

go together properly. To postpone the turkey's fate another month would not be without its advantages. A Thanksgiving dinner could well be made of other materials and our old friend could grace with greater weight the Christmas board.

The Church of England in Canada last Sunday celebrated the religious festival of Harvest Home. That Church remains faithful to its inherited traditions. An English Thanksgiving Day in an English November would be something too terrible to imagine. We think Anglicans are wise for the reasons we have given to prefer also in Canada an earlier date than the one fixed by the Government. There is the rather unpleasant consequence that when other people are celebrating in November here the churches of the Anglican communion are silent. But at whatsoever date the church does celebrate the feast no occasion offers a greater opportunity for a man who seizes a time to say a word in season. Those who heard, at St. George's Church, Toronto, on Sunday evening, the eloquent discourse of the Rector of St. James' will not soon forget its vigour seasoned by just a dash of good Irish humour. The power of appealing to and swaying the emotions is the orator's chiefest gift. The present time is truly one when, if ever, a preacher can draw the lesson from the sacred text, "Freely ye have received, freely give." The Dominion has had on the whole a prosperous year. It has escaped the storms which have shaken other countries. Canadians, if true to themselves, can develop a glorious future. But they must bear in mind that as a man soweth so shall he reap. A country whose foundations are not laid in truth and justice, brotherly kindness and charity can not succeed. If we have received plenteously we must deal liberally. The motto of our country must be: Fear God, love the brotherhood, honour the king

### The New Brunswick Elections.

A GENERAL election for the Legislature of the Province will be held on the 16th of this month. New Brunswick is differently situated from any of the other Provinces of the Dominion with regard to its local Parliament. Some years ago the parties in the Legislature were divided on Dominion lines, but the Cabinet, within the past six years or more, has comprised both Liberals and Conservatives, and is looked upon as a coalition. It is true that Mr. A. G. Blair, the Premier, is a Liberal, as is Mr. Emmerson, the Commissioner of Public Works; but Mr. Mitchell, Provincial Secretary, and Mr. Tweedie, the Surveyor-General, are Conservatives. To many people this combination appears to be happy; but there are to be found those who would, if they could, have the members of the Legislature separate on Dominion lines. The *St. John Globe*, edited by Mr. J. V. Ellis, a very able journal, is in favour of such a course. However, Mr. Blair, in his manifesto declaring the election on, congratulates the electors of the Province for keeping Dominion and Provincial issues apart. While he may lose some support from extreme Liberals, who scorn any alliance with their Conservative friends, he gains more than he loses in the substantial support he receives from Conservatives throughout the Province. Mr. Blair is a remarkably able man. Some fifteen or sixteen years ago he was in opposition to a Government led by the present Lieutenant-Governor of the Province. He so manipulated affairs that he not only overturned the Government, but has ever since commanded a majority in the House of Assembly. In the last general election, Mr. Blair and his ticket were defeated in York County, in which is Fredericton, the capital. This was mainly due to the opposition of the Orangemen, who are a strong body in York County. The inequality in the representation of the Counties of the Province has been striking. For instance, Charlotte County and Carleton County have about the same population, yet the former sent four members to the Legislature, while the latter had to be content with two. Mr. Blair could not but see the disproportion. He introduced a bill giving Carleton another member, and treating some other counties in the same way, adding a member to Victoria and Madawaska each, and two to Kent. The total number of legislators is thus increased by five. Many people think that the change should have been in the way of a reduction, but the change, even as it is, is better than no change at all.

The Legislature was entitled to another session before appealing, of necessity, to the people. But certain circumstances made it appear wise to bring on a general election at once. There were three vacancies in the House, for which by-elections would have been necessary. Dr. Atkinson's death opened Carleton; Mr. Baird's appointment to the Dominion Senate made a vacancy in Victoria; and Mr. Powell's election to the Dominion House of Commons, and Mr. Killam's contest with him, made two vacancies in the large constituency of Westmoreland. Then the Dominion elections are hanging over us like a dark cloud. Mr. Blair's course in appealing to the people at once in a general election appears to command the approval of the majority of the newspapers and electors. The Premier can point to the several reforms made since he took office. The Legislative Council has been abolished, the keeping up of the Lieutenant-Governor's residence has been dispensed with, and his private secretary has been cut off. The duration of the Sessions of the Legislature has been curtailed. The office of Queen's Printer has been abolished. Naturally, in making these changes Mr. Blair has turned against him a host of enemies who, for many years, directly or indirectly, benefited from these offices. But the reforms certainly are concurred in by the independent electorate of the Province.

The leader of the Government is a man of strong likes and dislikes, and he has staunch friends and bitter enemies. The papers in the Province that are opposed to him cannot find gall bitter enough in which to dip their quill. To them Mephistopheles is an angel of light compared to Andrew G. Blair. The Opposition, not very strong and energetic, unearths numberless "scandals"—the ever ready dynamite of a weak party. Even if these scandals be founded on fact, it is true—however uncomplimentary it is to us—that the cry of corruption does not cut much of a figure. There is so much of it that we become weary of the dance and song. Anyway, the people seem to think that a clever rogue is better than an incompetent man bothered with convictions.

One thing the Local Government may certainly take credit for: its policy with regard to fostering the agricultural and dairying interests of the Province has been good.

It will be a surprise if Mr. Blair is not returned to power with a fair majority; but of course we must not forget Sir John Macdonald's remark as to the uncertainty of an election and a horse race.

T. C. L. KETCHUM.

Woodstock, New Brunswick, Oct. 5th, 1895.

### Principal Grant on the Manitoba School Question.

THERE can be no doubt that the question of the Separate Schools for Manitoba has been considered and debated by a vast number of persons, who had very little acquaintance either with the legal bearings of the case or with the importance of the principles involved in its solution. The public at large, therefore, are under the deepest obligations to Principal Grant for his valuable series of letters addressed during the last few weeks to the *Toronto Globe*.

When a question of such importance to the whole country emerges, it would be a national calamity if its decision were to remain with party politicians or with fanatics of a religious or unreligious character. This is a subject to be dealt with by men who have a thorough knowledge of the history and institutions of Canada, who are as free as is possible from party bias, who regard political questions as patriots, and religious questions as Christians and citizens; and who are bent not so much on feathering their own nest, or strengthening their own party or denomination, but rather on promoting the good of the people and the country at large. It would not be easy to find a man—whether politician or divine—who unites all these qualities in a higher degree than the respected Principal of Queen's University. And whether we accept all his conclusions or not, we shall be sure that he will give us the merits of the case and put us on the way to find some solution of our own.

It may be well that we should get quite clearly into our minds the two sides of the Manitoba question, so that we may understand what we may call the rights and the wrongs of the case. In the first place the case of Manitoba is distinctly different from that of Ontario. In the latter