

X. The Ministers shall have full control over the different departments of State, under the authority of law ; but the appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court, members of the Legislative Council, the Agent-General, and such other appointments as may hereafter be declared by law shall be subject to the sanction of Parliament ; nor shall the Ministers recommend His Excellency the Governor to dissolve Parliament without like sanction.

XI. The Ministers shall, if directed by a resolution of either Chamber, or may of their own motion, cause to be prepared and introduced for the approval of Parliament any legislative or other proposal.

XII. Ministers shall submit to both Chambers as soon as possible, at the annual session, full and explicit returns of the expenditure and receipts for the past year, and also the estimated expenditure and receipts for the ensuing year, and shall be responsible to Parliament for the economical and efficient administration of the public service, and such other duties as Parliament may impose.

XIII. If any member of the House of Representatives or of the Legislative Council be elected a member of the Ministry his seat in either Chamber shall be *ipso facto* vacated ; but Ministers shall have the right to be present to speak and initiate proposals in either Chamber, but not to vote.

SUMMARY.

I. To illustrate the foregoing proposals, a comparison should be instituted with the Executive as it is at present selected, principally to meet the exigencies of party, where inexperienced and unfit persons have frequently been included, where Ministers are necessarily under the dominance of a Premier, where the Executive is frequently governed by expediency and party considerations, where the very existence of the Cabinet is dependent upon its retaining a sufficient number of partisans in the House, with the consequent temptation to abuse resources of State, to preserve Ministerial existence, and to all these considerations we must add the interested misrepresentations and vilifications of the other side. Then we shall be prepared to appreciate an Executive specially selected to exercise definite functions and responsibilities—individually and collectively free—untrammelled by party considerations, secure in its position, and elevated above the whirl of political debauchery.

II. Next take the House of Representatives, where discord reigns ; where party struggles obscure and obstruct the discharge of parliamentary duties ; where Government is supposed to lead, but really is itself driven by any combination strong enough to overthrow the balance of power ; where members may be coerced by a threat of dissolution or corrupted by patronage—almost powerless for good—practically denied the right to initiate—where, with great waste, so much is commenced and so little finished—where so many abuses flourish under the vagaries of a system which leaves the representative a shadow of power, but a real discredit. Compare this also with a Parliament supreme, with a political atmosphere purified, with free scope to each member to exercise his privileges and vote honestly upon the merits of every question submitted to him. The people, too, would have issues simplified. The accretions of the past have left our political machinery clogged, encumbered, and disconnected. The voters' aspirations should lead to true and direct action ; nothing less will satisfy their common-sense. When an election takes place now, the people learn but little of the Legislature, and less still of the administration of public affairs ; all is filtered through the bias of partisanship, and so obscured by personal considerations as to reduce public affairs to the second place.

EUGENE O'CONOR,
Chairman.

8th September, 1891.

SCHEDULE A.

Ballot-papers (arranged alphabetically).

THE voter is required to denote by figures the order of his choice :—

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|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. J. Adams. | 13. L. London. |
| 10. W. Brown. | 12. R. Maxwell. |
| 6. R. Cullen. | 14. H. Nelson. |
| 2. L. O. Denbigh. | 9. P. G. Oliver. |
| 4. P. W. Evart. | 15. J. Frank. |
| 3. J. Frost. | 16. W. Jones. |
| 7. S. Gunn. | 8. R. Tailleux. |
| 5. B. Kettle. | 11. P. Blucher. |

SCHEDULE B.

I. The ballot-papers, having been all mixed, shall be drawn out in succession and stamped with numbers, so that no two shall bear the same number.

II. The number obtained by dividing the whole number of good ballot-papers tendered at the election by the number of members to be elected *plus* one, and increasing the quotient (or, where this is fractional, the integral part of the quotient) by one, shall be called the quota.

III. Every candidate who has a number of first votes equal to or greater than the quota shall be declared elected, and so many of the ballot-papers containing those votes as shall be equal in number to the quota (being stamped with the lowest numerals) shall be set aside as of no further use. On all other ballot-papers the name of the elected candidate shall be deemed to be cancelled, with the effect of raising by so much in the order of preference all votes given to other candidates after him. This process shall be repeated until no candidate has more than a quota of first votes, or votes deemed first.