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Artist and Editor J. W. BENGOUGH.
 Associate Editor PHILLIPS THOMPSON.



Comments ON THE Cartoons.

THE VOICE OF THE RANK AND FILE.—Major Gen. Middleton has at last handed in his resignation. For this satisfactory conclusion to the fur scandal the newspapers of the country deserve the chief credit. The gallant officer retires from

the leadership of the Canadian Militia without causing any inconsolable grief in the bosoms of the volunteers. If the plain truth were told they are probably very glad to get rid of him, for he was not highly respected for soldierly qualities and enjoyed very little personal popularity. If Sir Fred's resignation were now followed by that of Sir Adolph Caron positive joy would illumine the countenances of the militiamen from one end of the Dominion to the other. While the General has been regarded with indifference by the rank and file, the Minister of Militia is the object of their downright contempt and hatred. He is universally looked upon as an incompetent jack-in-office who has managed in one way and another to crush the enthusiasm of the volunteers and to bring the battalions down to the verge of ruin. Sir John

Macdonald could not do a more popular thing than to replace this bungling dandy by a man with some military tastes and qualifications. If our militia forces are not to be allowed to fizzle out altogether such a change will have to be made soon.

SHEEP'S EYES—Reports having gained currency as to the likelihood of Mr. Edward Blake resuming the leadership of the Reform party, that gentleman has given Dame Rumor her quietus in the following letter to the Editor of the *Globe*:

“MAISON ROUGE, Pointe au Pic, P.Q.,
 June 30, 1890.

SIR,—My attention having been called to the fact that your recent article has given circulation among Liberals to Conservative allegations that I desire to resume the leadership of the Liberal party, I beg space to say that there is not a word of truth in these allegations, and that I am no more desirous to resume than I was to assume or to retain that post. My only wish is that the confidence and affection of Liberals of all shades may induce Mr. Laurier to hold the place which he so admirably fills. I have, etc.,
 EDWARD BLAKE.”

The only possible consideration which could now lead the Liberals to replace Mr. Laurier by another leader is the fact of his being a French-Canadian. There is no more able, pure and popular man to be found in the party, and it would be impossible for Liberals in general to give any leader more confidence and affection than they give Mr. Laurier. The fact we have alluded to, however, is regarded in Ontario as rendering even so brilliant and capable a man as Laurier an “impossibility” as a permanent leader, and the next choice is unquestionably Sir Richard Cartwright. This gentleman lacks something of the geniality of the present leader, though he has more of that quality than Mr. Blake ever possessed. If elected to the position he could probably cultivate the *suaviter in modo* as a matter of business. Otherwise, he is the very “man for Galway”—scholarly, pugnacious, high-minded and eloquent. GRIP would like to see him in the saddle, if Wilfred the Winsome *should* retire, for we have a notion that he would work up plenty of the raw material out of which cartoons are made.



NEW Hope for New England is the title of Mr. Wiman's forthcoming Reciprocity speech to the people of the old Yankee States. The New Englanders are badly in need of a new hope. No part of the United States has suffered more from the restriction policy. The ship-building industry has been effectually squelched by the tariff, and farming has become so poor a job that hundreds of the old homesteads along the Atlantic are deserted. One of the toughest sections of the big job Mr. McKinley has taken in hand is to reconcile the conflicting demands of the New England and Western manufacturers. Taxes that mean riches to one mean depression to the other, and *vice versa*. Under all the circumstances the people ought to be glad to give ear to some common sense talk, and that is what Mr. Erastus Wiman deals in.

IF we may rely upon the erudite editor of the *Kingston News* the conditions in Canada are quite the reverse of all this. The able and profound economist in question, having concentrated his intellect upon the problem of hard times in this country, renders a solution in one oracular sentence, to wit: “There are too many men in agriculture.” If the Protection policy is to be continued (as the *News* man no doubt hopes and prays it may) this