conquered England, but it came to pass that Saxon and Anglian got mixed in a So mixed, indeed, that if you would divide them you would have to divide almost every individual Briton-and no one is ashamed of the mixture. We speak with pride of the Anglo-Saxon race. But the Turk cannot be mixed with any other people. You may as well try to mix oil and water. It seems as if Providence had made the Turk of some material which has no affinity for any other material—no quality that can attract or be attracted. So that the Turks are as they always have been, but encamped in Europe, ruling as conquerors in tyranny and by the sword. When the Turks entered a country they went on this principle—that the conquered were to have the choice between three alterwas death-another was a form of servitude, and the last to natives—one embrace the Mahommedan religion. A portion of the Christian population embraced the faith of their conquerors. Those who did so were mostly of the wealthy class—men who had a stake in the country and not much conscience. But the vast majority of Christians hold to their faith though it cost them their Possessions and their liberty. There have been times in Turkish history when plans have been submitted to the Sultan for the total destruction and extermination of the Challetin and the Post the Challetin and t plans have been submitted to the Sultan for the total destruction and extermination of the Christian population. But the answer has been, "No, let him live, and pay for living and we shall be the richer. He has no rights of property—no rights of law—he will pay our taxes and till our soil—let him live for our benefit. As for the religion—what can it matter? Let them pay their ransom, and do the best they can." And that is what it has been. A Christian is called a "rayah," which means, I believe, ransomed—one who has paid a price for Dermission to live. You would inagine that in the times when the free peoples. You would imagine that in the times when the free peoples were being gradually subjected Christianity would have intervened to mitigate permission to live. their condition, but unfortunately it was not so-it was just as it has generally happened—the heads of Christian Churches allying themselves with kings and tyrants, preaching submission, rather than the sacred rights of the people. In Constantinople Christian Patriarchs and Exarchs preached to their flocks the Cause of the Turk. Only, I believe, in Scotland and one or two other small countries has it ever been that the Christian Church has embraced the cause of freedom. So the Christian subject to the Turkish authority has remained a rayah—he has paid his price to live.

The life has not been much worth the living often. In view of this lecture I sought for proofs of Turkish tyranny and misrule, and the task was not a pleasant one; for it was literally to wade through misery. It seems as if the pleasant one; for it was literally to wade through misery. It seems as if the country they occupy is suffering from every species of misrule which it can suffer. Over many a wide expanse, the soil, though by nature the richest on the face of the earth, lies waste and desolate. Means of material improvement roads, bridges, and harbours—have been almost entirely neglected. The efforts of the people to rise in intelligence, industry and wealth were sternly The system of taxation was, and is, an infamy to any people. This is an illustration of a very common way to gather taxes. Two men agree to keep a flock between them; the one in summer on the mountains, the other in winter on the plains. The tax-gatherer compels the first to pay the whole, winter on the plains. The tax-gatherer compels the interest to pay the whole, promising to ask nothing of the other. He then goes to the other and compels him to pay the like amount, giving the same promise as he did to the first. A Christian can be compelled to pay twice over for exemption from the army, if the tax-gatherer declare that the first receipt he gave was forged. And there is no redress. A Christian can give no evidence, and get no justice. The Turkish tax-gatherer may rob at his own sweet will, and he enjoys as perfect immunity as an Irish Catholic here enjoys who may shoot down a Protestant. The Christians of Turkey may state the injustice as clearly and conclusively as possible, but those who are set to administer the law shut their eyes and say "No Bill," like a certain Grand Jury we knew.

No Bill," like a certain Grand Jury we knew.

Now, to have such people as the Turks for neighbours can scarcely be a good and pleasant thing, and so the Russians have always had more or less of good and pleasant thing, and so the Russians have always had more or less of trouble,—oftener more than less. Let me tell you a little of the Russian trouble,—oftener more than less. Let me tell you a little of the Russian trouble,—oftener more than and the population of Russia we cannot Empire and people. As to the area and the population of Russia we cannot speak precisely; what they are exactly no one knows. Some writers have put speak precisely; what they are exactly no one knows. Some writers have put speak precisely; that of the United States or the Chinese Empire, and nearly twice and twice that of the United States or the Chinese Empire. twice that of the United States or the Chinese Empire, and nearly twice as many as that of Great Britain. We can reckon them at nearly eighty-three The area is immense, almost incalculable. Some of it a wild waste, but for the most part fertile and pleasant. There is, in fact, more land than but for the most part fertile and pleasant. There is, in fact, more land than there are people to occupy, and for long periods to come they will have more there are people to than ample scope for all their industries within their own borders. But Russia stand and to develop her resources and form a compact and progressive stand and to develop her resources and form a compact and progressive nationality. I am not altogether pro-Russian, although I am altogether anti-Turk. I do not hold up Russia as being good or very grand; but I do say this, that in the Russian people you have a people anxious to be peaceable and prosperous. The gigantic administrative machine, which has to hold together prosperous. The gigantic administrative machine, which has to hold together the various parts of the vast Empire even now secures a certain amount of order and tranquility and complete freedom. And that machine is of quite order and tranquility and complete freedom. And that machine is of quite order and tranquility and complete freedom. And that machine is of quite order construction. It may be said to have been designed and thrown into recent construction. It may be said to have been designed and thrown into rough form by Peter the Great. Before his time the country was governed in a rude and primitive fashion. The Grand Princes of Moscow, in subduing a rude and primitive fashion. The Grand Principalities, merely cleared the their rivals and enveying the surrounding principalities, merely cleared the their rivals and annexing the surrounding principalities, merely cleared the ground for a great homogeneous State, and made no effort to build a political ground for a great homogeneous State, and made a tentative hand-to-mouth edifice. ground for a great homogeneous State, and made no effort to build a political edifice. In fact, the Muscovite Tsars pursued a tentative, hand-to-mouth policy, destroying whatever caused temporary inconvenience with no thought policy, destroying whatever caused temporary inconvenience with no thought policy, destroying whatever caused temporary inconvenience with no thought policy, destroying whatever caused temporary inconvenience with no thought policy, destroying whatever caused temporary inconvenience with no heter made pursued a tentative, hand-to-mouth policy, hand-to-mouth policy, destroying whatever caused temporary inconvenience with no thought policy, and put policy and polic a man without skilled workmen, without technical knowledge, and without good tools,—with no better material than sandstone that is soft and crumbling trying to build a palace on a marsh! It seems absurd—and crumbling trying to build a palace on a marsh! It seems absurd—and yet Peter attempted just that. He had no technical knowledge; he had not yet Peter attempted just that. He had no technical knowledge; he had not the right material; he had not a firm foundation; and yet, with magnificent the right material; he had not a firm foundation; and yet, with magnificent the failed often, he may almost be said to have failed always, but he tried with the failed often, he may almost be said to have failed always, with masterly skill: when it indomitable perseverance with unwavering energy, with masterly skill: when it indomitable perseverance, with unwavering energy, with masterly skill; when it came crashing down only half broke his heart, and went to the work of build-

ing again before even the dust had settled, until death came and took the builder away in the midst of his unfinished labours. Heaven rewards for the effort, and not for the work, and heaven is just. At any rate he did this, gave to the Russians a great idea and revealed to them great possibilities. And the man who does that for other men or for a nation should be held in honour as of much worth to the world. I will describe to you the Russian form of administration in just a few words. It looks a very imposing edifice. At the top of the pyramid stands the Emperor-the "autocratic monarch," as Peter the Great used to define it, "who has to give an account of his acts to no one on earth, but has a power and authority to rule his states and lands as a christian sovereign according to his own will and judgment." Immediately below the Emperor are the Council of State, the Committee of Ministers, and the Senate. Don't imagine that the Council of State is a kind of Parliament, and the Committee of Ministers, a Ministry as we mean it; for the two institutions are simply incarnations of the autocratic power. It is but an instrument in the Emperor's hands. Immediately below these are ten Ministries or sections of administration, which have to regulate the different provinces. Over each province a governor is placed, who is assisted in his duties by a vice-governor and a small council. But unlike the Turks, they exercise no tyranny; they do administer justice as best they can, and do their work in a fairly honest way.

Great reforms have taken place among the Russians. See how the people have grown. Russia was at one time, and that not so far away, merely a collection of independent principalities, where Princes ruled aided by Boyars, the knights of the place. Then came the Tartar domination, with Moscow as seat of Empire, and changes took place, mostly for the better. At the end of the sixteenth century the Romanof family were raised to the throne by the will of the people; and then still greater changes resulting in good. They have lived until lately an agricultural life, and now they are turning with great earnestness In the earliest period of Russian history the rural population to commerce. was composed of three distinct classes. At the bottom of the scale stood the slave-very numerous, the number being kept up by adding prisoners of war, by freemen who sold themselves as slaves, by insolvent debtors, and by a certain class of criminals. Above these were the free agricultural labourers, who had no permanent home, but wandering here and there got work where they could. And above them again the peasants proper, those who were possessors of land in property or in usufruct, paying the rent of the land in labour. In process of time these were melted into one common class, called serfs, who were the property of the landed proprietor or the State. They had no legal protection, and were not permitted even to present a petition against their masters. It was slavery-not of the worst kind, perhaps, but it was slavery. And all that is done away. It was not done by any one man; it was not the result of rebellion or bloody revolution; it was not done by any one class of the people. In 1875 nearly ten millions of male serfs were emancipated without war or any kind of strife. The Emperor led in the great and good work, and the nation followed him-the nation as a whole set the slaves free. The people who can do that are a great people, and have elements of power that shall live. Put the conduct of the Turks by the side of it. Have they ever emancipated a single slave? When? I am aware that in 1846 the Sultan declared the slave trade illegal; that in 1854 he issued a firman interdicting the traffic in Georgians and Circassians; that in 1857 it was announced that the sale or exportation of negroes was positively prohibited. But the Turk's word was worth what it has always been worth—nothing at all. They carried on the traffic as before. They carry it on still. The African slave tool is prosecuted almost entirely to supply the Turkish harems, and but for the foul Turk, slavery would be driven from the face of the earth.

A. J. BRAY.

(To be continued.)

"THE BUSINESS SITUATION."

"Alpha" has again begun at the beginning,—the Balance of Trade. Does the Government in this enlightened (?) age and country stifle enquiry into this solemn question? Lo! are there not the Custom House returns and the Board of Trade reports inviting constantly the careful study of anxious minded "Alphas"? The truth cannot be said to leak out. It stares us in the face. Let us return the gaze, not with stolid indifference, but with a look of enquiry.

The merchant who owes \$1,000, with \$2,000 in cash on hand to meet it,

stock of the value of \$10,000, and outstanding debts (good) of \$5,000, has a genuine surplus of \$7,000, and as "Alpha" himself will admit, is in an enviable and safe position. Still, it is possible to conceive of his attaining a better one. He might, for instance, the following year do a trade of \$100,000, with a gross profit of 15 per cent., less expenses of 5 per cent., making thus a gross profit of \$10,000, and yet at the end of that time he might find his liabilities increased to \$20,000. His cash on hand to meet them might still be only \$2,000, but then his stock might be increased to \$25,000, and his outstanding accounts (good) to \$10,000. His assets would then be \$37,000 and his liabilities \$20,000. This means that in the first case he had \$1.70 for each dollar of liability; in the second case he has \$1.85 for each dollar of liability. I leave "Alpha" to say whether his position be an improved one or not; of course, presupposing that the values are equally genuine in both cases.

Has Canada thus successfully traded, or has she not? tion, and cannot be solved by showing what is the balance of trade. merely shows what a nation owes, but gives no idea whatever as to her power of paying it. For that we must look within the country. Canada has some resources, notwithstanding "Alpha's" painfully despondent views, and has hitherto succeeded remarkably in selling the claims of her creditors abroad. It

is only charitable, then, to suppose that she is solvent.

I confess myself unable to comprehend how "Alpha" reaches the conclusion that "credit is by Law made the rule, and cash the exception." I have yet to learn that Law compels me to take credit, and that to pay cash is a crime against the State.

If "the results of Trade lie too long concealed in stock and store and fruits of the soil till the waiters for a return from the investments which are sown broadcast over the country grow weary and heartsick," then these waiters must