

## CURRENT OPINIONS.

SWEET are the uses of adversity. To take a licking like a gentleman should be part of every polite education. You never know when you may want to exercise the graces of resignation and patience. Eighteen years of prosperity is no guarantee that evil days may not befall one, and even the profound consciousness of being right is not an absolute safeguard against the dangers that beset us every five years or so. . . . . Although the turn over is a great one, Mr. Laurier's majority is not so great that any of his lieutenants will be tempted to tell his old antagonists, the manufacturers, to go to perdition. . . . . Mr. Laurier is now given his opportunity. He can get together a capable and clean Ministry, and need not mistake the strength of his own popularity and the universal desire to "give the other fellows a chance" for a mandate against the protective system.—*Montreal Star*.

Mr. Laurier's declaration in regard to the Manitoba school question is a noble one, and one that should ring in the ears of the electors on polling day. "As I will not be coerced, so I will not coerce." There is no need of coercion. Mr. Laurier's policy of conciliation will bring about that best of all settlements—the settlement of the question by Manitoba itself. Both the minority and majority of Manitoba will be better satisfied and better served by a settlement between themselves, and they will have learned to give and take, and be all the better brothers as a result of a mutual agreement.—*Montreal Witness*.

Quebec expects one mode of settlement, Ontario another. Between the two, Mr. Laurier may find himself in as tight a place as ever confined the Conservative Premier when dealing with the same question. . . . . It is not at all improbable that the Manitoba issue will be the rock upon which the Liberal party will be finally shipwrecked. The fatal day may be staved off for a year or two by means of a commission or some other convenient device, but the music will have to be faced before long.—*Toronto World*.

Here are two or three points for consideration. First, Mr. Laurier and his friends can do nothing with the tariff at the coming session of Parliament. . . . . There will not be another session until February or March, 1897. This gives us nine months of undisturbed business under the present favorable conditions. Mr. Laurier is pledged to send to Washington and to get reciprocity. . . . Thus another year may be successfully tided over. . . . The Ministers, as the elections draw near, will be very sensitive to public opinion. . . . . We may, in fact, stay the hands of the Government to a very large extent.—*Mail and Empire*.

As far as the result affects the United States, we should say it meant a more cordial policy generally on the part of the new Government, and in particular an excellent disposition to return to the generous treaty of reciprocity, such as the arrangement of 1854, which was repealed to mutual disadvantage and under a good deal of false pretence in 1886.—*N. Y. Evening Post*.

It is to be expected a lower tariff and closer commercial relations with the United States will be urged by the new Government. The details of this portion of the Liberal policy, however, must be worked out. What is definitely settled once and for all by this election is that Manitoba is to be allowed to manage its school system in its own way. Separate schools will not be re-established.—*Buffalo Express*.

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