

public functionary, it is customary to front the grave with an avenue formed of several pairs of gigantic stone figures of men and animals, which, although but rude specimens of works of art, always combine to give the scene an imposing and solemn character. This must, however, have been a practise more common in ancient times than now, for I cannot remember ever having observed any such monuments about the country but what were hoary and ruinous with age. The ancestor of the family and his spouse always occupy the most commanding spot in the enclosure facing the supposed "Feng Shuy," and the other branches of the family are assigned places on either side, the graves advancing towards the main gate as the generations descend. I have seen them arranged in one or two instances with all the order and exactitude of a genealogical tree.

CURRENT EVENTS.

THE universal condemnation by the English Press of the Canadian Pacific Railway scandal must be very annoying to the partizans of the Canadian Ministry. The chief attempt to lessen the value of their verdict, and so restore calm to the troubled consciences of those who have such a thing, is the attribution of ignorance to the writers. Ignorance is indeed a sufficient plea in abatement of a judgment. But ignorance of what? Of some unimportant incidents? No surely. It should be ignorance of the main facts. But here the main facts are known to every one. There is no need to know more than what Sir Hugh Allen, and Sir J. A. MacDonald say of their own actions, together with the telegrams and letters. Every one who knows these things no matter what may be his unacquaintedness with incidents, or persons immaterial to the case, is capable of pronouncing as certainly upon the nature of the transaction as though he had read and digested all that has ever been said or written on the subject.

In defiance of this public condemnation by a disinterested Press; in defiance of the plainest dictates of conscience, it is yet said Sir John A. McDonald will be sustained by a considerable majority. We need not look to the debate which will take place as a means of conversion. In a truly popular assembly the exposition of truth might do something, but in a house like that at Ottawa, nothing. Men have taken sides, and are determined to stick by their party. We may make up our minds to see the ministry whitewashed, and Canada disgraced.

The speech of his Excellency the Governor General is moderate, and in good taste. He has called Parliament according to promise, to inquire after certain matters connected with the Pacific Railway;