

cated the task of the Lieut.-Governor, for water never boils so furiously as in a small kettle.

Colborne began by pursuing the policy which Canadians now demand as their right from every Governor, and took the advice of his constitutional advisers. Unhappily these were the chief men of the Family Compact, and when Colborne supported them in their illegal expulsion of Mackenzie from the House, a storm of invective broke upon his head. Some time later, when the Lieut.-Governor was led by his sense of justice and of British fair play to give special permission to Mackenzie to take the oath, the orators of the Family Compact assailed him with equal vehemence; one of them, a person by the name of Macnab, comparing him, the simple minded, duty-doing, duty-loving hero, to the Vicar of Bray. Small wonder that in disgust he vowed "a pox on both your Houses," and when, shortly after, a largely-signed petition in favour of Mackenzie was handed to him, contented himself with the curt reply: "Gentlemen, I have received the petition of the inhabitants."

A military man is especially unfitted to give to such attacks their proper value. Even in those days, when strong and evil passions were undoubtedly aroused, much of the language must have been uttered, I will not say with the tongue in the cheek of the orator, but certainly in what might be called "a Pickwickian sense." It is not probable that Sir Richard Cartwright really regards Sir Charles Tupper as a moral imbecile, or that Sir Charles looks on Sir Richard as a traitor suborned to betray his country. These accusations have been made, and yet the gentlemen continue to mingle in good society, and doubtless when they meet treat each other with respect and courtesy. William Lyon Mackenzie himself, in private life, met his bitterest opponents on the most friendly terms. To call this hypocrisy would be unfair; it is simply one of those polite and necessary fictions which enable the Government of the country to be carried on. But this an English military man of good family can with difficulty understand. Accustomed to command, and to receive a large amount of unquestioning respect and obedience, accustomed to interpret with literal fidelity the orders of his superiors, and to be hauled over the coals only for a definite breach of a definite order, he attributes to the inflated language of a political opponent an exactitude and an importance which it does not really possess. Thus Colborne, a man of the most scrupulous honour, not without the dignified hauteur of an English gentleman, accustomed to give to his opponents and to receive from them the respect accorded by an age which still remembered the days of the duel, felt the vulgar invectives of Mackenzie and Macnab more keenly than if they had been physical wounds. On January 24th, 1836, he quitted office, having being somewhat suddenly superseded by Sir Francis Bond Head, an unsuitable man, and appointed in a most unsuitable manner by Lord Glenelg, the Colonial Secretary, a weak but obstinate *doctrinaire*, whole ignorance and arro-