

political party, it is more than probable that no attention will be given to my paper unless I can make some personal interest with the editor to get it published. It has no bearing on the main point: the party—what is the good of it forsooth? But then again it is almost impossible to write upon any subject, such as is usually discussed in periodical columns, without stumbling, perhaps quite inadvertently, upon somebody's corns. Here is a source of insuperable difficulties. Some of the people with corns are sure to belong to "the party"; and their comfort is not to be disturbed on any account. So one's "celebration goes to the waste basket"; the public remain uninformed; and public abuses continue unredressed; but "the party" is kept in hand.

In short, one can only get into your press through belonging to some ring. I repeat, then, that I am really delighted to hear of your project. From what you say as to your associates, I have no doubt whatever that the venture will deserve success. You are right in supposing that I will be quite ready to contribute my mite in that direction, and I sincerely hope success, in every sense, will be attained. Go on and prosper

Yours,

[We take the liberty of publishing the above letter, although not intended for publication, trusting to the writer's forgiveness for doing so. He may take a too lugubrious view of our press generally; but we know that he is not singular in that view. To all such as our friend above we extend what we hope is a sufficiently general invitation. WHOSEVER HATH ANYTHING TO SAY, LET HIM SAY IT. Our pages are open.—Ed.]

THE WEEK.

Notwithstanding the adage to the contrary, there are folk whom no amount of experience will teach. Among these are Russia. In 1854, Russia would not believe that England, even associated with France, would presume to war with her. Then she would not believe that "those shopkeepers" could, for a moment, withstand the crushing might of her vast military power. Russia now persists in again believing that England will not dare engage in conflict with her—certainly will not dare to do so if England can be isolated from other European powers; and obviously Russia is again to be most severely undeceived.

During the week, owing to the alleged illness of both Prince Gortschakoff and Prince Bismarck, there has been a suspension of performance of the diplomatic farce which, it is pretended, is to have peace for its de-

nouncement. Meantime two detachments of the Anglo-Indian army have successively sailed from Bombay and are now on the way to Malta, the troops being in the highest spirits at the prospect of a brush with Russia. In England preparations for war continue with the greatest vigor; and the policy of Ministers is sustained by the almost unanimous will of the nation. Nevertheless, Mr. John Bright has discovered that we have reached the long prophesied millennium, people having become so good that we should have no more wars; and he is violently endeavoring to convince the English public of that fact.—Whilst Europe teems with rumors of war, the World's Fair, the greatest exemplification of the blessings of actual peace, was, on the 1st instant, successfully, and with the fairest prospects, opened at Paris.—A report, which seems to be more than idle gossip, tells us that Prince Arthur, so well and favorably remembered in Canada is about becoming betrothed to a daughter of Prince Frederick Charles, of Prussia, one of the most distinguished commanders of the Franco-German war.—To return to our own impending war—we hear a rumor, which it is to be feared is more than an idle one, that Germany is taking measures to compel other Northern powers to join her in insisting upon neutralizing the Baltic, in the event of an Anglo-Russian war. Such a step on the part of Germany—or rather of Bismarck, who is as much an autocrat there as the Czar is in Russia—would add to the already great European complication, but is not likely to be tolerated in England. Numerous stories reach us of the intended fitting out of Americo-Russian privateers to prey upon British commerce, of projected Russo-Fenian invasions of Canada, and the like; but they may all be doctored as of the cock-and-bull species.

The Quebec Provincial legislative Election, in which the contest has been of the keenest, came off on Wednesday last,—and quietly, too, for aught we have yet heard to the contrary. The result cannot but be considered a triumph to Lieut. Governor Letellier and the Ministerialists, or Joly party,—considering that is, the vast preponderance of their opponents in the last House. And yet, so nearly balanced do parties appear, that, although Ministerialists evidently have a majority in the new House elect,

it seems, with the information as yet in our possession, extremely doubtful whether the Administration will have what is called "a working majority," or not. Still, this evidence of a revulsion of public feeling shows how rapidly the late Administration has been sinking in popular estimation, these last few years, a fact of which the Lieut. Governor was doubtless well aware before he so vigorously expounded his will.

The Dominion Parliament still drags along. Latterly the House of Commons has been principally engaged in profusely voting local money appropriations, and in making clap-trap motions intended to captivate Parliamentary electors,—two occupations which very usually characterize the last session of a House. Mr. Premier Mackenzie probably means something extraordinary under his Pacific Railway policy. He, at this late stage of the session, still promises a Bill, or some measure, on the subject; and yet, strange to say, he has not yet even produced his Annual Report thereon. Das he, like his friend, Lieut. Governor Letellier, intend some coup?

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