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The Daily Gleaner

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1901.

LORD STRATHCONA.

It is stated in the papers that Lord
Strathcona is seriously ill and it is puite possible that his illegar and present maintained by Device and Dev quite possible that his illness may prove fatal. When Peter the Great visited France early in the 18th century he went to see the widow of Louis XIV, Madame de Maintenon, who was lying bed ridden in the conwho was lying bed ridden in the convent which he had founded. "What is your malady?" inquired the Czar, "A great age, 'replied the lady. The same malady that afflicted the woman who did so much to control the destinies of France is the one from which Lord Strathcona is suffering. He is now upwards of 80 years of age, and as he has been a great worker in his day he is older in constitution than he is in years. We trust that Lord Strathcona may recover from his present illness, but the chances are heavily against him. Should be die at the present time Canada will have suffered a serious loss and it will not be easy to fill his place.

The position of High Commissioner, which has been held by Lord Strathcona under two administrations, is one of such delicacy and importance as to call for a man of rare ability and of remarkable requirements. Lord Strathcona has had one ad-vantage, which but few Canadians can claim in the fact, that he is a man of great wealth and able to entertain on a liberal scale without suffering any financial inconvenience. There has always been an intimate connection between diplomacy and good living, and where the duties of the office are more social than diplomatic, ong liberally is accentuated. It would be difficult to find a man capable of filling Lord Strathcona's place as an entertainer; yet at this time it is very necessary that Canada should continue to stand well with the mother country and should be represented by a person able to dispense the stand well with the mother country and should be represented by a person able to dispense the stand well with the mother country and should be represented by a person able to dispense the stand well with the mother country and the coronation," but it is to be doubted if a party with as is the case with our High Commisduction of Irish representation—and the coronation," but it is to be doubted if a party with such chimerical views as are set forth in his article will prove inable to dispense hospitality to those to whom it is necessary to be friendly and gracious. A small and niggardly policy on the part of the High Com-missioner would be certain to produce reflections on the good name of Cana-

BUSINESS GOVERNMENT.

That casual remark made by Lord Rosebery recently, that he would like to see what sort of government business men, such as Lipton and Carnegie, would give the empire, has set people busy writing, speaking and thinking. One of the writers is Mr. Edmund Robertson, who, under the heading, "Wanted—a Business Government," deals with the matter somewhat ex-haustively in The Nineteenth Century. Mr. Robertson claims to have taken as his text and inspiration, however, not Lord Rosebery's remark, but the state of affairs in South Africa, as to which of speech is being strained to the limit in the British Empire, on the other he entertains an exceedingly pessimis tic view. Matters, he says, are no better now, with the recess more than half over, than they were still ground for implicit faith in the when Parliament was in session. The country is pouring out treasure at the rate of £1,250,000 per week, and he fears more, in addition to continually QUEBEC, Dec. 6.—The missing lighthouse keeper and his assistant from Brandypots have succeeded in reaching the pilgrims from the ice floe in which they were imprisoned.

At 1 o'clock this morning the residence of Mrs. Joseph Fiset on St. Qlair street was destroyed by fire and the family narrowly escaped burning to death. Four women and a baby are so badly burned as to require surgical aid. They escaped by a ladder from an upper window at the back of the house. sacrificing many lives. He does not reproach the partisans of the war, but seeks to fasten on the government re-sponsibility for its duration and the fact that it has seemingly become chronic. Dissatisfaction, he says, is general, not only among Liberals, but also among Conservatives. "N r is the feeling confined to the war department. It extends to other branches of the administration also. In normal times," Mr. Robertson adds, "we might trust to the party system, but now the nation is bleeding away its strength and the peril of the empire es daily."

Mr. Robertson, having described the situation, exclaims, "We want the in When the late Robert Dunlap (the famous batter) started in business the had only \$2,000, and his conditions were no better than those of hundreds of hat-makers. A part of his little capital he used for small newspaper advertisements. Of every dollar of profit he took half for newspaper publicity until his name became known in all the leading cities. He often said that without newspaper aid he could never have made more than a living from his business. troduction of new men, who can ar proach the solution of these great diffi-culties with an open mind and a free hand." Between the thing that is wanted and the thing that is obtain-able, says an exchange, there is great difference and insurmountable diffi culty. Mr. Robertson assumes the decidedly improbable col-lapse of the present government and says its successor must be (1) re-constructed out of the majority in Parliament, (2) the Liberal minority, or (3) a non-party government formed

B. C. LIBERALS

to meet the unexampled difficulties o

the situation-in other words, a business government or Ministry of Af-

fairs. Mr. Robertson believes the las

mentioned would be the most effective

But he does not essay the task of ex

plaining how the desirable change could be effected and entirely over-looks the fact that even now the only

obstacle in the way of settlement i

the obstinacy of the Boers, who have

shown, by continuing the war after their capital had fallen, that they did not recognize the usages and customs

of civilized nations. They might be

more amenable to reason if a so calle

belm in Great Britain, but then again they might not. And Mr. Robertson himself dares not advocate an entire

business government" were at the

reversal of policy and a repetition of the Gladstonian blunder. Our author evidently recognizes

the extreme difficulty of this part of the question, for he temporarily aban-

dons it to enlarge upon the scope

"business government" would have in the general administration. Return-

present maintained by Boer and Brit-

ish?" He believes that an answer in

the negative implies a misunderstand ing of the true nature of the British Empire. Nevertheless, it looks as

if the answer must be so given, ur

less, as we have said, England can be brought to such a pitch of

discontent that a movement that will

affects to believe such a thing is po-

sible, and that the government, in

spite of its 130 majority, is so internal

ly weak that at any time it is likely to meet with disaster.

Last session, it will be remembered,

it did meet with defeat on a question of some importance, but that was a

snap judgment, resulting more from the carelessness of the party whips

than from mature consideration. Other

such defeats would certainly be disastrous but that was hardly likely to occur. If they did a general election

would have to be held, and where is the ground for belief, that the

all the sacrifices that have been made or would even decide in favor of the new "business" party, which would

necessarily have to be formed as dis-

tinct from the Conservative-Unionist combination on the one hand and the

Liberal Radical Home Rule aggrega-

It may be, as the Ningteenth Century writer concludes, that "The un-

strumental in bringing about any great change for the better. If Lord

Rosebery were to step down into prac tical politics from the empyrean height on which he is transporting

himself, he might, in conjunction with Mr. Asquitb, be able to effect some-thing, but with such a rump behind

him as the present opposition it is ex-

tremely doubtful. One thing may result from the continued fault finding

and criticism of the dissentients namely, a concert of the observing nations and a joint representation that

will either succeed in humiliating England, or in provoking her to a

pitch of uncontrollable frenzy, either

of which would be bailed with un-feigned delight equally by Krugerites

and Redmondites, and both of which would be disastrous in result. While

on one side of the government, liberty

QUEBEC NEWS

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Laxative Bromo Quinine Tableta cure a cold in one day. No Cure, No Pay. Price 25 cents.

Many a man who knows i mind has a somewhat limited ac

majority.

tion on the other?

country would consent to terms that would virtually be capitulation after

Think the Province Should be Repre-sented in Cabinet.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 6—The Liberal Association has accepted a resolution memoralizing the Dominion Govern-ment on behalf of British Columbia's claims to Cabinet representation.

WANIS.

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Independent Order of Foresters' Notice.

The members of Court Milicete, No. 139, Wilner at the office of Dr. J. W. Bridges this vening at 7.30 o'clock -1 in. be virtually a revolution can be carried to a successful issue. Mr. Robertson

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for Cross Creek Station, connecting with Canada Eastern freight for Chatham, also with C. E. express-for Fredericton, returning to Stan-ley 11.00 a.m. Leave Stanley for Cross Creek Sta-Leave Stanley for Cross Creek Sta-tern freight for Fredericton, also with C. E. express for Chatham, re-turning to Stanley 4.30 p. m. un on standard time.

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