

tion petitions of inserting the names of very respectable people, charging them with acts of corruption. I am sorry to see these things repeated, because it gives outsiders a bad idea of the morality of the country. They see these charges made but they do not see the refutation of them, and they get the impression that the political element in this country is surcharged with corruption whereas it is confined to a few."

We commend these remarks of the Chancellor's to the St. John Sun whose idea of the political morality of Ontario is thus corrected.

It would not be proper to charge the whole Conservative party in Ontario with responsibility for one of the paid organizers bringing in from Buffalo a gang of election workers, as was done a few months ago. It has just been announced

that this organizer has been appointed by Mr. R. L. Borden one of the organizers for the Conservatives during the campaign now pending. It may be that Mr. Borden did not know of the method of the man he was appointing.

If there ever was a corrupt election it was in the opinion of men the bye-election in North Renfrew. It was so bad that the parties were fearful lest the petition should be tried and the evidence come out. Mr. Dunlop the Conservative who won the seat has therefore resigned. But the good name of Ontario should not suffer because of four or five corrupt elections out of nearly a hundred, and especially when in these four or five the illegal acts were admittedly confined to a few. If half of what some reckless papers publicly assert were true our parliamentary system would break down.

## *The Irish Nationalist Leader.*

MR. JOHN REDMOND M.P. addressed a crowded public meeting in Ottawa on Wednesday of this week, his theme being, chiefly, the condition of Ireland about which the message was in a cheerful and sanguine tone.

When Mr John Redmond entered the British House of Commons in 1881 he had already considerable experience of the forms and procedure of Parliament, for he came straight from the Vote Office into the Chamber itself. His early training as a clerk in the House has stood him in good stead, and perhaps partly explains the fact that he is now the best parliamentary general in the House. He knows when to strike and when to hold his hand, and he knows exactly how far he may stretch a rule without coming into contact with the Speaker. His friends have compared him to Napoleon and Cecil Rhodes, and since his election as leader of the Irish Party he has tried to combine the qualities of both. It is certain that no man, with the exception of Parnell, has exercised such a strong personal influence over the Irish Party.

There is, perhaps, no one in the House of Commons who is better fitted to

lead an opposition. Mr. Redmond's readiness in debate, his self-control, and his keen appreciation of the vital points in Parliamentary strategy have made him a dangerous opponent. Both parties would rather have him as an ally than an enemy. But his maxim is that the true course for the Irish Party is to avoid an entangling alliance with any English Party. "The Irish votes," he once said, "will always be cast just as it suits the interests of Ireland, and my policy," he added, "is to make English government in Ireland difficult and dangerous." If, however, he fights with edged tools, he is careful to keep within constitutional bounds.

He himself believes that he is still on the threshold of his career. Looking into the future, he foresees the time when he will control the debates in another House—in the Parliament of the Irish people. But at the present moment there are troubles brewing again in his own party. Tiger Tim, as Mr. Healy is called, is restless. Mr. O'Brien is on the war path. Mr. Redmond's leadership is being called into question and the next few months will require all his resources, all his ingenuity, if he is to preserve the unity of his party and keep intact their present efficiency.