

THE TRUE WITNESS

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1888.

MR. GLADSTONE'S speech on the address yesterday indicates that he will force the fighting on the Irish question. The falsehood put in the Queen's speech by ministers regarding Ireland demands refutation, and the Grand Old Man is on hand with all his vigor to compel it.

BISMARCK'S *furor Germanicus* is likely to find a counterblast in a *furor Russicus* and a *furor Gallicus*, while the *furor Austriacus* will join the chorus and before this thing is ended, and all the other causes get up their *furors*, there will be such *oussing* as never was heard since the English army was in Flanders.

LORD SALISBURY'S utterances will be taken to mean that England is a consenting party to the Austro-Germanic alliance, and that if the integrity of the Balkan provinces are threatened by Russia, British power will be actively exerted in sympathy with the allies. This must have a decided effect in the direction of peace, unless, indeed, Russia is prepared to face a war with tremendous odds against her.

We are pleased to find that the letters of our respected correspondent, (W. McK.), on "Education" have been widely read, and are now being reproduced from the columns of the *True Witness* by our leading Catholic American exchanges. Notably amongst these is the *Catholic Standard*, of Philadelphia. This is a high compliment to the talents and industry of our correspondent, and a valuable proof of the merits of his theory and principles of education.

If the Americans want to bring the Tories of Canada to their senses, all they have to do is imitate the policy of the Dominion Government and refuse to bond Canadian railways. The outrageous attempt of the Ottawa Government to hand the country over bound hand and foot to a set of monopolistic thieves has made annexation a live issue in Manitoba and will make it a necessity for all Canada, if continued, and should the United States Government retaliate.

This week we add a new and interesting feature to our special attractions in *THE POST* and *TRUE WITNESS*. A veterinary surgeon of high attainments will contribute articles to and conduct a veterinary department. Correspondence is invited and every effort will be made to have it up to the modern scientific standard of usefulness. The breeding, rearing and management of horses is an industry of great and growing importance in this country, while to those who have to use these animals in their business or for pleasure this department will be found of the greatest practical use and benefit.

By arresting Mr. Pyne and Mr. Gilhooly, members of parliament, at Westminster, where they were in attendance on their duties to their constituents, the Government has performed an act of daring tyranny. These Tories are teaching the Radicals a famous lesson and we can look forward with complacency to the time when a Radical minister, finding Mr. Balfour's presence in parliament superfluous, will run him into a mill and put him on bread and water. This is what Toryism has brought British free institutions to, and what is sauce to eat for Gilhooly will be sauce to eat for Balfour. A precedent like this is a fine thing and not likely to be forgotten.

AMERICAN ring rulers have hit upon the brilliant idea of putting high duties on agricultural produce, as a means of winning the farmers from the cause of tariff reform. The absurdity of the proposition is seen in the fact that America is a great exporter of farm produce, not an importer. But if such duties should have the effect of raising the price of food, would that not be an injury instead of a benefit to the nation? The right and simple thing to do is to reduce the tariff on what the farmers have to purchase and let prices regulate themselves. As it is, everybody is taxed to benefit the manufacturers, who combine to regulate production and prices, a proceeding which the masses, made up of farmers and workmen, cannot imitate. Hence arises all the wrong.

ARCHBISHOP LYONS, in a letter which we reproduce, endorses every word laid down by Cardinal Manning in relation to a man's right to live by helping himself to food when threatened with starvation. Of course this doctrine has its limitations. Church dignitaries do not hold that a man who can earn his living is justified in remaining idle and seizing the proceeds of the labor of others.

true a principle now as ever it was. But there is a more profound meaning in this ancient doctrine which men who rob the poor under forms of law, in nominally free countries, may discover one of these fine days.

A WRITER in the *St. John Globe* points out that during the operation of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854-1855, the exodus was comparatively small. In the ten years ending 1861, the increase in the population of the Maritime Provinces was twenty-five per cent; but after its abrogation the increase fell nearly one-half. But the most marked depletion was in some of the cities. The increase in the city of St. John during the operation of the treaty was over twenty per cent. It afterwards fell to five per cent and even less. In Fredericton it fell from twenty-six per cent when the treaty was in operation, to less than four per cent in the ten years ending 1861. Such were the effects of the treaty in keeping our people home, and such were the effects of its abrogation in driving them away.

By a vote of 224 to 125 the M. A. A. A. last week decided the question of the expulsion of Messrs. Patterson and Brady. The majority was for expulsion, but the minority carried their point because there was not a two-thirds majority, eight votes of that number being lacking. The result will not be accepted by the public as satisfactory. In effect it darkens the reputation of the Association, and gives a severe set back to honest athletic sports. Hereafter the decisions of the M. A. A. A. will not be esteemed as worth much in this or any other city.

SOME time ago a Tory Kansas land agent at Toronto got up a pamphlet puffing that State as a home for immigrants, and to serve a party purpose embellished the front page with a portrait of the Hon. Edward Blake. This inference was obvious. The revelations just made of the Dominion Cattle Company show that a number of leading Tories, among whom are Sir Charles Tupper, Senator Cochrane, W. B. Ives, Senator Hamilton, G. B. Burland and Hugh Mackay invested heavily in Texas. The company has failed, badly failed, according to published statements, but that only shows these gentlemen to have had more faith in wildcat Texan enterprises than in the Dominion of which they profess to think so much. Hon. J. A. Chapleau showed the same lack of faith in his own country by investing his Quebec plunder in California. In this as in everything else Tory practice does not agree with Tory profession.

In the exuberance of its loyalty the senior Tory organ places the people of Canada on the same level with the natives of India, as "our fellow subjects," and winds up a pernickety article by saying:—

May not the choice of our esteemed Governor-General be regarded not only as a reward for His Excellency's own distinguished services, but also as a delicate recognition of Canada's growing importance?

In the same issue of the same paper we read among its "special" cables:—

The *Times* and Government journals agree that Lord Stanley will make a dignified and agreeable figurehead. More than this is not required, as the Dominion Ministry and the Colonial Office have the Governor-General few functions need special talents or special administrative abilities.

Now, where do the "distinguished services" come in? We challenge the organ to show one word worth remembering uttered by His Ex. Lansdowne, or one action deserving of praise. He has drawn his salary and kept quiet. That is all that can be said of him.

A RECENT return to the British war office shows that there is a great scarcity of horses for the army, there being less than 12,000 horses for nearly 20,000 cavalrymen, and the war office finds it impossible to get the horses. The point of special interest in this quarter about the report is that the officer, Gen. Ravenhill, who makes the report, says that Canada has been given up as a source of supply, owing to the poor quality of the Canadian horses, the mares being worn out and broken down before breeding, and the colts being as a rule worked too young. This ought to be a pointer to horse breeders in this country, who should make an effort to command attention in so good a market as the cavalry service of the British army.

Our new Governor-General, the Right Honorable Frederick Arthur Stanley, Lord Stanley of Preston, G.C.B., is a younger son of the fourteenth Earl of Derby, G.B., by the Hon. Emma, second daughter of the first Baron Skelmersdale, and is the heir presumptive to the Earldom of Derby. He was born on January 16th, 1841, and received his education at Eton. In 1864 he married Lady Constance, eldest daughter of the fourth Earl of Clarendon. In April, 1868, Lord Stanley entered the Grenadier Guards as ensign and in June, 1862, he became lieutenant, captain and adjutant. He retired in 1865. He is now the colonel of the 1st Lancashire Militia, a supernumerary A.D.C. to Her Majesty and a J. P. for Lincolnshire and Westmoreland. A Conservative in politics, he sat for Preston from July, 1865, till November, 1868, when he was elected for North Lancashire, which constituency he has since represented. He was a Lord of the Admiralty in 1868 and Financial Secretary for War from 1874 to 1877, when he became Secretary of State for War. Going out of office with his party in 1880, he returned with them in 1885, holding the office of Secretary of State for the Colonies from June in that year till February in the year following; and in August, 1886, Lord Salisbury appointed him President of the Board of Trade, and he was raised to the peerage with the title of Lord Stanley of

TAIL-TWISTING.

The popular amusement among certain American public men of twisting the British lion's tail has been dropped for the more effective sport of twisting the tail of the Canadian beaver. General Wilson's speech before the Interstate Commerce Committee at Washington is a true representation of the feeling aroused in the United States by the unfriendly action of the Canadian Government. Any one who studies the railway system of the two countries must see how dependent Canada is on the forbearance and good will of its great neighbor. That the Republic should have so long permitted the growth of an imperial European power on its border, in defiance of the wisdom of the Monroe doctrine, is somewhat astonishing. But the Americans are waking up to the true character of Canadian Toryism. Perhaps it needed that they should be touched where they are tenderest in order to awaken them. Canadians who think more of the peace, prosperity and freedom of their country than they do for Imperial honors or the shadowy prestige of British connection regard the American people as their natural friends and allies, and would be glad to march on the same lines with them towards a common destiny. But a degrading, debauching Toryism, by a series of the most outrageous frauds, has made the country appear to sustain a government which is wholly out of harmony with popular sentiment. That Government has stupidly and insolently excited a spirit of retaliation, and we should not be astonished were the United States Congress to adopt the measures advocated by Gen. Wilson. The effect would be instantaneously disastrous, and prove in the most conclusive manner how utterly powerless our government is, and how incapable that of England is to pursue any policy on this continent without American consent. There is no use bragging or getting up our jingo. The fact that confronts us is too big to be scared away. Just let British investors in Canadian Railway and other securities understand what is meant by Gen. Wilson's proposal, and they will tumble at once to the situation, with an alacrity equal to their anxiety, to save themselves from loss, they will bid Canada make peace on any terms, and they will not lack arguments to justify the surrender. They would, we can believe, go farther and elevate the advice into magnanimity, on the lines already laid down by Mr. Chamberlain. That some action, in the direction indicated, will be taken, we have no doubt. The current is rising very fast, and when the pot of iron and the pot of clay meet together on the turbulent stream we all know which will come to grief.

THREE GREAT QUESTIONS.

In a few days the Ottawa Parliament will assemble for dispatch of business. Three important questions must undoubtedly come up for discussion, and, as we have a right to expect, for legislation, viz:—

- 1.—Commercial union, or reciprocity.
- 2.—Conspiracies, or "combinations" for raising the price of the necessities of life.
- 3.—Factory labor regulations.

The first of these, we must admit, will largely depend in manner of treatment on the course that may be taken in the United States Congress on the Butterworth Bill. It cannot be denied that there is a strong sentiment among large classes in both countries in favor of a common sense and mutually satisfactory settlement of all differences. Identical interests have grown up all along the frontier and have extended in many directions. These interests are continental, rather than national. They are almost wholly commercial. Each year sees them increase and expand, till the necessity for the establishment of a permanent understanding is evident to all. It is, however, an obstinate fact that the Government of this country is not favorable to a solution of existing difficulties on the only lines where permanency can be obtained. Indeed there is reason to fear that the men who now have charge of our national interests at Washington have declined to enter upon negotiations which might, if properly conducted, result in a full measure of reciprocity. The true reason for this gross betrayal of the paramount interests of our people, disguise it as they may, is because our government is the tool of a class who would hold the people in commercial bondage. They are opposed to all change in our fiscal relations because they have possession of our markets, which they regulate with a sole view to their own profit. But, both the Government and the combines will discover that they have gone too far. Already they have advanced the cost of living to an extent that has created profound dissatisfaction. Even the slavish Tory party press has been compelled to protest against the extortions of the combines and demand remedial legislation. This it would not do, were it not impelled to speak from a knowledge of impending danger to party interests. Yet, we know enough of the man at the head of affairs to convince us that he will defy public opinion till he finds it no longer safe to do so.

The Tory and the Boddler have the Canadian goose between them, and they will not abandon their prey while there is a feather to pluck or a bone to pick. At the coming session the Opposition has a splendid text to work upon in the action of the manufacturers and traders who have conspired to rob the people. The greedy extortions of these combines have done much to destroy the popular faith in the policy of protection. Bitter experience is teaching Canadians that a mistaken fiscal policy can create a tyranny of rascality, which is none the less rascally for being conducted under commercial forms and dignified with fine phrases.

That country is in a sad state when the people discover that Justice, Honesty, Truth, Liberty, Patriotism, are but the prostitutes of the politicians' vocabulary. The discovery,

however, will not leave the people like those described by Wordsworth—

"All silent and all damned."

There are limits to human endurance and our masters seem determined to reach them by the shortest cut and in the quickest possible manner.

After the disclosures made before the Labor Commission in this city, the Government must surely pass a stringent Factory Act. Possibly ministers may plead delay till the report of the Commission has been submitted to Parliament. But the facts lately published are not new to them. The history of industry in England and America has shown for many years that wherever there are manufacturing special legislation is required to regulate them. Exacting masters, dilatory workmen, child labor, women work, machinery, sanitation are all parts of a complex system. It is not a good, a wholesome, or a natural system. Everywhere its effects are cruel. Granted that it produces wealth, but were human industry allowed to take its normal course the same amount of wealth would be produced. It would be more equally and more justly divided. There would be fewer millionaires, but there would be vastly fewer paupers. Plenty and comfort would be the lot of all; not as now wealth and luxury for the few, ceaseless toil and misery for the many.

Workingmen have a right to demand all the protection legislation can give them against those who, consciously or not, are ever striving to reduce the wage-earner to a state of bondage. One of the barest truths of English political economy is that the tendency of wages is always towards the minimum. But it supplies no reason why life, liberty and happiness should be sacrificed. Therefore, if the workmen of Canada would not be set aside, they must insist in the only way which governments can be made to understand that strict laws for the regulation of factory labor and for the inspection of factories must be enacted.

A crisis in the industrial system is approaching on this continent. The forcing process has produced its legitimate results, and, unless we are to endure a period of the most severe trial imaginable, we must put our house in order. In this regard the most pressing demand of the day is for the emancipation of labor. If the movement in this direction does not come from above it will from below, and the deeper the region from which it rises the more difficult it will be to give it safe direction.

By wise, courageous conduct in relation to these great questions, the Opposition can do incalculable good and perhaps save the country from trouble, humiliation and far-reaching commercial and social disturbances.

THE COMING WAR.

Bismarck's speech was the voice of Germany, and what he said has been accepted by Europe as a definition of the situation of the nations at a crisis of supreme importance. Armed to the teeth, Germany stands ready to meet the despotic foe on the east and the republican enemy on the west. She will not strike. Holding her vast powers in reserve, she is prepared to meet a conflict which all admit to be inevitable. The position of Russia is revealed. Her intention is not to attack Germany, or even Austria, but to place an army in such a situation that she can menace these powers, should they presume to interfere with her designs on the Balkan provinces. The Pan-Slavic idea is the great moving principle of Russian aggression, backed by a policy which never could brook the existence of independent constitutional governments on the borders of the Empire, and which has plainly intimated that it will not permit the consolidation of a free state between it and the hereditary prize of Russian ambition—Constantinople.

Thrice since the days of Charlemagne has Europe been threatened with universal empire, but never has the danger been so immediate, so threatening as now. Charles V. united beneath his massive sceptre Spain, Italy, Germany and the Netherlands. He supported his mighty armies from the gold and the commerce of the East and West Indies. England and France alone existed to oppose him. But the Reformation divided his people, raised foes of his household, and opened the way to foreign intervention which was used with decisive effect. His death divided his empire, and with his son, Philip II., the cloud melted away from the sky of Europe and men breathed more freely. On the second occasion France and the fortune of Louis XIV. filled the haughty place of Spain. His ambition was armed with the double power of the French and Spanish monarchy. He sawed the sceptre over France, Spain, the Netherlands, the two Sicilies and the Milanese. Powerless in the hands of Charles, these vast dominions in the energetic hands of Louis and supported by the genius and the military science of France, if once consolidated, made an end to the independence of Europe. The victories of Marlborough made that consolidation impossible and the second danger fled.

On the third occasion Napoleon united in his grasp the scattered energies of the revolution, and turned its madness into the docile minister of his ambition. He dragged at his chariot wheels the monarchs of continental Europe. He dictated the law from the Baltic to the Euxine. He assembled in stupendous masses the whole military power of western Europe for the overthrow of the colossal empire of the north. But his power had no deep foundation. It rested on opinion. It vanished with its change. England and Russia alone bade him defiance; but it was only when the enthusiasm of Germany and Austria rose on his retreating armies that Europe was free. For the government of a conqueror is necessarily that of a despot. Military power replaces the

will of the people. Freedom and law can have no sure abiding place. The people rose at the call of their kings, because national independence is indispensable to national liberty. Napoleon fell. His foes sat in his seat. Europe was delivered from the hands of one, to those of many tyrants, and the third danger passed away.

The fourth peril now exists. It is greater, more grievous than the preceding. The power of Russia is more permanent and stable in its foundations than that of any of either of the previous aspirants for European domination. It is not like the others, composed of different discordant states united only by the crown. It is one great central empire, compact in shape, vast in its dimensions, inexhaustible in resources, moving as one man at the word of its master. The will of the Czar is hampered by no feudal privileges. His orders are disputed by no proud, powerful vassals. No national immunities withdraw the resources of his people from his reach. No parliament deeply seated in the national affections and interwoven with the history of the people, bids him defiance in his usurpations. No religious disputes rouse the stubbornness of conscientious resistance; but the religious zeal of his people conspires with his ambition and with the expansive tendencies of his empire.

The empire of Russia occupies the northern and eastern extremities of Europe. Eternal snow and ice are the unassailable bulwarks of its rear. Its eastern flank skirts far and wide into the dim confines of Asia—free from the chance of assault, and prolific in the materials for the best cavalry in the world. Its vast plains slope to the south, and tend to precipitate the mass of the empire on the fated walls of Constantinople. On the west alone it is assailable, and there only for three months in the year. Retreat can hide disaster behind inaccessible snows till the favorable moment summons new armies to activity. They march to sunny climes, allured by the splendors of art and the luxuries of civilization. This colossal, invulnerable power Napoleon well declared the "Anteus of the fable which cannot be overcome but by seizing it in the middle and stifling it in the arms." "But where," he asked after his own terrible failure, "is the Hercules to be found who will attempt such an enterprise? Show me an Emperor of Russia, brave, able, impetuous, in a word a Czar worthy of his situation, and Europe is at his feet. He may begin his operations at the distance of only one hundred leagues from the capitals of Vienna and Berlin, the sovereigns of which are the only obstacles he has to apprehend. He gains the one by seduction, subdues the other by force, and is soon in the midst of the lesser princes of Germany, most of whom are his relations or dependents. Assuredly in such a situation I should arrive at Calais by fixed stages and be the arbiter of the fate of Europe."

This is the danger, foreseen by Napoleon, which now menaces the peace of Europe. The mission of Russia, as understood by Russian statesmen, is the destruction of the Turkish Empire in the East and the suppression of free principles in the West. However willing the other crowned heads may have been to help along this programme after the Russian armies had quenched the revolution of 1848 in blood on the plains of Hungary, they must now stand with their people against the threatened flood of Muscovite invasion. All Europe will have to combine to fix a limit to Russian encroachments. Should the French republic mistake its position and play into the hands of Russia, it will commit a stupendous blunder. But the bounds of Russian ambition cannot be fixed without a gigantic war, and that war is the event for which the nations are now preparing with the perfect understanding that it is inevitable and not to be delayed.

IRISH CATHOLIC LOYALTY.

The Tory press of England accuses the Catholic people of Ireland of disloyalty to the empire. Never was there a more unjust and unfounded charge. Despite oppression and persecution the Catholics of Ireland have frequently given the best of all proofs of their loyalty. We would not care to refer to this matter here were it not for a tendency in certain quarters to cast doubt upon those who, in this question, take strong ground on the Irish question as advocates of Home Rule. The same subject has been recently brought up for discussion in the Old Country and pretty effectually settled by citations from history. Here are some extracts worth treasuring:—

The Irish Catholics had been petitioning the Tory authorities of England for 100 years for their civil rights. O'Connell was organizing and agitating them for a quarter of a century to no purpose. Distinguished men of letters and took office, leaving them in the hands of King George III. and his sons swore against them. The Irish Catholic soldiers had fought well under Wellington at Waterloo and elsewhere against Napoleon for years up to 1815. Yet they were kept outside of the British Constitution all the same. In defiance of the penal laws O'Connell, a Catholic, offered himself in the year 1828 as a candidate for a Protestant Parliament to represent the County Clare. O'Connell was cheered in Clare by the soldiers of the King.

When that fact became known the Duke of Wellington, then Prime Minister, told the British House of Lords that there were two courses open to their lordships—either emancipation to the Catholics or civil war. He further stated that though he was unused to war and its horrors for several years, yet he would rather face the biggest war of European history than a civil war with Ireland.

"It is already well known to your lordships that of the troops which our gracious sovereign did me the honor to entrust to my command at various periods during the war—a war undertaken for the express purpose of securing the happy institutions and independence of this country—at least one-half of the troops were Catholics. My lords, when I call your attention to this fact I am sure all further enquiry is for what length of time and under what circumstances they maintained their empire thrones and wrecked the institutions of every other people—how they kept alive the only

spark of freedom which was left unextinguished in Europe. My lords, without Catholic blood and Catholic valor no victory could be obtained, and the first military talents that have been exerted in vain."

Wellington's speech and his personal gallantry, he being Prime Minister, and Robert Peel, Secretary of State, all of Government men being Catholic Tories, convinced the House of Lords to vote for the Catholic Emancipation Bill.

Now, remember, the Battle of Waterloo fought and won in the year 1815. The last three days and nights, June 18, 17, 16, 1815. The Duke confessed in 1820 thirteen years after that battle—that Catholic blood and Catholic valor his victory over Napoleon were due—that the presence of the Catholics of Ireland, with O'Connell at their head, had been for thirteen years after great victory praying and praying the King's Government and aristocracy for their rights. Remember that the Duke of Wellington and his brother-in-law, the Duke of Devonshire, both members of the English aristocracy, in the year 1822, and that not one word was spoken to England by them until soldiers in the Clare election dug up the corpse of O'Connell in the street. It was there and there and by that incident Catholic Emancipation was won. O'Connell's eloquence but by the unmarked hints of men trained to war living amongst people.

LITERARY REVIEW.

GABRIELLE: A Story of the Rhineland, and Girl Captive Under the Lake. Heath's Home Library. Boston: B. Noonan & Co.

This charming addition to a popular and wholesome series of stories will be welcomed by all who love the pure and beautiful. The two stories contained in this handsome volume are selected from the rich store of German legends, and are just the sort of reading for recreation which careful parents would place in the hands of their children. In the days, when so much that is trashy and vicious is mixed with the juvenile literature, it is pleasant to find an effort being made to supply good and attractive books for the young. We warmly recommend the Heath and Home Library to our readers.

CANADIAN LEAVES. History, Art, Science, Literature, Commerce. Series of Papers Read before the Canadian Club, New York. New York: Napoleon Thompson & Co.

This handsome volume, got up in folio and printed in the highest style of the art, contains a number of essays by some of the ablest and most learned writers of the day, and is a most valuable addition to the Canadian Club Library. The essays are of a high order of original papers by so many distinguished writers and scientists. The Canadian Club New York is to be congratulated upon its policy of having instituted a winter series of entertainments that are not alone delightful to the mind but also afford a most interesting and valuable opportunity to the Canadian through the clever penmen which have been delivered before the club on Canadian topics. The contributors are Edmund C. Goldwin Smith, Rev. John C. Eccleston, J. B. Macdonald, J. M. LeMoine, George Stewart, Charles G. D. Roberts, Hon. B. Rutherford, John McDougall, John A. Fraser, Rev. Geo. Grant, Erasmus Wilmot, and G. M. Fairclough. Each essay is accompanied by a graphic portrait of the author. The treatises are various, but all of the greatest interest to Canadians.

THE NEW MOON.

This magazine is in its seventh year, and, its intrinsic merit, has attained a very large circulation. Every article that appears in its pages must stand two tests—is it interesting, and second, is it helpful in its time? No reference how noted the author, how elegant the diction, how grammatical the construction, does not shield the two qualities of deep interest and high morality. The editor, Mr. J. M. LeMoine, is a man of high character and high moral principles; others devoted to children's education, current comment, house and household, literary leisure, mirthful merriment, wisdom's weaving and answers to correspondents. None of the departments are careless clippings, but every item is carefully selected and much of it original. It secures *The New Moon* one year. Adams, St. Louis: The New Moon Publishing Co., Lowell, Mass.

RUSSIAN WAR FORCES.

On this side of the Ural mountains and in the Caspian Sea, Russia has a population of 95,000,000. Exclusive of the Transcaucasian population there are more than 90,000,000, while this reckoning includes Poland, even the Vistula provinces also deducted, the empire would still have a population in Europe equal to that of Germany and Austria combined in the actual concentration of the troops, their railroad facilities, their military equipment and arms, Germany and Austria superior; and if the former is approached in a war with Russia France should still have to rely on, and not improbably Great Britain, should the aid of the latter be required. Russia's power is effective proper in her regular army of 600,000 men, in round numbers, 622,000 officers and men, including 100,000 local troops, Cossacks and volunteers, bringing aggregate peace force to about 800,000. On war footing this force is more than double amounting to 1,800,000 men. In addition there are sundry miscellaneous forces to be reckoned in, so that in round numbers Russia's peace force may now be set, including reserve and garrison, at nearly 1,600,000 officers and men; her war strength increased to nearly 3,000,000. Behind this is a brilliant militia of perhaps 2,000,000 more. With numbers at command the old Russian policy "swarming out" an enemy is brought to mind. Russia has far fewer great soldiers than Germany, and in the death of Skobelev lost one of most brilliant. Her great military leader now is Gourko, who has reputation founded on solid achievements. Unlike her great rivals, Russia lacks a machine gun for her infantry, and this is a very serious disadvantage. Still there is well-grounded belief that she has new exploits in the purchase of the Russian engine (Rouketshell), was recently sought in vain the price of \$400,000 by Krupp, the Russian Government having secured it. In her cavalry, Russia is particularly strong, she has concentrated a great body of it in Poland. This point has an important bearing on any sudden outbreak of operations. Great efforts have been made of late to increase the navy of Russia, but her vessels would most be useful in helping to protect her coasts, and would undertake no aggressive action against the fleets of Germany or Austria, which are far superior. She has great attention to torpedo defenses, and the might be found to play an important part in the protection of her harbors.

READS VERY LIKE THE BIBLE STORY.

Two women came before a mandarin in China, each of them protesting that she was the mother of a child who had brought with them. They were so eager and so positive that the mandarin was sorely puzzled. He went to consult with his wife, who was a clever woman whose opinion was held in high reputation in the neighborhood. She requested five minutes in which to liberate. At the end of that time she spoke: "Let the servant catch me a fish in the river, and let it be brought to me."