

As well might the ancien: *testudo* be opposed to the flight of a rocket, or the bursting of a shell, as the feeble barrier of intrigue be raised to stay the onward march of opinion, and the mighty voice of the people.

Having thus brought down our sketch to the present time, let us briefly speak of the great principle itself, which the Canadian people have thus shewn themselves determined to carry out.

The question lies in a nutshell. On the one hand, the liberal party demand the same rights that are enjoyed by their fellow subjects in Britain. When one party has a decided majority in Parliament, they demand that the representative of royalty shall choose his advisers, or Executive Council, from those persons who enjoy the confidence of that majority.

This is British Parliamentary practice. But their opponents answer; true, it is British practice; but in England the Sovereign is supreme—she can do no wrong; if she goes with the majority even to revolution, she is unassailable; whereas here, the Governor General is responsible to Her Majesty and to the British Parliament. If he goes wrong he may be beheaded.

Now it seems to us that we must admit the premises assumed by both parties. The right contended for is unquestionably British constitutional liberty. The responsibility of the representative of the Crown is widely different from the irresponsibility of the Crown itself. But we quarrel with the conclusions drawn by the opponents of Responsible Government. They argue that no governor dare be guided by the wishes of the majority. We say yes, he dare. It is cowardly to shield one's self from the real responsibility of governing correctly, by falling back at a scare-crow, and exclaiming—"Oh! I dare not govern at all."

Every Governor must be guided by the wishes of the duly elected majority. If a question seemingly dangerous is broached, he can reserve it for Imperial sanction: if that sanction is refused, when he has become convinced it ought to be granted, he can resign. If the sanction is given, he is protected: if he thinks it ought not to have been given, he can resign. If it is not given, and he acquiesces in the opinion which causes its refusal, he can then stand out against it, under the protection of the mighty arm of the British empire.

But this outcry about revolutionary measures has been a bugbear all along. What were the revolutionary measures alleged against the Baldwin Cabinet?

1st.—*The appointment of a batch of magistrates, half of whom were of the Reform party—one or two of whom happened to have lived in a district where the rebellion shewed its face.*

Let us answer this at once.

*The great majority of these magistrates are still in the commission of the peace, under the sway of Mr. Draper! One or*