

time to cool down, it is seen that in the first few weeks after Parliament met he was beset by difficulties not of his own creating. Those cleared away he asserted all his old dominance of will and gift, and all the House felt the power of his magnificent moral character.

But Lord Hartington has probably won the greatest success. He seems to have a happy knack of disappointing his friends in the right way—for he always does better than was expected of him. As leader of the Opposition he succeeded beyond all anticipation, and now as leader of the House of Commons, during Mr. Gladstone's illness, he has won the admiration of all his party. It is seen and acknowledged that when any work has to be done Lord Hartington can do it, and for every emergency he appears equal.

Mr. Fawcett also is a great success. He is always an earnest man, and when he took office meant to make it a matter of business. So he has started a much needed work of reform in the Post Office, and, on the whole, is pronounced the best Postmaster-General England has ever had.

Mr. Forster, however, is a failure, they say. This is disappointing, for during the last Gladstone administration he was regarded as an able and painstaking administrator. The manner in which he piloted the Education Bill through the stormy waters of debate won for him the admiration of friends and opponents, and when he was appointed Secretary for Ireland, this was remembered and general satisfaction was felt. But it is becoming evident that Mr. Forster has just the qualities which fitted him for the work of carrying an Education Act through the House, but not for the government of Ireland. When fairly examined this can hardly be wondered at. Tact and compromise were needed then, and Mr. Forster displayed them admirably; tact and resolution are needed for the office he now fills, and Mr. Forster is wanting in the latter.

Again the Eastern question is causing some anxiety in Europe, and there are those who say it cannot be settled without a great war. But why? it may fairly be asked—England, Germany, Russia and France are agreed upon the main point—that Turkey must abide by the terms of the Berlin Treaty, and carry out the needful reforms as they were then specified. The Turks are at the old game of temporizing and trying to get up quarrels between interested nations, but those nations are beginning to see clearly that there is nothing Turkish worth fighting for.

There is occasion to fear serious trouble from the condition of trade in Yorkshire and Lancashire. The cotton masters of Manchester have resolved to resist the demand of their operatives for an advance in wages, and a general lock-out is threatened, so that a time of suffering for the operatives, and a period of difficulty for the masters is likely to exist. What benefits can be obtained by striking, it is hard to discover, and it is frequently the case that the leaders in the strikes are the worst of the operatives. It is a serious question, the regulation of differences between capital and labour and one which requires the gravest consideration. It will probably in the near future cause serious trouble amongst our neighbours in the United States, and should such turn out to be the case, the trouble would be terrible; of this a warning is to be seen in the Pittsburgh riots a few years ago, and which serves to show the difficulty of quelling disturbances of this nature. A body of desperate men, with nothing to lose, commit deeds of reckless violence, trusting to the well-known dislike of peaceable people to take harsh measures with them—but this hesitation and dislike on the part of law-abiding people would seem in many cases to be a mistake, and the trouble should be met firmly and resolutely at the outset. No half measures will answer, and it is much better that strict measures should be adopted and the public peace preserved at as little cost as possible. Once a riot gains headway it is most difficult to stop its course, and human lives are liable to be sacrificed. At Quebec we saw with the ship labourers how culpable the vacillation of the authorities was, and how serious the trouble became—while the success of the rioters gave them more confidence and made them defiant and destructive. Strikes in nearly every case lead to riots, and are to be deprecated, both for moral and commercial reasons.

EDITOR.

TORONTO AND ABOUT.

Nothing shews the advance of a nation so much as its progress in the fine arts. The Ontario Society of Artists is doing a good work *for itself* in Toronto, but the same style of pictures are on exhibition to-day that were when the society was first organized. There is a great want felt of fresh blood; something new is wanted, not the old stereotyped subjects of Muskoka scenery, or grazing buffalo of the prairie, but sterling life subjects requiring deep thought. And to this end we are thankful that the Ontario Government has agreed to help the Ontario School of Art, for evidently there are aspiring young students of this school who intend some day to surpass their teachers. The school was established in 1876 by the Ontario Society of Artists, who evidently felt the want of new blood and new styles of painting in the way of ideal life subjects or representations of historic tradition such as grace the walls of the French Academy and the English schools of art. The Ontario School of Art will re-open for the Autumn session on Friday, October 1st., when it is expected a large attendance will be present to commend the study of freehand outline drawing, perspective figure drawing, artistic anatomy, colour &c. If the same degree of progress is made by the new students as was made by the old ones of last session, and the old ones excel themselves, at no very distant date we may perhaps pride ourselves after all, on the accomplishments of Canadian Artists, though, if we are to believe all that our present artists and their admirers say of us, we are not so very far behind the old Dutch masters as we are led to suppose. I am led to believe that artists as a rule are not the best judges of painting; perhaps they look with a partial eye on the work of their fellow artists. At any rate, so much has been said about the Ontario School of Art and its parent the Ontario Society of Artists, that the work of the students of the school will be examined and criticised in no very partial manner when the term that is about to commence ends.

Toronto has given \$350,000 to the Credit Valley Railway, but as yet the railway has been of very little benefit either to the farmers along the line or to the Toronto merchants, the Credit Valley Company having no storehouses in Toronto in which to store the produce which was to have been of such an immense interest to Toronto. There is a port called "Credit," a few miles from Toronto, far more safe than Toronto port, and but two and one-half miles from Cooksville, the station of the Credit Valley Railway, ten miles from Toronto. It is now seriously contemplated to construct a branch line from Cooksville to Port Credit. The county of Peel, it is thought, will grant a bonus to help the undertaking, for the people of this county are indignant to think they have paid so dearly for their whistle. Whatever is done in the matter of this branch railway must be done before the end of the year, as the new law regarding bonuses comes into effect then. Suffice it to say, that if this branch is laid down, the citizens of Toronto may say good-bye to their \$350,000, for Port Credit undoubtedly would receive the greater part of the freight of the Credit Valley line; this route would be shorter to all points, and shipments could be made with greater despatch, storehouses being already erected at the harbour of Port Credit.

Last week the Catholic schools assembled in the park for a day's enjoyment, and had a good time generally after the picnic fashion. In the evening the juveniles marched home in procession, the procession consisting mostly of young girls who marched through the park avenue to their homes. All the way through the avenue the band of picnickers were greeted with the soul-stirring songs of a band of zealous Orange Young Britons, the spirited upholders(?) of the Protestant faith, who lustily cheered the quiet band of girls. For a good ten minutes this cheering was rendered with considerable vigour for the benefit of a respectable body of school girls. Many were the indignant comments of the passers-by, both Catholic and Protestant, at this disgraceful proceeding. The Orange body may speak of their marvellous institution as they please, but at least they should train their children to use respectable language towards those who differ from them in religion. Why should these bands of youths be permitted to play their disgusting party airs night after night as