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THE RT.-HON. W. E. GLADSTONE.

**THE FALL OF GLADSTONE.**

The event of the week has been the fall of the Gladstone Ministry, brought about by an adverse vote of the Commons on the imposition of new taxes on beer and spirits, whereas the majority of the House appeared to be of opinion that the war taxes should have been raised on tea. The Government did not go down in its Soudan policy, its weak Russian policy, or any question in which foreign interests or the national honor were involved. The difficulty was purely local, and simply a home question, and one so "common-place" and unesthetic as a question of taxing "the poor man's beer and whiskey." Now, was the triumph over the Government the result of a straight party division. Many Liberals abstained from voting altogether, and some voted with the opposition on this question only; so that a new Government, a Conservative Government, is coming into power without a majority of Conservatives at

its back. This means an early dissolution of the Commons and a general election, the Conservatives hoping to carry a majority of the electors with them in support of a policy yet to be made known.

Few public men have occupied so large a space in the public eye as Mr. Gladstone. Few have shown the possession of such magnificent talents or displayed all the important traits of a grand and noble character. Few have rendered the world such services, whether in the world of ordinary politics, the higher political life, the field of social reform, or in the region of religion or letters. It may be said of Mr. Gladstone that he is one of the best read men that ever lived. He has one of the finest minds that England ever knew. Deeply versed in finance, he made the greatest Chancellor of the Exchequer that England could ever boast of. As an orator he has no superior, while his influence as a public man is even greater in opposition

than when leading a Government. While we do not sympathize to any great extent with Mr. Gladstone's dealings with foreign nations, we cannot disguise from ourselves the fact that "peace with honor" was as truly his desire as it was that of his great rival, Earl Beaconsfield, however far short of this result England may have come. We believe the world recognizes the fact that for a spirited and energetic foreign policy England must look to its Conservative statesmen, while home reforms receive most attention from her public men of the Liberal school. Mr. Gladstone has just given the people of England a large extension of the electoral Franchise; it now remains for a Conservative Government to adopt an attitude towards Russia which will go further to satisfy the pride of England than was the case under Mr. Gladstone's administration. There are many in England, as here, who while regretting the fall of the latter, will yet hail any improvement in England's foreign policy that will make the country more respected abroad.

**MAJOR-GENERAL LAURIE.**

Halifax, June 7.—Major General Laurie, who is now at Moose Jaw, N.W.T., has made arrangements to reside there throughout at least the best part of the remainder of the year. He has written to his family living on his farm at Oakfield to proceed to Moose Jaw. The supposition is the General is to be placed in command of one of the divisions of the new force now being organized in the North-West.

**THE REMONSTRANCE OF WEALTH AND FASHION.**

The two memorials to the New York Legislature against woman suffrage, signed by women prominent in the fashionable society and wealth of the city, were thought by the signers and by others as concluding the question by the showing that the women of wealth and fashion do not desire the elective franchise, and do not think it would be good for their sex. The argument is as powerful as that the women of wealth and fashion should protest against the admission of women into any but household employments, because the women of wealth and fashion do not need to work. This remonstrance of wealth and fashion is as intelligent as the remark of the duchess that she did not see why the poor had not enough to eat when so large a cake could be bought for a sixpence.