

I will get naturalized in some other country and denounce the American flag forever. When the United States was in its swaddling clothes, it was aggressive. Since it has become one of the greatest nations of the earth anybody can kick her, and she will never resent it." No wonder the distinguished Senator from Maine proposes that the President shall declare a commercial war against Canada and close the country's ports against her trade. But it is unfortunate for the Gloucester fishermen that the facts of the last fishing season, when their operations outside Canadian waters proved a failure, and so many vessels were captured for running in for bait, are somewhat against what we have cited above; no doubt the American people will perceive that the cry for retaliation, in which all were unanimous, means simply a monopoly of the American fish market for Gloucester.

THE sensation of the day in the United States is the candidature of Mr. Henry George for the Mayoralty of New York. The *New York Times* has a very vigorous article arguing the question upon the ground of fitness for the particular office. It says, with perfect truth, that Mr. George may be a philosopher, but that what is wanted is a man of business; that he may be honest, but that honesty alone may run a railroad into bankruptcy, wreck a ship, or bring municipal affairs into hopeless confusion; and to say that a man of fifty, who has passed his life in study, ought to be allowed to try his hand at municipal administration, in the hope that he may have some latent faculty for it, is as absurd as it would be to say that he ought to be allowed to try his hand at leading an orchestra or conducting an intricate law suit. This is all very sensible and conclusive; but it is not municipal administration or reform that the supporters of Mr. George want: what they want is a Socialistic demonstration. It will be curious to see the result. But, apart from any serious belief in Socialism, there is hardly anything of which the levity of a city like New York and its love of sensations are not capable. Did not the Parisians vote for Eugene Sue simply because he had tickled their giddy fancy by saying that Property was Theft? We shall not be greatly alarmed even if Mr. George should poll a large vote at New York. The election of a Socialistic Mayor at Brandon or Regina would be a far more ominous sign of the times.

"LABOUR is of no country." Such are the words with which a labour journal opens an appeal to Canadian mechanics for subscriptions in aid of the candidature of Mr. George at New York. The term Labour here, as throughout these discussions, is grievously misused by being applied exclusively to the labour of mechanics, as though no other kind of labour had any worth and dignity, or even a right to the name. But with this qualification the saying is in an important sense true, and points to a political fact of the utmost significance. In England the great masses of factory hands, especially in the North, are, for the most part, denationalised and almost entirely devoid of any patriotic sentiment. They care for nothing but the objects of the wage-earning class. Their grand aspiration is to unite the members of that class throughout all nations in a grand combination against the other classes. This they have hitherto failed to bring about, and the chairman of the Labour Congress at Hull the other day was obliged to confess that if the English artisans refused to work for a full day the artisans of foreign countries would take advantage of their refusal to beat them in production and undersell them; so that the only result would be the destruction of British industries. So far, the British factory hand is a patriot in his own despite, and he is a patriot no further. So far as he is concerned, the greatness, honour, and integrity of the country may perish, provided his class object can be attained. To ask of him any sacrifice for the maintenance of British power, unless he could be made distinctly to see its connection with his industrial interests, would be vain. He is alien and almost hostile to national tradition, and to all that constitutes the historic grandeur and glory of the country. The men whom he sends to Parliament, such as Jacob Bright and John Morley, are simply organs of national emasculation. There are social philosophers to whom the fact is welcome as the commencement of a process by which the narrow boundaries of nationality will be removed, and the nation will be merged in humanity. But of the fact there is no doubt, and it is one of which British statesmen who have to measure the forces on which they can count in any struggle for national or Imperial objects are profoundly conscious. Colonists, too, when they look to England for support, will have to remember that she now, so to speak, is but half English, and that there is a portion of her, and a portion politically very powerful, on which they cannot reckon for any sort of response, even in the way of sympathy, to their appeals. The factory hands may be the best of all materials for a human commonwealth and a Parliament of Men, but they are the worst of all materials for a nation.

IN the same columns we note a literary advertisement relating to the Chicago Anarchists, which indicates the connection of Anarchy with the Labour Movement, and the identity of their propagandist organs. This is a new and most ominous feature of the social situation. Hitherto the Labour Movement has been merely industrial: it is now becoming political, and combining with the other revolutionary elements in what threatens to develop into a general attack upon existing civilisation. The motives of the leaders we understand: they may expect to gain by a reign of havoc; and what they mean by Anarchy is a destruction of all existing authority, and the erection of their own despotism in its place. Like the French Jacobins, their precursors and their models, they would exercise in the name of liberty a tyranny more sanguinary and more grinding than ever was the tyranny of kings. But a prosperous and respectable workman ought surely to think twice before he lends himself to an attempt to convulse and wreck society. He is not without the teaching of experience to guide him as to the probable results. In the French Revolution the Destructives had it all their own way; they did without restraint everything that the Anarchists and the fanatical enemies of Capital in the present day burn to do; they pillaged and butchered the rich to their hearts' content, and broke up the whole framework of society. What followed? Universal misery and famine, after which natural laws prevailed, and society fell back into its old course, so that the Parisian workman now, particularly if he drinks absinthe, is as discontented and querulous as ever. We are all members of a complex and graded civilisation which, whatever its faults, cannot be torn to pieces without causing so much confusion and suffering that it may safely be said that there is no living man, the buccaneers who organise revolution alone excepted, who would not personally lose more than he would gain by the process. To take the calling most nearly connected with our own, what would a printer who is receiving good wages gain by throwing society into convulsions? Literature is one of the refinements rather than of the necessities of life; it is taken most largely by the wealthy and highly educated; it is notoriously the first thing given up in times of distress; it can hardly flourish except in quiet times. An anarchist or revolutionary printer may perhaps glory in the hope that printers a century hence will set their feet upon the necks of kings; but he will himself run no small risk of being deprived of bread.

THE gallant appearance of the Ulster delegates at Philadelphia, and the success of their meeting, have set at rest the question whether they would dare to present themselves before any but a Unionist audience. It will also bring home to the minds of Americans the great fact that there are Irishmen, Irishmen representing the very flower of the population, and wholly unconnected with the Government, who are not only attached but ardently attached to the Union. In regard to institutions, laws, and relations to Great Britain Ulster in no way differs from Celtic and Catholic Ireland, yet she is prosperous and contented and loyal. The irresistible inference is that the cause of the poverty, discontent, and disloyalty of Celtic and Catholic Ireland is not to be found in the laws, the institutions, and the relations to Great Britain, but in the character and religion of the people, or in one of the two. If the Americans want to know why the British Government has trouble with the Irish, the answer is for the same reasons for which they have trouble with the Irish themselves.

MR. PHELPS, as American Ambassador in England, has won golden opinions. But he appears now, by a doubtful act, to have stirred a swarm of hornets with particularly sharp stings. The Prince of Wales, it seems, has been of late very much in the habit of seeking the friends of his bosom among the Americans, and Mr. Allen Thorndike Rice, the editor of the *North American Review*, has come in for a share of his attentions. Mr. Rice hereupon makes up his mind that etiquette requires him to go to Court. We do not profess to be well instructed in these matters, but we were not aware that an acquaintance with the Prince of Wales made it incumbent on any one to be presented to the Queen. Mr. Phelps, however, refused to present Mr. Rice on the ground, as is stated, that he had admitted into his review an attack on the Secretary of State. Mr. Rice considerably wrote to inform his Royal friend of the catastrophe, and we should have liked to be present when the mournful communication was read. The cry of "liberty of the Press" is, of course, at once raised, and the correspondence is called for, that Mr. Phelps may be roasted alive. What disqualifies for presentation at Court is a question which we must leave to the higher intelligence of Polonius and Fadladeen. It is admitted that Mr. Phelps might with propriety have refused to present any one whose character was unsatisfactory or who was "fantastic" in appearance, and the responsibility of deciding whether an American citizen is "fantastic"