

each of the several charges, but also rejected a resolution passed by the District Meeting, expressing regret that Dr. Burns had allowed his letter to Dr. Thomas, out of which these charges arose, to be published.

THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

It would be out of place for us, in an official organ of our Church, to express any opinion on the result of the late General Elections. We deem it not improper, however, to remark on the quiet and good order with which subjects of great national importance can be decided by the suffrages of the people. In other countries questions of less importance than these have led to riot and revolution and bloodshed. With us they are settled by the silent dropping of the voter's ballot into a tin box. *Seldom, perhaps, have the questions before the country been more eagerly discussed, and seldom has so full a vote been polled.* This discussion is of necessity a valuable intellectual and political education, and cannot, we think, but make the electors on both sides more intelligent patriots. As Whittier says—

The crowning fact,
The kingliest act,
Of freedom is the freeman's vote!

We doubt not that, with few exceptions, the electors of Canada have cast their votes according to their best judgment. The use of the ballot frustrates, to a great degree, the attempt to corrupt the electors by personal bribes; and we doubt not that on the day of a great national crisis, such as we have passed through, even the poorest voter feels and can say with Whittier again that in political privilege,

“The proudest now is but his peer,
The highest not more high.
To-day shall simple manhood try

The strength of gold and land;
The wide world has not wealth to buy
The power of my right hand.”

One lesson of the contest is the lesson of tolerance. All men cannot think alike; let us accord to others that liberty of thought and action that we claim for ourselves. We all love our country though we may have different views as to the mode of its government. Let us, now that the contest is over, rally round our country and seek to promote its best moral and material interests. In the heat of the conflict the feeling of tolerance and charity is apt to be forgotten in the desire for victory. But now, however divergent our opinions may have been, we can afford to be good friends and neighbours and to dwell in love and charity together.

CARRYING DEADLY WEAPONS.

The recent deadly tragedy at Hamilton, wherein one infuriated man put an untimely end, with a pistol, to his wife, to her employer, and to himself, is an argument of terrible weight against the practice of carrying deadly weapons. Such a practice is, we believe, against the law of the land. Why, then, are dealers allowed to sell such weapons indiscriminately to all who wish to buy? Druggists may not sell poisonous drugs without the order of a physician. Why, then, may dealers sell revolvers to half-fledged boys or drunken madmen, to wreak havoc and ruin therewith? We think that no one should be allowed to possess a deadly weapon without a special license. Let him show that he has need for such a weapon, and is a fit person to have one, and he will be put to slight inconvenience to get one. But drunken reprobates and foolish boys would be deprived of the opportunity to perpetrate bloodshed by malice or by accident.