

papers, and, walking into the man's office, began to hammer him over the head with an umbrella. The man had nothing to do with the case. It was the woman's scheme. She got her name in the papers promptly enough, but the man felt grieved because he could not make any adequate explanation of the incident in the family circle at home. Now the girl feels aggrieved because her brother, in her own language, "took her home by the scruff of the neck," and the incident was closed. It will have to go on record as a scheme that failed, but it unquestionably points a moral.

War has been formally declared between China and Japan, and for the next few months all eyes will be turned in the direction of the Orient. Already several battles have been fought, and so far Japan has been victorious. Whether the latter's success will continue only the future will develop. So far as Canadians are concerned, the war will only interest them in so far as it will affect the trade relations now existing between Canada and Japan and China. On this point Mr. D. McNicoll, General Passenger Agent of the Canadian Pacific, at Montreal, says: "So far it has had no effect whatever. It might, however, interfere with the event of our ports of call in Japan and China being either blockaded or bombarded by keeping away people otherwise desirous of travelling by this route. Then, again, it might have an opposite effect and attract crowds of travellers to whom a warlike scene would be enjoyable, and who might like that sort of thing. It is hard to say just now how matters may turn out, and a war between these powers might change the whole complexion of our traffic. As a matter of fact I think Japan has a much stronger navy than China, and there is little to fear of their ports being subject to the horrors of war. Then again there is talk of leaving the treaty ports open. Hong Kong, of course, is a British Colony, and Shanghai, our other port of call in China, is a treaty port. In Japan we have Nagasaki as a coaling relation, and Kobe and Yokohama. The latter of course is the port of Tokio, the capital, and lies about eighteen miles from it. All depends on the drift of the trouble and the question whether other interests may or may not be dragged into it. As to Korea, should it become the theatre of the war it would affect us but little, as apart from a solitary missionary now and again we have but little business with that country. It may be interesting to know that in the event of Britain becoming involved in the trouble it is more than probable that she would take over the Canadian Pacific fleet of steamers. They are all armed cruisers, and under

the subsidy arrangements with the Imperial Government under which they were built in the event of war they can be taken over and put into instant communion. Whether this would be agreeable to the owners or not remains to be seen, but as this is the busy tourist season for the world's tour by the Japan route such action might complicate matters."

Canada is not the only country where government employment of convicts for manufacturing purposes comes in for censure. On behalf of Sir John Gorst, Colonel Sandys recently asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been called to a strike at the Bootle Jute Company's works in Liverpool, and to the allegation of the employees that the competition of Her Majesty's prisons in sack-making rendered the employment of women at the wages heretofore paid no longer possible; and whether he would enquire into the prices at which sacks made in Her Majesty's prisons were sold, and so regulate the price, if necessary, as to prevent the wages of other workers being forced down by the undue competition of prison labor to a starvation point. The Home Secretary's reply to this was that the strike referred to was in no way connected with the fact that sack-making was carried on in Her Majesty's prisons, but that it was due to a threatened reduction of the hours of labor, and to some minor disputes between the female hands and their employers. With regard to prison competition, a certain party had, some days prior to the strike, made arrangements with the governor of Walton goal to make about 1,000 sacks per week, which were, for a special purpose, required handsewn. It was also alleged that the prison work, what with extra carting, packing, etc., cost about 50 per cent. more than bag-making at ordinary factories, which was all done by machinery, and that such prison labor did not in any way enter into competition with the latter.

SCENE.—Government street; a Shetland and pony carriage; Hydah brave, followed by squaw and papoose, comes sauntering along, gaping long and wonderingly at each successive store window. Whilst trying to make out the anatomical peculiarities of elephant, camel, ostrich and giraffe and the other wonders of the fake circus posters, he suddenly catches sight of the tiny quadruped, lazily blinking its eyes every time the whip was playfully flickered about its flowing mane. First, a look of blank amazement, then a grin, beginning about the lips and gradually spreading over every feature. The grin never relaxed as his eye took in the proportions of the miniature steed. He stood, toes in and arms akimbo. "Will

that horrid Indian never move on. Oh! the wretch is actually beckoning those other miserable creatures to take in the show. I won't wait for Ma, if they keep up that stare, but will drive on," impatiently thought the fair occupant. The three stood in line mutually gazing their fill. The buck's eye travelled to the embarrassed holder of the reins for a ray of enlightenment, but she quickly averted her face. This was one of the rarest sights the poor, untutored savage had ever had. There must be some explanation, so the Indian walked to the buggy, and leaning on the wheel in a confident, easy air, grunted "Ugh! Heap skookum tenas cayuse." This was too much, for quite a few amused spectators were viewing the humorous scene, and the sudden revolution of the wheel as the Shetland trotted off nearly upset the Indian, whose face carried a grieved look at such a reception of his attempt at enlightenment.

"In lunching out here for the first time, however informally," writes an American girl, now in London, in the *Bazar*, "the question naturally arises whether or not you will be expected to take off your hat. In America, we know that we may do as we please in the case of friends and informal acquaintances, and that at a lunch-party we keep on hat and gloves, being shown upstairs simply to put off outside wraps and rearrange disordered locks before presenting ourselves to our hostess. Here you are not expected to lay aside anything. You sit down to lunch, as you would go to an afternoon tea, in all your out-door wraps, without the intervention of dressing-room formalities, even though you alone are expected to a strictly family affair. You are shown up at once to the drawing-room, and unless your hostess suggests laying aside your coat, you go down to lunch as you are. This is the pure English of it. An Irish lady, on the other hand, will be apt to show you to her bedroom, give you brush, comb, and hot water, and expect you to take off your things. A French woman, too, will expect you to remove hat and wraps. As one said to me the other day, 'We French feel hurt if visitors will not take off their hats; but these English, they keep on their hats for everything—they eat and go.' Remember this, any one who is going out to lunch in England, and so escape the ghastly moments of my first experience, when I was taken aback by being shown, like an ordinary caller, at once to the drawing-room, where my hostess came to me a few minutes afterward, with never a word, of course, about removing anything until just as we rose to go down to lunch, when she asked if I would like to take off my coat. Having expected the option