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THE ENGLISH CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION.

RUMOURS of schemes for the settlement of the constitutional question in England come thick and fast and nearly all of them are contradictory. The best plan is to receive all of them with a grain of salt. American correspondents in London are nothing if not imaginative and their evil communications are corrupting the good manners of even conservative English Journalism.

THE LATE GOLDWIN SMITH.

DR. GOLDWIN SMITH was the most universally respected man in all Canada. He commanded the esteem and admiration of people who did not agree with him, and the great majority disagreed with him about something. He had a kindly disposition, the courage of his convictions and a scholarship that was the admiration rather than the envy of scholars all over the world. Among the great majority of cultivated people he will be best and most gratefully remembered for his mastership of the English language. Nobody but small minded people ever seriously questioned his patriotism or loyalty.

INDIAN RISING IN MEXICO.

AN Indian massacre is reported from Mexico City at Valladolid, Yucatan. Details are lacking but 2,000 Indians are said to have taken part in the slaughter and 2,000 troops are reported to be in the field. Reports as to the cause are conflicting. Some attribute it to resistance to certain orders issued by the civil authorities, others to a drunken spree. Over eighty per cent of the people of Mexico are of Indian or mixed race and while the majority of these Indians and half breeds are not regarded as civilised, a large number are of a very superior class. They are individual land owners and claim with pride to be the descendants of the Aytecs and the heirs to Aytec civilization.

ENGLAND'S RULE AND THE KING'S ENGLISH

IN an editorial headed "Teddy the Irrepressible" THE CHRONICLE last week asked: "What more natural than that England's guest coming recently from Egypt, should say a few nice things about England's rule and England's responsibilities in the land of Pharaoh?"

An anonymous correspondent writes: "He might say something about editors not knowing enough about the government of their country as to prevent their misusing words. Egypt is not ruled by England. Scotland, Ireland and Wales have something to say, Roosevelt could make an hour's speech on this subject." While he is about it, Teddy might also discuss our correspondent's ignorance about the government of his country and the misuse of words; but it would take him more than an hour to do justice to the subject. The general educational standard in that part of Great Britain from which our critic presumably comes is high. But it has one serious defect; the less educated students are apt to be left with a totally inadequate knowledge of the number and extent of the things they don't know. For instance our anonymous friend who poses as a critic of the misuse of words speaks of editors "not knowing enough as to prevent, etc." The misuse in this sentence of the word "as" amounts to treason felony against the King's English. Another thing he does not appear to know is that the practice of referring to the great power which rules in Egypt, by the short title of "England" has not only the merit of common sense; but the sanction of the best usage. If we understand the drift of our critic's argument Nelson's signal at Trafalgar should have been: "England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the Town of Berwick upon Tweed, expect every man to do his duty." The trouble is that the battle would have been half over before the signal was completed. To substitute the words "Great Britain" for "England," only makes the matter worse by emphasizing the exclusion of Ireland; which our friend admits has something to do with the rule of Egypt. The use of the phrase United Kingdom is somewhat better; but it is difficult to coin an adject-