

abrogated. A strong cordon of police should be drawn and a series of forts erected on a line to be fixed north of the Saskatchewan; beyond which the savage should not be allowed to step. It is necessary that some such energetic action should be taken, or Canadian History will tell of a series of Indian revolts. Left to themselves they would gradually die out, and sentiment should not overreach common sense, which, in an age of progress, must look upon the Indian's extinction as a simple matter of evolution.

BANK CLERKS.

The absconding of the former cash book keeper in the Bank of Montreal, very forcibly shows that Canadian Bank Clerks occupy a false position in society. They are elevated by the mistaken kindness of leading families into a sphere for which their salaries are totally inadequate. They are brought into associations which they are not justified in maintaining. Introduced into the fashionable society of a large city, they become ambitious to keep pace with the possessors of fortunes, and often become seriously involved. They give themselves airs, which would suit them better if they could depend upon a private income instead of a miserable salary. To see these young swells lording it about town one might mistake them for a new Canadian aristocracy; to hear them talk they might be regarded as the owners of unlimited wealth.

Now there is no doubt of the utter hollowness of this pretentious folly. It is a phase of snobbery, a fraud, a sham! The young fools who consent to occupy a place for which their real worldly status does not fit them are not so much to blame as the stupidity that characterizes our society in permitting such an anomaly. Let these clerical gentlemen be relegated to their proper position; if any are clever, they will or should be recognized; but if their only pretention to the company of the wealthy is their commercial position as bank clerks, let them be kept in their places, as are dry goods or grocery clerks, for there is little distinction. Society is responsible for the inducements it offers to young men to plunge into debt.

A recent cable states that there is an ill feeling in Austrian official circles against England. It will matter little to the latter power whether the report be true or not. England may rest certain that the Magyar element in Austria, who are bitterly opposed to German officialism at Vienna, are warm friends of the tight little island. Andrassy and Gladstone were not very good friends; the former had too high an opinion of the Disraelian theory of politics to suit the present premier. But the chief reason why Austria is harmless is in the divers peoples and parties composing its nominal unity. Racial and religious differences are greatly against any real amalgamation of its members, and Hungary is not apparently altogether despairing of a separate existence.

Russia seems to be creating trouble in Kashgar. Of course, it is represented as a Turkistan revolt against Chinese authority. It is always Russia's way to prepare a rebellion by secret agencies in an adjoining territory and then step in herself and annex it in the name of civilization. There is evidently a deeply rooted desire in Russia to spread over the Asian continent. It was the dream of Peter the Great, and the famous will was merely a forged repetition of the monarch's well-known sentiments on political and military matters. Should Russia be able to carry out her design, which is traditionary, Russian Asia will become Asian Russia and then perhaps her greed for land will be satisfied. The British government would do well to cultivate relations with Pekin and endeavor to restrain Russia's designs upon her extreme East.

If it be true that the Khan of Burdukshan has concluded a secret treaty with Russia, the Ameer of Afghanistan will lose the support of over 60,000 people. Burdukshan is a tributary province of Afghanistan; the Khan of this district preferring to pay tribute to the Ameer rather than to be subjected in 1859, after he had conquered Balkh, Kuhlman and Kunduz. Little is known of the province beyond the evidence of Ferrier, Wood, Burnes, and Vambery, from whose accounts it is a territory of considerable fertility and resource. It is more than likely Russia is endeavoring to alienate these tributary dependencies of the Ameer in the hope of creating internal disorders, facilitating her own designs on Afghanistan.

The report of the vandalic acts at the Royal Academy Exhibition in London, whereby sixty pictures and some statuary have been defaced, speaks little for the guiding wisdom of the famous forty. Surely it should not be a difficult matter to prevent visitors from touching the objects of art in the galleries. A railing at a few feet distance and a custodian at each corner of the room would secure the necessary immunity from danger. It is a matter of regret that the labor of months should be allowed to be ruined by want of the most simple precautions. If artists have to risk their works in such a manner, the Royal Academy will not have many pictures to refuse.

Mr. Lowell has probably been the most popular minister sent to England by the United States. His position in contemporary literature has doubtless made him so, and that the English people place him high amongst poets has been constantly shown by the numerous times they have asked him to unveil the busts and statues of England's own minstrels. His last public act was the unveiling of the poet Gray's bust at Cambridge, when he made his farewell speech. After the duties he has so long and ably performed, it is to be hoped Mr. Lowell will find time to add to the beautiful poems he has already written.

The French Government evidently regard the Parisian populace as likely to go mad at the sight of the red flag, as the bull does at the red cloak of the matador. There is, no doubt, a strong communistic spirit among the lower classes of Paris. Poverty is great, labor is scarce, and it is some time since any civil fighting has been done in the gay capital. If the Deputies imagine that the police ordinance against the public display of the red flag will conquer communism they show a very shallow knowledge of their fickle countrymen.

The German authorities have forbidden the proposed performances of Mme. Bernhardt in Metz and Strasburg in June. The divine Sarah is too thoroughly French for the Alsatian authorities' taste. She would perform in her native tongue and produce French plays, some perhaps of a character not wholly suited to the political status of the conquered province. She is also afflicted with Teutonophobia to a great extent, and has already been the direct cause of small unpleasantness between the French and German officials on several occasions.

A TESTIMONIAL TO BIG BEAR.

A great throb of joyous relief has passed through the hearts of Canadian women on reading of the escape of Mrs. Delaney and Mrs. Gowanlock, and their statement that all the women prisoners had been treated with respect and kindness.

Were the punishment of Big Bear left to us it would likely take the form of a testimonial for the humanity he has displayed. Certainly, Peter, John Pritchard, and others, who protected the ladies should receive some testimonial from the women of Canada.

AMERICAN INDIAN ATROCITIES.

When we read the shocking stories of the Indian atrocities across the frontier, we can only thank God that Canada has been spared such heart-sickening sorrow. Yet we grieve for our dear neighbors as deeply as though they were our own country folk. The prayers of both countries should never cease to ascend until Heaven inspires our legislators with wisdom to guide and restrain these dreaded savages of our western lands.

Our Indians have certainly proved themselves less savage than those across the border, which certainly seems to imply that they have been better treated, and have less grievances to redress.

Perhaps if we gave more to Indian missions we should not be obliged to spend so much on Indian rebellions.

The words of Mrs. Gowanlock seem to us a sermon in a sentence. She says "the Indians were restrained from ill-treating the women by being told that the whites never did so." The power of good example, the power of kindness, the power of love for humanity—these are the levers that most easily move the world.