



Hon. B. F. Pearson, K.C., M.P.P.  
The New Member of the Nova Scotia Executive.

### Nova Scotia's New Minister

**N**OVA SCOTIA does not make many radical changes in her governing body. The Liberals have been in power there for many years and the Conservatives are apparently unable to make an effective opposition. This may be unfortunate theoretically, but the people should know what is best for themselves.

Recently the ministry has received an addition to it in the person of Mr. B. F. Pearson, K.C., M.P.P., one of the leading financiers of the Province. As Nova Scotia derives most of its revenue from coal royalties, and as coal mining and steel making are its chief industries, Mr. Pearson should be a valuable man in the government. He was responsible for the organisation of the Dominion Coal Co., and it is understood was the first to suggest the formation of the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. It is claimed that it was he who interested Mr. Henry M. Whitney of Boston in the idea embodied in the latter institution. The sins of stock boomers in connection with these two companies are not, however, to be charged to Mr. Pearson. Mr. Pearson was born about fifty years ago in Colchester, which he now represents in the Legislature. He has been the owner of the "Morning Chronicle" of Halifax for many years and is said to have a controlling interest in a St. John paper. He has public spirit and zeal for the development of his province. If he can infuse fresh activity into the Nova Scotian government, he will be entitled to the thanks of the Province in which he is a leading citizen.

### A Difference of Opinion

**A** somewhat strenuous incident is recalled in an article on the late Ferdinand Brunetiere. The great French critic first achieved wide notoriety by his attack on Zola whose naturalism was an abomination to the scholarly Brunetiere who preferred the classical ideals of the seventeenth century to the modern manner. He was elected to the Academy, membership of which Zola had sought in vain. The students, who preferred Zolaism to criticism, considered that it was time to make themselves heard and they went to the

Sorbonne, resolved to interrupt and finally rout the lecturer. Bnt M. Brunetiere had also his supporters among the pupils at the Ecole Normale; and these also presented themselves at the lecture.

The students began to create a dissenting clamour when the "normaliens" fell upon them with big sticks and were victorious in the free fight that ensued. It is declared to be an incident characteristic of student life in the Latin Quarter; but it belongs to a wider district still, for it is a poor war of ideas that does not at some time become a more primitive struggle.

### In Omar's Country



Persia's New Ruler—Mohammed Ali Murza.

**J**APAN is not the only Eastern country that within a few years has jumped centuries in adopting modern methods. The passing away of Muzaffer Ed Din, the ruler of Persia has drawn attention to the changes that have occurred during his reign, an English authority asserting that it will be famous through all Persian history as marking the first advance towards constitutional government as understood in the West. His experiment to create a parliament which should help him to reconstruct Persian prosperity out of the chaos left by his spendthrift predecessor coincided with Lord Curzon's visit and the establishment of the new merchant service between Odessa and the Persian Gulf, supported by the Russian Government.



The Late Ruler of Persia.  
His Imperial Majesty, Muzaffar-Ed-Din.

A great deal depends on the character of the next shah, for there is no country in the world where personal will is more powerful to construct or to destroy. The strategic importance of Persia to both England and Russia makes the next ruler a person of no mean pretensions in European eyes. Teheran is a city somewhat anxiously regarded.