

starving condition and dependent upon public charity for the bread which saves them from death, the whole army of miners and their families, numbering three-quarters of a million souls who are in this distressing condition, while at a function in St. James' palace, in the presence of a select assembly of invited guests, the Lord Mayor of London presents to the Duke of York the corporation's gift of a service of plate consisting of 1,200 pieces and containing 5,000 ounces of silver, and a diamond and pearl bauble of unmentioned value. Lazarus and Dives—Dives and Lazarus. The Montreal Witness' telegram attempts to make it appear that the suffering in the mining districts is not as great as some represent it to be, and managers of collieries and those interested in the mining industry testify to the fact that miners visit the saloons, and that some of them actually indulge in luxuries, though, considering the fact that the miners are not at work it is rather obscure as to the source from whence the money comes with which to pay for beer and "luxuries" whatever that may mean. It is in evidence that although there are hundreds of thousands of people in England at this time in suffering and want, they are orderly and law abiding. And while this speaks well for them, it cannot be doubted that the time will come, and that at no distant day, when patience will cease to be a virtue, and when a social and perhaps political revolution will grow out of the oppression and bad management practised by the mine owners. It does not seem to be quite the correct thing, for those who may have a legal right, to pursue the course they have adopted to shut out of employment the thousands of men who know no other occupation, who have no other occupation open to them, who have no financial ability to go elsewhere in search of work, who have wives and children crying for bread. Dives may take pleasure in being arrayed in purple and fine linen, faring sumptuously every day, but it does not follow that Lazarus will content himself with laying at the rich man's gate, his only comfort being derived from the dogs which lick his sores. The coal pits should be opened and the miner allowed to resume work.

AS TO SUSPENDERS.

RECENTLY the Toronto Globe published a letter from the J. R. Stouffer Co., of Berlin, Ont., who manufacture suspenders, complaining that they could not compete in the Canadian market with foreign manufacturers, although there is a duty on imported suspenders, because the Canadian web, of which suspenders are made, is only about 10 per cent. lower in price than what similar web can be imported for plus the duty added, and that they have to import their buckles and other trimmings on which there is also a duty. They ask: "How, then, is it possible for suspenders to be manufactured as cheaply here as they can be in the United States, when the cost of material averages 20 per cent. more." To this the Dominion Suspender Company, Niagara Falls, Ont., make answer to the effect that they make suspenders quite as cheaply as they are made in the United States. They say that they have grown up to be a large concern with sufficient capital and every facility for successfully manufacturing suspenders under the auspices of the National Policy, and that they want that policy to be maintained because the tariff keeps out to a certain extent foreign suspenders, giving to them the home market.

Now, if it is a fact that the Stouffer company cannot manufacture suspenders as cheaply in Canada as they are made for in the United States, as they intimate; and if it is a fact that the Dominion Suspender Company can and do do that very thing, the failure to do so cannot properly be charged against the National Policy, but rather against the business methods of the Berlin concern. The Dominion Suspender Company claim that the goods they make in Canada are quite equal, both as respects price and quality, to what is made in the United States. This is not disputed, and it is susceptible of proof. If, then, this is the case, why should the tariff duty on raw materials be abated in the interest of an unsuccessful concern?

The Globe in discussing the matter advances the argument that because the Dominion Suspender Company have brought their business to this flourishing condition is at a point when protection can safely be withdrawn from it—that the reduction, or even the abolition of the duty will do this company no harm, while the other concern will receive benefit from a lowering of the duties on its materials. This is sophistry. If the Dominion Suspender Company can and do sell their goods to Canadian consumers quite as cheap as American goods of similar quality can be sold to American consumers, no lowering of duties, or even the entire abolition of them could possibly make suspenders any cheaper in Canada than they now are. The proposition, however, is virtually to open the doors of the Canadian market to the great detriment of a successful concern, with the hope that the influx of raw material along with the American finished product, would bestow some sort of an unexplained benefit upon the unsuccessful concern. With the duty on suspenders removed suspenders would be no cheaper in Canada than they now are, but it would likely result in the loss of a valuable Canadian industry.

The Globe in printing the letter of the Dominion Suspender Company, is careful to remind it that the Canadian newspaper industry is not protected, therefore it will decline to further notice the company at its own expense. No doubt the Dominion Suspender Company are abundantly able to pay any advertising bills they may incur; but their letter in the Globe was in reply to an attack made upon it in that paper. It is not true, however, that the Canadian newspaper industry receives no protection "while there are stiff duties on presses, type and paper." If these "stiff duties" are a serious detriment to the success of Canadian newspapers, why are they not published say in Buffalo, where the Canadian duty would not affect them? It is ridiculous for the Globe to advance this silly argument. It knows that it has the very highest and most effective sort of protection in that an American newspaper could never be made to circulate as a Canadian journal.

MR. McMULLEN'S CHAIR.

In a recent speech to his constituents Mr. McMullen, M.P., in dealing with the tariff, mentioned as an illustration that while in Chicago recently a relative had made him a present of an easy chair. At the frontier he had to pay a customs duty of 35 per cent. on it, or \$16.85. Controller Wallace in his speech at Mount Forest on Saturday took up this incident, and dealt most unfairly with Mr. McMullen's illustration. His own words show that he was aware that the chair was a gift to Mr. McMullen, yet in a strain presumably intended to be