

cannot be ascribed to any sense of defeat on the part of the Professor, as the fierce attempts of the *Globe* to crush it and its author and to put down freedom of discussion have manifestly failed. Mr. Smith has at last achieved a very marked victory over a paper which has long and vulgarly played the part of the tyrant, assailing opinions and personal character with the same ferocity to serve its own purpose—but it could not always have its way. The *Bystander* may be discontinued, but it will only be because Mr. Smith has reasons for deciding to be in England for a time, and not because he has in any way failed to establish our right to freely discuss all questions of interest and importance to us, and fully speak out our opinions. Mr. Smith has succeeded in making independent journalism popular among us, and if he leaves the Dominion, the memory of his integrity, and manly independence, and brilliant gifts will long be cherished by those who love freedom of speech and fair debate.

If Mr. Goldwin Smith should leave us—which many of us hope will not happen—I am wondering what some of the low minded rascals, who have disgraced Toronto's journalism by writing anonymous letters in abuse of him will do. Perhaps they will find some other true man to honour by hating—or perhaps the daily press will awake to a sense of decency and justice and refuse to allow the ruffians a hearing.

In every great forest fire—I say it emphatically, for there is no room for humour in such national emergencies—co-operation and guidance are mainly wanted—the country needs the services of the skilled forest engineer. A practical railway engineer would possess just the cultivated faculties to take to the business effectually when a fire is raging, bringing good efficiency to bear upon the crying needs of the poor souls dwelling in the region, but even his valuable capacities might be susceptible of improvement through previous study and experience of this particular service. You may stop almost any great forest fire, if you can have the people of the district co-operating for the emergency, and have them at the same time properly instructed and led. I would distinctly throw out this hint to our engineers in the cities, and when they hear of a great fire overmastering the efforts of the people in any district, as just now in the Upton and St. Germain country, in the Eastern Townships, I trust they will bring their knowledge and the magic of their name to bear in its suppression, by proceeding at once, even uninvited, to the scene of suffering, and by calling meetings of the people in each locality without the unnecessary loss of an hour, to ensure their submitting to the rule of organization, and allowing themselves to be formed into effective corps of operation. Axe-men, sand-carters, bucket-carriers, plough and shovel men will chiefly be required. Timber that is chopped down, at exposed points, would have to be kept wet. The logs, in emergency, could not be drawn away, though the brush might be, to some extent. A farmer, single-handed, and he but a small man, was enabled, by promptitude, to save his entire holding the other day.

The main consideration, the fire once effectually quenched, must be the relief of the poor ruined dwellers on the land. That is truly a thought for the entire community to take hold of.

There can be no doubt about it that Canadian credit is not good, just now, in England. Sir John A. Macdonald has had to meet this difficulty in his attempt to get English capital for building the Pacific Railway. This is in some part due to the dishonest practices of some of our mercantile men in their dealings with English houses; but it is in greater part due to the fact that with very few exceptions Canadian agents abroad speak against Canada. Provincial agents talk and work against each other, each one decrying the part of the country represented by the other, and the Dominion agents rarely lose an opportunity for abusing the government and people and place generally.

In this they show a marked contrast to the agents of the United States, who tell some truth, and a great deal of falsehood, about the mighty fine things to be found in their country. According to them, a single blade of grass will feed a cow for a year, and every goose is a swan, which may be sold for twice its value any day; but our agents

openly talk of the poverty of the soil, and the meanness of the Government, and hardness of the winter, and the &c., &c., which will inevitably meet the intending settler. There is not a picture of Canadian life and scenery which is not of the winter wintery. We are depicted as walking over snow-drifts muffled up in furs, while the settler in the States is smoking his pipe with his coat off. This is a very fine policy for damming back the tide of immigration.

But it is only fair to say that the said agents are provoked to this course of conduct by the miserably small salary they receive. Sir A. T. Galt is by no means included in the above strictures, for he is true to his country and his mission to the last fibre of his nature, but he is wretchedly underpaid with his \$10,000 per year. And all the other officials are in worse condition. Not one of them has a salary upon which he can respectably and comfortably live. Fifteen hundred dollars per year is about the highest amount paid to any man after the Commissioner extraordinary, and those who know the price of living in England can judge what that represents. Hence these tears and this patriotic abuse.

A British Columbia paper has the following: "Rear-Admiral Stirling, commander-in-chief of the Pacific station, has submitted a suggestion to the Admiralty to enlist British-Canadian boys for service in his fleet. He bases it upon the grounds that the Pacific is so far distance from England, and that the waste by invaliding and expiration of period of service on the part of the several ships crews is now with difficulty replaced, and that when boys become rated as men there are no others to fill their vacancies. Therefore, Canadian youths might be obtained, and although the training the Canadians would get would be different to that undergone by those entered on board training and harbor ships in England, yet they could be well taken in hand on board the flagship. The boys, he proposes, shall have a fair amount of schooling, and their practical sea training would be better than anything to be obtained on board the harbour ships here, with an occasional cruise in a sailing brig. Admiral Stirling further adds that it would also have the advantage of drawing the Dominion and the Old Country together, and as Canada has now been allowed to enter colonial cadets, we would thus enter colonial boys to man our ships. He says no better material for sailors could possibly be found than those born in Canada."

Mr. Labouchere is very dogmatic, but probably right when he speaks thus:—

"Almost every week I notice foolish and servile assertions that Princess Louise is delighted with Canada, and that anything to the contrary is a mischievous invention. That the Princess dislikes either the people or the country is false, but it is perfectly true that she very much dislikes her residence there; and it would be odd if she did not. An eminent Canadian said to me last week: 'Of course she does, and everybody knows it, and understands it; there is nothing to resent in the fact.' The Princess is separated from her family, has none of her friends near her, and is inevitably altogether out of the Court 'swim,' which, to those who have been accustomed to a Court, is an intolerable deprivation. As to the visit of H. R. H. to this country, it was quite a sudden idea, and was resolved on after Prince Leopold's accident, and her Majesty's command for his immediate return. I hear that the Queen has expressed her desire that the Princess should go back to Canada as soon after she returns from Germany as may be convenient to her."

Englishmen travelling on the European Continent have not been spending their money this year in the lavish manner which has so long been characteristic of them. Reports go that there has been an extraordinary contraction in all matters of expenditure; where they used to spend sovereigns freely they now haggle over shillings. If this goes on, the favour of hotel and stall keepers will certainly be transferred to the Americans.

Now that the British Parliament is prorogued, the English papers are occupying the dull time in discussing the relative merits and developments of gifts and character in the members of Mr. Gladstone's government. The general idea seems to be that Mr. Gladstone himself has come well through the session. Now that passion has had