

says that the evidence taken by the Commission deserves careful consideration; that the charter for making the Pacific Railway has been surrendered, and that it will devolve upon the legislature to take measures for construction of that important work. Various other measures are foreshadowed to which we need not refer. While we write, Parliament has retired to read and digest messages from his Excellency regarding the disallowance of the Oaths' Bill, the appointment of the Commission and the Imperial Government's endorsement of the Governor General's action in the proroguing the Paliament. In these papers the members are expected to find much satisfaction while they read them, and such good and substantial reasons for the several acts therein referred to, that the great crime to which they relate will withdraw as a dark and impalpable figure into the back-ground, hardly visible save to keen and searching eyes. It will not, however, be suffered to remain in the obscurity with which these documents invest it. We may expect, after short skirmishing on the merits of the Commission, and the act of the Governor General, the great battle, which, however delayed, cannot be avoided. We can fancy the Government coming off well after a brilliant brush with their opponents upon the constitutional questions, but we cannot, by any aid of imagination fancy the possibility of victory on the side of Sir J. A. MacDonald in regard to the main question, if that were once brought up fairly before the house. Indeed if the *true* issue were placed before the Premier, we should expect him to vote his own condemnation. His evidence in exculpation was of the nature of a palliative confession of the whole crime charged upon him by Huntington.

Should the Government succeed in getting sufficient majorities to support them at the present, they may, by prudence, continue to rule the country for some time. If there were an opposition party to which the country could look up, it would be very different. The great difficulty now is the same with the procuring of servants in respectable houses. Turn off Biddy who, without doubt, stole several nice things, and converted several others to her private use, and what will you be the better with Mary—not a whit more honest, and a much less handy maid of all work, who seeks to supply the vacant place. Such is the argument by which you are plied, when you demand that the present Government be dismissed as unworthy of the confidence of the country. "The opposition is not a whit better, and then they are a poor incapable set." And so we are advised that it is better to bear the ills we have than fly to others which we know not of. We might add, our own bad conscience makes cowards of us all.

One of the most remarkable events of the month is the election of Riel, the murderer of Scott, in the room of the late Sir G. Cartier, as member of the Dominion Parliament for Provencher. With a price set upon his head the ex-rebel has dared to enter Ottawa—not openly it is true, nor, if we knew all, perhaps, boldly.