CABLE COMMENT.

Those Irish Arrests Continue the Theme of Conversation—A One-Sided View.

European Rulers Discuss Politics and Then Go Hunting — Prophecies of Wars.

Russia Has a Bitter Enemy in Germany—Holland Experiments With War Balloons.

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LONDON, Sept. 20.—The talk of the day in London is the sudden seizures of the Irish leaders, Dillon and O'Brien. The movement was evidently long planned. For several weeks O'Brien had been under the closest surveillance. Although not given the ground for the warrant, his speech at Mallow, his native town, appears to have been the last straw with the authorities, although his arrest, and that of Dillon, had been resolved upon when the reports of their utterances in the demonstration against Bishop O'Dwyer at Limerick, were officially submitted to Chief Secretary Balfour. The National League at Mallow declared in their address to O'Brien that "it would be as easy for a spider to encompass Knockaroura mountain in his web as for Balfour and his satellites to crush or suppress the spirit of our fellow townsmen, and the fellow townswomen of William O'Brien." In his speech in reply O'Brien uttered words of defiance, which probably led the government to

SHOW ITS HAND

quicker than it might have done. After a most cutting review of the failure of coercion, in which he spoke of Balfour as a limping, ghostly shadow of what he had been, O'Brien added that John Dillon and he (O'Brien) both addressed the Smith Barry tenantry in Tipperary the other day in far and away stronger speeches than the speeches he was sent to jail for 12 months ago; but the government had pretty near enough of prosecuting members of parliament. The words had hardly been reported to Dublin Castle, when the Royal constabulary were hot on the trail of the orator. On the Sunday evening following, O'Brien and his wife travelled from Mallow to Kilfinney, when he addressed a crowd from the hotel window. On Monday morning, he left for the lakes in company with Mr. Sheehan, M.P., and was followed by policemen on the cars; and when he went on the water the constabulary took a small boat and kept him in sight during the entire excursion. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien started for Glencaitlin, still followed by the police, and he was arrested there as stated in Thursday's dispatches. As Messrs. O'Brien and Dillon spared no opportunity in parliament to assail the magistrates, and particularly those at Tipperary, for their abuse of power and their general perversion of justice and authority, it is certain that they stand no chance of a fair hearing in petty courts presided over by these inquisitors, who are of an entirely different stamp from British justices of the peace. As the tenure of office of magistrates who enforce coercion in Ireland depends upon the will of Balfour, they are all the more ready to do his bidding and go to any length to prevent the home rule party from coming into power.

Colonel Caddel, of Tipperary, is one of those magistrates who has made himself particularly obnoxious. His early training having been chiefly in India, he treats the Irish as he has been accustomed to treat the abject natives of Hindostan. Balfour not being sure of as pliant a magistracy elsewhere, shrewdly made his warrants returnable to this man's court. Another coincidence, that just at this time should be published by the British Government calendar of state papers on account of Irish misgovernment three centuries ago, when Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, was playing fast and loose with Queen Elizabeth's deputies. The papers, which are from British archives, reveal much interesting matter never before exposed to public perusal. They show how the lands of Ireland were distributed among court favorites, who never set a foot in the country; how the Earl of Desmond was punished for the accident of his birth, writing "as he did from the Tower of Cecil that "he had never breathed out of prison since his infancy." How the great desire of the English rulers of Ireland, according to Sir George Carry, was "to keep justice out, that they might tyrannize with absolute power, confiscating both goods and lives at pleasure." And that England's policy toward those Irish chiefs was, according to the English lord deputy, "to use all the one or the other." Tyrone seems to have made the English so sick of fighting that the Bishop of Chester wrote to Lord Burleigh that it was a common saying, "better be hanged at home than die like dogs in Ireland," and the lord deputy declared that "two thousand Scots, well assured to Her Majesty, would perform more service upon the traitor than twice as many English." The Scots, however, seem to have preferred the Tyrone side, 2,000 of them having been induced to join him by offers of wives and lands. Altogether the document is an excellent campaign publication for the Liberals as showing that coercion was no more a success in olden times than to-day.

GRATIFYING TO THE EMPEROR.

Germany's war manœuvres in Cisilia this week have been highly gratifying to the Emperor William and his Imperial guest of Austria. By the Emperor's orders all the cavalry of the German army are now a Uhlans. The lance fork being in a hollow steel shaft painted black instead of a wooden one the weight will remain as before, but more durability is expected in the steel handle. The Kaiser has great faith in the lance, both as a weapon of defence and attack. The cavalry are also armed with carbines. The infantry has been given tents quite an innovation in the German army, their tents being water tight and capable of being used as ponchos. The soldiers continue to wear for stockings strips of linen smeared with lard, which they bind around their feet. The cavalry show well and the troops exhibited but little fatigue after their severe exercise. Notable in the French exercises this week was the use of smokeless shots, which are discharged without even the smoke of the gun-powder to indicate whence the fusilade or cannonade proceeded. This new mode of fighting has something mysterious about it and terrorizing. On the other hand, it has shown that smoke no longer points out the place occupied by the enemy. The manœuvres were interesting and eminently gratifying and General Billot was complimented on all hands, and especially by the Prussian attaches. The Commissaires and Medical staff, whose failure had much to do with the disasters of 1870, proved in excellent working order, and the closing charge was most brilliant in its effect.

WAR RUMORS AND HOLIDAYING.

The German Emperor will arrive in Vienna October 2nd, and will go to Styria with Emperor Francis Joseph for a few days' shooting. The party will include the King of Saxony, the Grand Duke of Tuscany and Prince Leopold of Bavaria. Notwithstanding these Imperial amusements and the fact that the Czarawich is about to visit Constantinople and British India, the tone of the Russian press is full of warlike forebodings. The Moscow Gazette says: "Austria's policy is directed solely with a view to oppose Russia in her mission of freedom, and consciousness of her guilty attitude towards Russia makes Austria dread lest in future Russia may find a way into the Balkan peninsula not through Romania, but by Vienna. The St. Petersburg Vremya speaks with apparent authority of possible Russian interference in Armenia, and the Armenians are known to be leaving Russian territory in large numbers with arms, bent, it is thought, on arousing an insurrection against Turkey.

The results of the Bulgarian elections was an overwhelming favor of Prince Ferdinand and his minister. Stambouloffe has convinced the Czar that no course short of war will gain to Bulgaria Russian influence. The feeling is not without its bearing in autocratic courts like Russia and Germany. The Czar is married to a daughter of Denmark, while the wife of the Kaiser, to whom William is deeply devoted, is from Schleswig-Holstein, and no people are more antagonistic than the Danes and those of the state they once held in subjection. The Czar is determined by every affinity to warn Denmark, and he dislikes the Germans who wrested the province from that nation. While the Germans, Austrian, Russians, French and English are exercising their fleets and armies, Holland is trying the use of balloons for the purpose of reconnoitering in war. Holland has had a war of its own for about 17 years past, in the island of Isamutria, with varying success. It is proposed to establish balloon corps to watch the enemy's capital and take account of his movements.

A UNITED GERMANY.

Advices from Berlin state that Emperor Francis Joseph and the Kaiser spent all night of Wednesday, until early Thursday morning, in close consultation, and their majesties were especially cordial at parting. As no third person was present, the subject of the discussion is unknown, but the Kaiser remarked on the following day to the veteran Count Blumenthal, in the hearing of his staff, that "we now have in fact a united Germany." It is the subject of general remark that whereas there had been a good deal of courteous formality about the meeting of the Emperor and the Czar, William and Francis Joseph were more like son and father in their evident friendliness than mere allied sovereigns, and the Kaiser, who had declined, when in Russia, a grand hunting entertainment prepared for him by his Imperial host, was quick to accept the Austrian Emperor's invitation to a few day's shooting in Styria.

Chancellor Von Caprivi is credited with the statement that the triple alliance would soon be strengthened by the formal accession of England and Sweden, and in the event of a Russian attack upon the Baltic states the German army would at once enter the Russia-German province of Courland, where the German inhabitants hate the Russian's domination as much as those of Alsace-Lorraine hate the German. "Russia," says the mouthpiece of the chancellor, "believes herself invulnerable, but she is one of the most vulnerable of nations. There are countries just as ready to divide her territory as she is those of Turkey. Germany ought to have back the old Baltic provinces, Sweden wants Finland, and Austria would be a much better guardian of the Poles than Russia has shown herself to be; but we have no quarrel with Russia, and do not care to have any." The German army was never in more splendid condition than to-day, and the improvements effected by the Emperor have won him, not only the good will of the soldiery, but also the approval of the vetern Von Moltke, who came out of his retirement with nearly a century on his shoulders to pay homage to his sovercign. The English military attaches in Celesia report that the troops presented an appearance far superior to the Russians at Narva and showed a much higher average of physique and decipline. It is reported from Vienna that Germany has agreed to the permanent annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovnia by Austria, and Austria may occupy Servia in the event of a Russian war.

POLITICS IN BERLIN.

The division between the two factions of Socialists in Berlin is growing more bitter as the first of October approaches, and as personal encounters between the leaders are apprehended, the police are keeping close surveillance over them.

SLAVES UNDER BRITAIN'S FLAG.

Much surprise has been created by evidence that while Great Britain is annexing a large part of Africa for the professed purposes of abolishing slavery and bringing to the natives the benefits of civilization, there are not less than 5,000 slaves in the British territories on the Gold Coast. The English authorities in that region of West Africa discourage any attempt at enforcing a general law which forbids slavery in the dominions of Great Britain, and the Colonial authorities have gone so far as to order the return of slaves to their owners when the residents opposed to slavery have made complaint. Not only are the negroes held in bondage in this British colony, but they are procured from the interior to be sold into slavery elsewhere. The business of late has considerably increased. The government has promised to investigate the matter, but the only remedy would seem to be the removal of the present authorities.

MINING MACHINERY.

The Customs Regulations and Duty Upon Machinery Bearing Unduly on the Mining Interest.

A gentleman who has considerable interests in the mining industry has forwarded to THE COLONIST a copy of the Ottawa Free Press containing an interview with Mr. John Williams, editor of the New York Engineering and Mining Journal, and manager of the Temiscamingue, Ont., lead and silver mine. In answer to the question, "Was your machinery admitted free of duty?" Mr. Williams said "No. On the contrary, we have been treated very badly about that matter. The law of last session distinctly says that mining machinery not manufactured in Canada shall be admitted free. A greater portion of the machinery we brought into Canada for use at our mine is of kinds not manufactured in the Dominion and that have never been manufactured here. Under threat of demurrage charges, serious inconvenience and pecuniary loss through delay, we found ourselves obliged to pay a large sum of money to the government to obtain release of our property, the collector at Pembroke being quite ignorant as to what was mining machinery and naturally still more incompetent to discriminate between one description and another. We have paid this money under protest and hope for fair treatment, and its ultimate recovery. It does seem a little hard to have such obstacles thrown in the way of the development of the country. If the intention is to admit free of duty the mining machinery of such kinds as are not manufactured in Canada, then our machinery should have been admitted free."

The correspondent remarks that at the time the law of last session was under discussion THE COLONIST pointed out that exactly what has happened and is now complained of would prevail to the serious detriment of the mining industry in this province, and that now the Minister of Customs is on this Coast his attention ought to be specially directed to the subject.

ALBERT BAY SOUNDINGS.

A Budget of News from this Prospering Place —Founding an Indian School at Zwatina.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

Messrs. Banks and Phillips arrived down from Sukwash on Saturday evening, where they have been boring for coal. They have reached a depth of six hundred feet, but it is not known whether they have found any in paying quantities, as they seem to keep the matter quiet.

Mr. Alex. McDoughall has just returned from an inspection of the leases of the Vancouver Lumber company on the Klasauch river, at the head of Lake Karmutsean. He says the company have some very fine timber, equal to any in British Columbia. He reports some bottom land in that region available for settlement. He also brings with him some fine specimens of minerals.

The people of the Temperance Colony, who were engaged in fishing at Klicksiwi, have finished and are now getting things in order for their saw mill, which is to be erected in Rough bay.

The Alert Bay Canning company have now nearly all their cans cased, and expect to ship the balance of their salmon this month. The extraordinary run of the sockeye in the Nimpkish this year has made their pack to 7,500 cases. The steamer Mystery was an acquisition to the business.

Mr. J. P. Buchanan, the Nimrod of this place, contemplates a trip to Knight Inlet to hunt big game. He is anxious to get some grizzly, which are plentiful in that locality. He reckons a Winchester with a 45-90 cartridge will bring Bruin to grief.

Mr. A. W. Cocker, who came out from England a year ago in the interest of the C.M.S., leaves next week with lumber for a church and school to be built at Zwatina, where there is a tribe of Indians numbering four hundred, and who are in bad need of a teacher. Mr. Cocker, who is an energetic young man, and already speaks the language quite fluently, expects to have his school in a flourishing condition, as there are some for y children of school age.

Beautiful weather prevails at present, with an occasional frost at night, followed by a sunshiny day.

This place will be heard from through the columns of THE COLONIST fortnightly, as Alert Bay and surroundings is now attaining importance. INCOGNITO.

Sept. 13th, 1890.

A TRYING EXPERIENCE.

Perhaps the most trying experience in the career of a maiden who has passed the first blush of romantic girlhood, is when she braces herself to meet the shock of a proposal of marriage from some man, and the shock does'nt come. We readily admit the truth of this statement; but here, let us say that our experience relating to matters in which the weaker sex in concerned, leads us to believe that there is a shock much more difficult to withstand by the average maiden, wife or mother. It is when a dyeing operation is begun, and the operator discovers that she has been using some one of the many worthless package dyes which some storekeeper sells.

Then it is that her wrath is difficult to appease, and at this time neither the persuasive powers of angels or men can induce her to try such dyes again.

Ladies, all this trouble, disquietude and shaking up of the nerves is avoided by using the popular "Diamond Dyes." No matter what the material is, you are sure of success, if you only follow the simple directions on each package. This success consists of comfort, dispatch and an easy mind, as well as work well done.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

Proceedings of the Methodist Conference Recently Sitting in Montreal—Chinock may Form a Branch of Ministerial Study.

The Third General Conference of the Methodist Church, which met in Montreal on the 10th instant, was presided over by Rev. Dr. Albert Carman, general superintendent, who briefly dwelt upon the tenets and practices of Methodism. At the first session 122 ministers and 91 lay delegates answered to their names. Rev. S. F. Huestis, of the Maritime Provinces, was elected secretary, Mr. W. Kennedy of the Toronto and Rev. J. S. Ross of the Bay of Quinte Conferences being named as assistant secretaries. The president, in delivering his formal address, referred to the lay and clerical brethren present at the general conference, four years ago, who had been called away, making a specially feeling allusion to his colleague in the General Superintendency, the late Rev. Dr. Williams. He dwelt at length upon the field covered by the conference, saying it was its duty to avoid crude, ill-digested measures, that could only multiply trouble. The Conference should be preserved as the surest bulwark against all officialism, all dangerous centralization, all hierarchy. He said: "If we are to have a succession of ministers we must have it independent in its spiritual sphere, manly, consecrated and free. If we are to have lay representation it must be accorded respect, confidence, responsibility, dignity and effect. If we are to have a general superintendency it must be made veritable and vigorous. We can waste neither time nor money on parade, superfluous machinery, fiction or farce." Dr. Carman contended that the general superintendency must be put on a more satisfactory basis, and forcibly urged the claims of the ministerial superannuation fund.

On the nominating committee as representing British Columbia, were placed Rev. C. Bryant and Mr. D. Spencer. With respect to Church Union, the committee advised that conference appoint a committee to meet a similar committee which may be appointed by the other churches to secure a closer union among the various denominations in Canada. After the different committees had been organized, the report of the committee on the Centennial of Methodism was read and submitted to the Committee on Education. It stated that the objects of the meetings which would be held were thanksgiving to God, the education of the people in the history, doctrine and polity of Methodism, and the raising of funds by contributions and subscriptions. A number of reports having been presented and referred, the report of the Secretary of Education was submitted. It is stated that at the last conference the income of the Educational society was $11,954; the present income was $20,345. The Methodist people were surpassed by no other body in their interest in higher education, and especially the education of the ministry. The subscription list to the Federation fund now stood at nearly $270,000, whilst by the will of the late Mr. William Gooderham there was available to the fund a sum of $200,000.

The report of the University of Victoria showed that the ordinary income had been within $132 of meeting the cost of maintenance during the year, having been $20,291.44 against an expenditure of $20,733.38. The report of the Sunday school board gave the following statistics: Number of schools in 1890, 2,362; number in 1886, 2,634; increase, 348; Number of teachers in 1890, 28,474; number in 1886, 24,450; increase, 4,024. Number of scholars in 1890, 225,963; number in 1886, 220,575; increase, 5,378. Raised for missions in 1890, $27,851; raised for missions in 1886, $20,762; increase, $7,089. Raised for school purposes in 1890, $170,513; for same purposes in 1886, $71,358; increase, $99,295. Raised for Sunday school aid fund in last quadrennium, $13,844; in previous quadrennium, $7,717; increase, $6,157. The expenditure for school maintenance during 1890 reached $170,513, an increase of 130 per cent. on the income of 1886. When to this is added the amount raised for missions and $3,517 for the Sunday School Aid fund, there is an aggregate of $201,881, or nearly a dollar per head for every scholar in the schools. The report of the Superintendent of Missions in the Northwest showed an increase in all branches.

The report of the Western section of the Book Room committee showed that the total assets reached $480,934.36, as against $318,052.93 in 1886, and the liabilities amounted to $224,563.71, as compared with $115,391.03, four years ago. The net profit after all reductions was $78,775.68, as compared with $63,171.83 in 1886. Referred to the Book Room committee.

Among the notices of motion given were the following: Rev. S. Bond, "No minister of the Methodist church shall solemnize the marriage of any divorced person, save when such divorce has been obtained on the grounds of adultery by the person from whom the divorce was procured, and the official evidence of such divorce must be examined by the minister before he proceeds to such marriage. That any member of the Methodist church procuring or seeking a divorce on any ground save adultery shall be deemed as guilty of an immorality, and on conviction of such act shall be expelled."

Rev. Dr. Stafford: "That par. 37, page 16, 'Book of Discipline,' be erased, and in its place the following be inserted: 'Methodists have always interpreted their rules as an earnest warning against all doubtful and dangerous amusements. There was never greater need of attention to this warning than now, and the members of the church are therefore admonished, in harmony with the spirit of their rules, to abstain from all participation in and encouragement of dancing, as practiced in fashionable society, and gambling in any form, whether by indulgence in games of chance or by their presence at races or contests of any kind upon which it is customary to hazard money or the value thereof. The whole subject is commended to the godly consideration of members of the church, and they are enjoined by their wisdom and piety to maintain the high spiritual standard characteristic of Methodism in every age and place."

A member of the Bay of Quinte Conference gave notice favoring the abolition of the present examination of ministerial character, and one from the New Brunswick Conference gave notice of motion providing for the teaching of Chinook instead of Greek to students who were going among the Indians as missionaries.

OLD COINS COUNTERFEITED.

Modern Mints Turn out Rare Bits of Metal—Collectors Excited.

OTTAWA, Sept. 20.—Superintendent Bell, of the United States secret service in Toronto, accompanied by two detectives, have in hand one of the most extraordinary cases of counterfeiting in America. The investigation indicates that a regularly organized gang of counterfeiters has been at work for years manufacturing base coins, plates and other curious. It was discovered that some of these counterfeits were manufactured in the neighborhood of Toronto and expressed to the United States. The investigation has been conducted quietly for six months, but as yet the counterfeiters have not been run to earth. When the first counterfeit was discovered it created a great deal of excitement among dealers in old coins, and the Numismatist Association of the United States started secret service officers to investigating the matter. This has so far resulted in the discovery of extensive counterfeiting in the United States and Canada. When the $1 issue of 1804 was recalled only four were left in circulation. Each of these coins is now valued by numismatists at $500, and it was a counterfeit of one of these that led to the first discovery. The detectives succeeded in locating several mints in Louisiana, and among the stuff secured were many counterfeits of old coins.

While the inquiry was being prosecuted an incident occurred in the prison at Michigan City that threw light on the work. In this prison there is confined a notorious counterfeiter named Peter McCartney. A short time ago a letter was received at the prison from McCartney's wife to her husband, in which was enclosed an old Roman coin. The latter explained that the coin was sent to Pete as a souvenir. The officials discovered that the coin was a counterfeit. The secret service was notified, and a detective placed on Mrs. McCartney's trail. He discovered that she lived at Niogs, Illinois, and had as an associate a Dr. Baker, who was in the habit of paying periodical visits to Niagara Falls and Toronto, driving to Oakville, where he sent small packages by express to different dealers in old coins in various parts of the United States. Detectives were dispatched to Oakville, and a short distance from the village, in a garret of an unoccupied building, found an almost complete counterfeiting outfit. Bell came to Toronto to follow up this clue.

PACIFIC COAST COMMERCE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—At to-day's meeting of the Pacific coast board of commerce a number of committee reports were read and discussed. The interstate commerce committee reported in favor of an amendment to the interstate commerce act so as to allow of a through rate from points in Asia, Africa and the islands of the Pacific to points on this continent or across it via American steamship lines.

The committee on the World's fair urged every commercial and mercantile organization on the Coast to do its best to make the exhibit a great success, as a notice to the over-crowded population that upon this Coast is the only unoccupied area left open to the homeseeker, where the conditions of the soil and climate assure independence as a result of honest industry.

THE AMATEUR QUARTETTE.

How They Tortured the Strings Until Beethoven Almost Turned in His Grave.

Mr. Scroopeg is an enthusiastic fiddler and, like many others of the large class of amateurs, he is "nothing if not classical." He affects the higher regions of solo playing, and never appears at the local concerts in anything less pretentious than a concerto by Spohr, or the Witches' Dance, by Paganini, both of which he "hangs, draws and quarters" until the composers would not know their own offspring. The quartette, however, is the battle-horse, and though he has never treated the concert going public by forcing one of Beethoven's, posthumous quartettes down their long-suffering throats, he has his friends at his house once a week for quartette practice.

The crux of the amateur quartetta is always either a voice or 'cello, usually the latter. Baggs, the 'cellist of Scroopeg's party, is a man of the old school, though his 'cello (which he draws from a green baize bag as daintily as a mother handles her first baby) is most decidedly modern, and gives forth a harsh metallic tone, which can only be described as appalling. When Baggs puts on the whole weight of his heavy bow to produce a fortissimo the fiddlers can only be heard like the distant hum of a distracted bluebottle.

"You're late, Baggs," says Scroopeg, looking at his watch as Baggs comes in seven minutes and three-quarters past the appointed time for the assault on Beethoven; Whiner, the second, and Dolores, the tenor, are seated before their respective stands bristling with offended dignity as Baggs sits down to tune up, only condescending to give him the slightest nod by way of recognition. Baggs smiles grimly as he resins his bow, as much as to say, "you can't get along without me." "Your C string is half a tone flat, Baggs," says the leader, when the awful process of tuning the strident 'cello is over. "Suppose we begin," says Whiner, timidly, without daring to risk an opinion on the tuning. Whiner is a tailor, and Baggs is one of his best customers. So the C string might be any number of half tones flat before he would remark on the fact.

"We can't begin till that string is in tune," says Scroopeg, flourishing in the ninth position; "Beethoven would turn over in his grave." Baggs grunts, turns the C peg around both ways, and leaves it, out of sheer spite, just where it was before. He knows it is out of tune, but he is not to be taught at his time of life how to tune a 'cello, and especially by a young scraper like Scroopeg. "That's better," says the latter, approvingly. "Now then, one, two, three—"

They are off, considerably off, for at the first pressure of the tenor's bow, his G string gives a howl, consisting of a series of notes not down in the copy. His peg has slipped. Another delay of a couple of minutes ensues, during which Scroopeg whistles. "Grandfather's Clock," with the air of a true martyr. "It's all right now," says Dolores, coloring to the temples with vexation. At length a start is made, and such a start! Now, if ever, is the time for the man of Bonn to turn over in his grave. The allegro is at last done, very much done, in fact, done brown on all sides.

"Now for the Sherzo," says Scroopeg, with a smile that is diabolically complacent. He always says "Sherzo," and talks of the "Doggy of Venice" but then he was never taught German, which, of course, is not his fault. "The Sherzo" goes on until a rapid scale of demi-semis bring him up short, and he finds, at a convenient moment, his E string has sunk a bit. Whiner tries to play first fiddle while the mischief is repaired, but fails; Baggs is swinging along in grand style, and seems likely to be first at the winning post, when the tenor gives it up for a bad job, and the whole lot come to a dead stand, just as Haley, Sam and Andy did in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," when they found a barn built across the highway.

The adagio (with a hard G in Scroopeg's classic style of pronunciation) is next essayed. "This adagio," he explains, "Wants very tender handling," and they begin. But Whiner's false stopping is most painfully apparent in the long drawn chords, and Dolores, who is afflicted with a very sensitive ear, looks at poor Whiner as though he would annihilate him. Baggs plays on with a noble disregard for expression, all p's being f's and all his f's being ff's, and his last chord is like the trump of an archangel. The final movement is a poser. The semiquavers in 2-4 time (key of A flat), put poor Whiner quite out of the running, and he plays a few bars, with a faint suspicion that he is fairly on the spot. Scroopeg blazes away at a mighty pace, leaving half his notes out in his desire to keep strict time, while Baggs and Dolores grimly resolve to do or die, and not to be outrun by that conceited puppy, Scroopeg. Crash—bang, go the final chords, and the quartet is over. And no member of the party seemed to know that he had been doing a solemn murder.

FIDDLER.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

(From the Ottawa Citizen.)

On Saturday last Messrs. Barcley and Salmon, of British Columbia Province, and Messrs. Patterson and Macdonell, a delegation appointed by the Labor Congress, waited upon Mr. C. H. Mackintosh, M. P., and requested that he should arrange a meeting with Sir John Macdonald, in order that the views of workingmen upon the Chinese question might be placed before him. Mr. Mackintosh said that the Premier had been traveling all the day and night before, and it would be unfair to ask him to appear at his department; however, he was satisfied Sir John would meet them on Monday afternoon, in time for the British Columbians to leave that night for the west. In accordance with this arrangement Sir John very kindly postponed several other engagements and met the deputation at 3:30 yesterday afternoon.

Hon. John Carling, Minister of Agriculture, upon whom the deputation had waited previously, was also present. The delegates were: Messrs. A. B. Ingram, St. Thomas (chairman); H. A. McLean, London; Geo. Bartley and Henry Cowan, Vancouver; Alex. McDonald, Ottawa, and Thomas Salmon, Nanaimo, B. C.

Mr. Bartley presented the following resolution, which had been passed by the Trades and Labor Congress: "That this congress demand of the Dominion Government such legislation as will have the effect of prohibiting the importation into Canada of Chinese labor, and of preventing the further admission of any of this undesirable class of immigrants."

Sir John stated that, preferring European settlers to Chinese, the policy of the Government had been to discourage the latter by placing restrictions upon Chinese immigration. To actually prohibit the entrance of Chinese into this country did not lie within the powers of the Canadian Government, however much they might wish it, inasmuch as it involved an international question wherein the interests of the Empire were concerned, and, of course, the Imperial Government would have something to say in the matter. His own opinion was that the prohibitory policy adopted by the United States Government in relation to Chinese immigration was a mistake, as it was sure to provoke retaliation, to the detriment of their foreign trade. However, that would be a good thing for Canada, since our young and growing trade with China would be stimulated and as the establishment of the new line of trans-Atlantic steamers offered every facility for the building up of a profitable commerce with China, he looked for important results in that direction.

The second resolution was presented by Mr. Salmon. It read: "That in the opinion of this Congress the employment of Chinese laborers in mines should be prohibited by law, and a penalty of $500 for each offence be enforced against owners of all mines in which such labor is employed."

Sir John asked upon what grounds were the special objections to the employment of Chinese in mines based, and why they should be allowed to engage in one class of work and not in another?

The delegates represented that the employment of Chinese miners was a source of continuous danger to white miners, because through their ignorance and carelessness explosions of fire damp were liable to occur at any time.

The Premier, in reply, advised the delegates to prepare a full statement of their views for presentation to Parliament. In doing so, he said, they would advance their cause by dealing with the matter in a calm and logical spirit, not making it out as a case of White vs. Chinese.

"But," said the delegates, "we have no means of positively proving that explosions are actually caused by Chinese, although we believe them to be."

"In that case," said Sir John, "your best course to pursue is to carefully collect all the evidence you can upon the subject; showing, for instance, that explosions are more frequent in mines where Chinese are engaged than in those where only white labor is employed."

The delegates subsequently met at the Grand Union and agreed to adopt the practical course suggested by Sir John, deciding to collect all the information available and forward it to Mr. Ingram, by whom it will be laid before the Government.

FREDERIC ARCHER.

Victoria to be Visited by the World-Renowned Organist and Virtuoso.

In a few weeks the music-loving people of Victoria are to be honored and gratified by the visit to this city of Mr. Frederic Archer, of London and New York, who has for years been regarded as at the head of his profession. He is said to have fully mastered that seldom fully mastered art—organ playing. He has, moreover, the peculiar touch that distinguishes the artist organist—brain, hand and feet being impressed into the service, the product being a performance which, in all its details, is little short of perfection. The London Times describes Mr. Archer as "a representative artist of the highest possible type." The American Art Journal says that "he displays an amount of ingenuity and technical knowledge no mere organist could ever possess." Mr. Archer is now giving recitals in Toronto and other cities of Canada, and October 7 will give a performance on the organ of St. Andrew's church, in this city, the numbers being selected from the works of Guilmonte, Handel, Suppe, Bach, Beethoven, Meyerbeer, Rossini and Haydn, the latter of whose "Clock Movement" is a most wonderful conception, and, in the hands of Mr. Archer, little short of a revelation.

Lieut. Martin and his bride were behind a runaway team on the Goldstream road Friday. Fortunately they escaped injury.

THE LIME-KILN CLUB.

Short Summer Lectures.

LECTURE NO. 4.

Previous to the arrival of Brother Gardener, and while a group of members were discussing the effects of the Lodge bill, Pickles Smith suddenly called Elder Toots a liar and struck at him. The elder, thought dazed at the sudden turn of affairs, was about to toe the scratch and give an account of himself, when the brethern interfered and the belligerents were separated. As soon as the president came in, he was informed of what had happened, and when the meeting had been opened he said:

"Brudder Toots an' Smith will step dis way. Now, Brudder Smith, ar' it true dat you called de elder a liar?"

"Y-yes, sah."

"Dat's what he dun called me," added the elder.

"What was de pint in dispute?"

"Dan'l in de lion's den, sah."

"What 'bout Dan'l in the lion's den?"

"I said dar' war' fo' lions; Elder Toots said dere war' six."

"An' you called him a liar on dat account?"

"Yes, sah, but I—I didn't mean to. I had a rush o' blood to de head."

"Yes, he dun called me a liar," added the elder as he rubbed his hands together.

"Now, den, how many lions was in dat den when Dan'l was frowed in? Which of you has got de 'zact number, an' wear' did you git em?"

"I reckon dere was fo', sah," replied Smith.

"An' I'se right peart sush dere was six," added Toots.

"Does de Bible say either fo' or six?" demanded Brother Gardner. "An' if it doan' say, how you gwine to know? De ideah of two pussons like you, who is behind in your rent an' your wives gwine bar'fut, disputin 'bout de lion's den! Shake hands!"

They shook.

"Now, go and sot down! You is boaf fined $8.00 an' cost fur your foolishness, an' if I h'ar any mo' of it, you'll think all dem lions has broke loose on you! Disputin' 'bout lions! Why, neither one of you kin tell who is Guv'ner of de state or sheriff of de county! Such precarious disrupshun on de purs of two disenlightened demagogues demands de most rebukeful promptness."

The brethren resumed their seats, looking as small as possible, and Brother Gardner then announced that Prof. P. P. Jackson, of Louisiana, was in the ante-room and waiting to deliver summer lecture No. 4 before the club. The professor had reached Detroit at night and during a thunderstorm, and was provided with a certificate to the effect that he had never been convicted of burning a gin or stealing a hog. His subject was: "Does We Transmigrate," and so far as known he was a fluent speaker and a profound thinker.

THE PROFESSOR.

When the professor entered he was discovered to be two stories and a half high, and built for crawling through barbed-wire fences without leaving any hide behind. He had a solemn, earnest look, and the white shirt loaned him for the occasion by Brother Gardner was large enough for him to hide in.

HE BEGINS.

In a voice which was distinctly heard in every part of the hall, but which had a pleasing ring to it, the professor stepped forward and said:

"My frens, what is transmigration? Some of you hev probably got de ideah dat transmigration an' transportation ar' de same thing. Dat's whar you ar' off. Transportation means carryin'—convey'in'—movin' from one place to another. [Sensation.] When you ar' behind in your rent you hev your goods transported out on de sidewalk. [Uneasiness.] Transmigration is a spiritual term. It applies to de soul. Now, den, some of you has de ideah dat when you die your soul leaves de body an' goes straight to Herven. I doan' blame you for hevin' dis ideah, bekase dat is de way you was brung up; but I reckon you all will be greatly dissapointed when de time comes. [Great uneasiness all over the hall.]

"Doan' you know," continued the orator, as he got a fresh hold with his toes, "dat de fin' in dis world ober dies? Take a burdock. De top kills down, but de root is left. De sunflower ripens an' dies, but de seeds spring up agin. A tree may grow old an' die an' fall to de ground, but from a root springs a new tree. Nuffin' ober entirely loses its life. When it has fulfilled its mishun in one sphere it begins life an' labor in another. [Sensation and sighs.] Why shouldn't it be so wid human beings? I claim it is so. I can't say dat we is allowed to choose our futher shape, but I is as sartin dat we enter upon another form as I am dat I stand heah befo' you. [Great flutter all around the hall.]

"My frens, why does de hoss and mule act wid such intelligence? Why ar' some good tempered an' some bad? Bekase each animal represents a man who has departed human life an' taken up another form. Ebery tree an' bush an' flower represents dead humanity. De sunflower in your back yard is only a sunflower to you, but who kin say dat it does not hold de speerit of a great statesman? Ebery livin' pusson has an affeckshun fur sunthing. He loves a hoss, dog, cat, tree, bush, flower or bird. It' mo' dan likely dat when death obertakes him his soul passes into dat partickler object. I no doubt see men heah befo' me to-night, who, thirty y'ars hence, will be 'possums an' coons an' dogs an' cats an' buzzards an' canary birds. [Great applause.] I myself should like to be a whale, but I realize dat I am jist as apt to find myself a clam or a grasshopper.

"My dear frens," said the speaker, as he scratched one leg with the other, "I doan' want to make your faith in de hereafter, but I want to look into dis matter an' speculate an' theorize fur yousselves. De better man you ar' in dis life, de mo' beautiful shape you will take on when you hev transmigrated. De good men will be de peacocks, eagles, redbirds, de sleek hosses an' cows, de lions and tigers of de future. De bad ones will be de pig-weeds an' burdocs, de crab-docs, the crab-trees and swamp-grass, de buzzards an' de hyenas. Goodness shall be rewarded fo' times ober. Wid dese few infectious reflexions, an' hopin' dat each an' ebery one of you may influence de percolation to a decided aphorism on his own behalf, I bid you good-night."

After the speaker had retired there was a long period of silence, broken at intervals by the soft sobs of Samuel Shin, who had made up his mind that he would be a squash in his future state, Brother Gardner finally arose and said:

"Life an' beyand it ar' mighty onsartin things. Let us home an' sot down an' think about it."

Dead But Not Forgotten.

"Poor Dumley is dead. He has paid his debt to nature."

"I wish he had been as considerate to me. —Munsey's Weekly.

A Great Constellation.

Wiggins—Who are those ladies in that left-hand box?

Muggins—Oh, that is a constellation of society stars.

Wiggins—Any particular constellation?

Muggins—Well, judging from their decolete costumes, I should say the Great Bare—America.