



Topical photo.

THE GREATEST POLITICAL STRUGGLE OF MODERN TIMES—WEALTH AND PRIVILEGE V. DEMOCRACY.

(1) A demonstration in favour of the Budget passing underneath Marble Arch into Hyde Park, London. (2) Mr. Joseph Chamberlain driving through Birmingham the "Mecca" of Tariff Reformers.

The British elections, which are now in full swing, will not be completed before February. To Colonials accustomed to see their elections finished in one day, the British system seems incomprehensible. In Britain, however, there is no one man one vote. Out of a total population of 33,000,000, votes are held by only 7,000,000. Plural voting is still the order of the day. The land-owning classes have votes. In every electorate in which they hold property, and it is simply a survival of the bad old days that permits the elections to be so arranged that the plural voter can register all the votes at his command. This necessarily gives the property owners relatively much greater power to decide an issue at the polls than that possessed by the householders who pay not less than £10 per year in rent. Those who pay less than that, of course, have no vote.