allaying the public excitement, GRIP publishes a picture intended to show the complete control our leaders have in the meantime over the big snake. Be calm, O Public—there is not the slightest danger just yet!

THE PROHIBITION RESOLUTION.—Mr. Jamieson's resolution in favor of the prohibition of the liquor traffic has been duly moved in Parliament and has met its customary fate. An amendment to the effect that the country is not yet "ripe" for prohibition has been carried in its stead.

CANADIAN orators are in the habit of rolling out grandiloquent periods about the great work which was accomplished by Confederation in uniting the scattered Provinces. Now we stand hand in hand, and so forth. It is becoming plainer every day that our union can never amount to anything while we tolerate two official languages. We must be united by the tongues as well as by the hands!

THE smart ones who write history in advance find themselves "away off" in the matter of accounting for Sir Charles Tupper's present visit. The distinguished Bart. says he has no idea of throwing up his snug berth in London to assume the thankless and precarious task of leading the Conservative party here; he has simply come out as a witness in a case now going on between the Government and the C.P.R. With this denial the whole cock-and-bull story of Sir John's elevation to the Peerage and appointment to a high diplomatic position comes tumbling to the ground. We have reason to believe that Sir John intends staying where he is for the next twenty-five years; he has not yet decided just what he will do after that.



WE are ashamed and disgusted to observe that the organs of the Dominion Government are affecting to treat the invitation, which it is proposed Congress should extend to our public men to visit the United States as the guests of the nation, as

an "insult." Surely ignorant boorishness could go no further. If there is any good reason why the invitation (when extended), should not be accepted, let it be declined with at least decent courtesy. The people of this country know something of good manners, if the clowns who are editing the "organs" do not. We should have supposed that such a fraternal and generous advance on the part of our neighbors would have been met in a similar spirit on our side, as, so far as we can see, nothing worse could come of such mutual visiting than a better understanding and appreciation of each other, and possibly the entire disappearance of every cause of trouble between us. Such a state of things would, however, be fatal to the narrow, bitter and uncharitable sentiment which our present rulers are cultivating in the name of "loyalty."

THE Alberta Coal and Railway Co., which enjoys a monopoly of the Lethbridge coal fields, is before Parliament asking for some additional powers. Mr. Watson, of Manitoba, with his usual good sense, proposed that, as a condition of the new powers being granted, the Company should be compelled to carry coal at a stated reasonable rate. Of course this was voted down in the House. The Bill is now before the Senate, where it will be—well, perhaps, we had better wait and see.

MEANWHILE, we desire to put on record our belief that the Creator did not deposit the coal beds at Lethbridge for the special and exclusive benefit of this monopoly, but for the benefit of all the people. The