

Mr. Chamberlain.

It is reported that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain will return to Great Britain from Massachusetts without coming to Canada. To do so would be a great mistake on his part. The Dominion Parliament is now in session. Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright, whom Mr. Chamberlain ought to see in connection with his Imperialistic projects, cannot well be expected to leave their posts of duty to suit his convenience, and yet he should see them before his return to his own. Canadians can better afford to do without the compliment of his visit, than he can afford to do without the advantage which it would confer on himself as the administrator of the Colonial Empire.

Irish Home Rulers.

The great Irish National Convention has met, deliberated, resolved, and adjourned. It was held, as a matter of course, in Dublin, and was well attended by both home and foreign delegates. As neither Mr. Redmond nor Mr. Healy honoured the meeting by his presence, neither of them is bound by its findings, but each may nevertheless be affected by them. Substantially, they amount to a stern protest against faction fights on mere personal grounds among those who are engaged in a common public movement. Time alone can tell what the full effect of the Convention will be, but one result is likely to follow very promptly—a falling off in the contributions to the Home Rule funds from the United States and the British colonies. It is quite likely that the private intimations of such an event were more vigorous than the resolutions publicly adopted. Whether Mr. Healy and Mr. Redmond can get along without these contributions remains to be seen; meanwhile the party which has Mr. Dillon for "Chairman" has scored as against the other sections of the Nationalist body.

The Turkish Crisis.

Mr. Gladstone's epithet for the Sultan of Turkey—"an assassin on the throne"—is extremely moderate, in view of the events of the past few days. Several thousands of persons were literally butchered in the streets of Constantinople without a shadow of excuse, and by assassins imported into the city from outlying districts for the purpose. Apparently the Sultan has gone, this time, too far for even the callous German statesmen, who are mainly responsible for the continuation of the horrible Armenian massacres. As an evidence of the near approach of a Turkish crisis, it may be noted that the British Ambassador, Sir Philip Currie, has gone back to Constantinople, after a personal interview with Lord Salisbury, and that it is openly announced that he goes with a freer hand than he has had heretofore. If Great Britain has made up her mind to put a stop to the massacres, whether other powers co operate with her or not, she will soon have plenty of support, moral in any event, and physical if it is needed. Nothing else would do so much to win for her the sympathy of the masses in the United States.

The Vermont Election.

Amongst the indications that the sixteen-to-one silver campaign is not prospering as its promoters wish is the recent State election in Vermont. Formerly it was customary in Presidential years to hold the election for State officers concurrently with the election for President and members of Congress. This practice has been abandoned in nearly all the States, and one of the first to take the preliminary test this year is Vermont. It has been for a long time continuously Republican, but the Democrats have always been able to make a respectable showing till this year. In this contest

they have been practically wiped out, having elected only about five per cent. of the popular legislative chamber. This result seems to have been due to the secession of some Democrats to the Republican side, and to the abstention of a still greater number from all part in the election. That this should have taken place in a State contest shows how entirely hostile the Vermont Democrats are to the Chicago platform. Mr. Phelps, one of the most eminent Democratic statesmen in the whole country and a former Minister to Britain, openly seceded from his party on the ground that he desired to defeat it in November on the silver issue. If Vermont is any correct index to the state of popular feeling in New England, there is a poor chance for Mr. Sewall, of Maine, the Democratic candidate for the Vice-Presidency.

Cabinet Solidarity

One great historical difference between the British Cabinet and that which advises the United States President is that while the latter may openly differ among themselves, the members of the former must present to the public an aspect of unanimity. As Lord Melbourne once said to his wrangling colleagues, "It matters not what we say on this question, but we must all say the same thing." A recent incident seems to show that in respect of solidarity the Cabinet in the United States is approximating to the British ideal. Mr. Hoke Smith, President Cleveland's Secretary of the Interior, is the proprietor of a Democratic newspaper in Atlanta. He personally sympathizes with the Chicago platform on the silver question, and as his paper supports Mr. Bryan's candidature while Mr. Cleveland's policy is opposed to silver, he has seen fit to resign his secretaryship. This is in sharp contrast with what took place during the régime of President Buchanan immediately before the Civil War. The President, as a lawyer, professed to be unable to make up his mind on the question whether a State had a constitutional right to secede. His Cabinet was divided on the subject. General Dix, of New York, and Judge Black, of Pennsylvania, were strongly opposed to the inclusion of secession as one of the States rights; the other three members of the Cabinet—Southerners all—were in favour of it. The spectacle of a President without decision of character, surrounded by a divided Cabinet, was humiliating, degrading, and disastrous. Had the principle of solidarity been then recognized the Civil War might have been avoided.

Proposed Statue to the Emperor of Germany.

It is proposed to erect in Berlin, Ontario, a statue of the German Emperor. The published report does not state which Emperor, and a good deal depends on that. The present Emperor has done nothing which should be regarded as entitling him to such an honour at the hands of even German citizens of Canada. He has displayed a degree of hostility to Great Britain which does him no credit, and which has aroused against him a great deal of animosity even among those who are willing to make allowances for him in consideration of his being Queen Victoria's grandson. His father, the late Emperor Frederick, unfortunately had no time to accomplish anything while he occupied the throne. If the Germans of Waterloo wish to honour the memory of the first Emperor, who, with the aid of Moltke and Bismarck, consolidated the great German Empire, they will find among Canadians plenty of admiring sympathizers.

The Transvaal Trouble.

Mr. Hammond, one of the Outlander leaders in the Johannesburg reform movement, has made public the important statement that the Reform Committee sent word to Dr.