

vince, seeking to find a market for provincial securities, decrying the credit of the banks of the country is certainly not an edifying one; and such remarks reflect no credit either upon the wisdom or patriotism of the Government of which he is a member.

It is surely not necessary to say that there is nothing more sensitive to adverse criticism than the credit of banks, which are largely the depositories of the money of many who are unthinking people and ignorant of business; nor is it necessary to say that Canada is a borrowing country and that money for public purposes should be sought for abroad.

No Government should descend to such means to sell its bonds. It is unwise, unfair, undignified, and ought to be unnecessary.

A. B. C.

[“*Quem deus vult perdere prius dementat.*”—Ed. C.L.J.]

MURDER AND ITS PUNISHMENT.

To the Editor, CANADA LAW JOURNAL:

DEAR SIR,—The case of the murderer Blythe has been the subject of much comment and is an illustration of the peculiarities of human nature. The brutality of the crime at first horrified the public and they thirsted for his blood. Then some one started the idea that this convict was not so bad after all, and that he ought to have a new trial. It was only his wife he killed, and being a drunkard as well as a ruffian and a coward, and had developed nervous prostration, his sentence should be changed to imprisonment. This idea took hold of some people given to maudlin sentiment, and hysterical appeals for mercy were made for a brute who never had any mercy upon the woman he swore to love and cherish. Now the tide has again turned and the public is beginning to come to its senses, and to ask if there is any reason why the law of the land should not be enforced in this very plain case. Hanging a man is a serious business; but allowing a brutal murderer to escape the punishment due to his crime is still more serious.

COMMON LAW.