

SENATOR FRYE, of Maine, who has been distinguishing himself by his antagonism to the appointment of an international commission for the consideration of the fishery question, said in a recent interview that if the American protective law against fish were rigidly enforced, the Canadian Maritime Provinces would have no market, and they would be forced to seek for admission into the Union. If it be this consideration which is at the foot of the opposition of some American legislators to a reciprocity treaty, they are preparing a first-class disappointment for themselves. The United States is not the entire world, and if it should choose to shut its markets by prohibitive duties to all Canadian products, we would not go into national bankruptcy in consequence. If Canada were as dependent upon the kindness of our southern neighbours as Senator Frye thinks, it would have collapsed long since.—*Evening Journal, Ottawa.*

THE surprises in Irish history and Irish politics are infinite. The eloquent and patriotic Father Tom Burke was the most zealous of Irishmen in condemning the Norman conquest of Ireland and in holding the Normans up to execration. Yet Father Burke was himself a Norman—a De Burgh. Everybody knows that Mr. Parnell is not only a Protestant, but of English descent. It is now affirmed that his ancestor was a follower of Cromwell, who settled in Ireland because after the Restoration England became rather too hot to hold him. The Irishman can utter no heartier imprecation than in wishing "the curse of Crummell" on the object of his dislike, and yet he is indebted to Cromwell for the most popular leader his country has since produced, O'Connell alone excepted.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

THOSE who contend that Canada should have the right to make her own treaties forget that the power to make implies the necessity of enforcing such arrangements. Supposing Canada to enter into a treaty with France or Spain, where is the power to maintain respect for it? We should have to keep up an army and navy and maintain, at great outlay, an extensive consular service. Else, our treaty would speedily fall into contempt. No one knows this better than the Hon. Mr. Blake. Yet, he talks, when out of power, as though treaty-making were but child's play, and all Canada had to do was to hold up her little finger, so to speak, and all the nations of the earth would run a race for her favour. Who are so simple as to believe it?—*Daily Free Press, London.*

As regards the request to appoint commercial agents, this is not the first time it has been made, and if our memory serves us the Government promised last session, or the promise was made in its behalf, that commercial agents would be appointed, as suggested by the Association. The move is a proper one and should be responded to by the Government. The request is due to the fact that although British consuls are established all over the world, they are of no service to any branch of Canadian commerce outside of the shipping interest. If we are going to have our commercial interests well looked after, it must be done by those who understand our trade and sympathize with its promotion.—*Montreal Herald.*

SOMETHING must be done with the fisheries question. The United States seems willing to enter into an agreement whereby both countries may be mutually benefited, and Canada, we hardly think, will refuse to become a party to a treaty which offers advantages to both sides. Certainly, the people of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island will make a fight to secure reciprocal trade with the United States.—*Evening Chronicle, Quebec.*

OUR carman, who was himself a small farmer, but a Protestant and loyalist, discoursed with considerable wisdom on the state of the country, as he drove us to visit some of the outlying tenants. "There was the greatest work ever ye seen about that bit of grass," he said, as we passed a certain tract of land. "Two Land Laguers biddin' agin each other, and the priest had to come in and settle it between them, and if they get Home Rule, which I hope and think they never will, it's only then the raal fighting 'll begin." "And if they got Ireland to day," he said, "they'd want England to-morrow." "Gladstone's the worst man that ever lived for this country," he went on, "and his Land Act is no good to any one but the lawyers; and it's my opinion these eighty-six members 'll be kicked out in a couple of months. Sure the man they've put in for this part isn't fit to spake at all. I heard him one day down here, and an ould woman 'ud do better." "They don't mind their land at all," he said, "since this agitation began, and it's too much concession they've got. What this country wants is industry, and to lay themselves down to work." His simple truths might well be laid to heart by wiser men.—*Correspondent of the London Times.*

## MUSIC.

### THE NEVADA CONCERT.

THE first appearance in Toronto of the American *cantatrice*, Mme. Emma Nevada, on Monday evening, attracted a large and brilliant gathering of music lovers to the Pavilion Music Hall. The reproduction in our daily press of extravagant and laudatory articles from American newspapers concerning the singing of Mme. Nevada naturally raised public expectation to a high pitch as to the vocal accomplishments of the *prima donna*, and some little disappointment was felt when it was found that a great deal of the phenomenal ability attributed to the lady originated in the patriotic imagination of the writers of those articles. Mme. Nevada proved to be a delightful little "warbler," for whose light and flexible voice art has done everything which it is possible to do. Her voice is pure in quality, and very even throughout its compass, and, having been highly trained, its natural flexibility enables her to sing to perfection such music as Benedict's "Carnival of Venice" and the "Shadow Song" from "Dinorah"—her two programme numbers—very good examples of the school in which she excels. Her expression is not the prompting of true emotion seeking to make itself felt, but apparently a carefully preconceived series of *ad captandum* effects.

Mme. Nevada received a perfect ovation during the evening, and in response to recalls gave as *encores*, "Home, Sweet Home," and "The Mocking Bird." Mme. Nevada was assisted by M. Vergnet, tenor; Signor Buti, baritone; Signor Casati, solo violinist; and M. Lewita, pianist. The programme supplied by them was varied and attractive, and each artist in turn won a success. M. Vergnet probably took the second place in the division of the honours after Mme. Nevada. The violinist proved himself to be a brilliant executant, but wanting in repose and dignity of style. The pianist proved himself to be a capable musician and interpreted his numbers artistically.—*Clef.*

### HAMILTON.

THE Arion Club, composed of the best male voices in the city, assisted by eight of the leading lady vocalists, gave their first invitation concert of the season, in the large hall of the Wesleyan Ladies' College, on Friday evening. The audience comprised the *élite* of Hamilton both in a fashionable and musical sense, and the following programme pleased them very much:—"Tar's Farewell," S. Adams, Arion Club; "Grand aria, Pietro Il Grande," Vaccaj, Mrs. Martin-Murphy; "Robin Adair," D. Buck, Arion Club; "Polonaise," Rubinstein, Miss Cummings; "The Pilgrim of Love," Bishop, Mr. George Clark; "Amalia," Verdi, Mrs. Martin-Murphy and Mr. Wodell; "In a Cell or Cavern Deep," J. Parry, Arion Club; Hymn to Music, D. Buck, Chorus of ladies and Arion Club; "Sonata No. 5" (par violin)—pianist, Miss Cummings—Beethoven, Mr. D. B. MacDuff and piano; "Hie Thee, Shallop," Kucken (soprano obligato), Mrs. Geo. Hamilton, (quartette) Messrs. G. Clark, E. Alexander, F. W. Wodell, and J. H. Stuart; "Crusader's Love Song," Pinsuti, Mr. D. Alexander; "Land Sighting," Greig (baritone solo), Mr. E. G. Payne, (chorus) Arion Club; "In a Distant Land," Taubert, Mrs. Geo. Hamilton; "Good Night, Beloved," Monk, Arion Club. A magnificent Steinway grand piano was used, and, wonderful to relate, the solo pianiste was recalled, as she deserved to be. The singing of the chorus in Buck's ode was very good, and Mr. Wodell conducted with quiet, effective firmness. The Club showed marked improvement in their singing since their concert of last season, their best selection being the number by Grieg, which was sung with piano accompaniment.

The Philharmonic Society is to commence rehearsals of Handel's "Samson" at once.—*C Major.*

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

OCEANA, OR ENGLAND AND HER COLONIES. By James Anthony Froude. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

A first notice of this book will be found elsewhere in this issue.

THE GREEK ISLANDS AND TURKEY AFTER THE WAR. By Henry M. Field, D.D. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

This is the latest volume in a series describing various travels of Dr. Field's round the world. It is pleasant reading, and is especially interesting now that universal attention is turned to the lands treated of in the volume. The author is a Christian traveller, and we follow him with pleasure as he introduces us to the scenes of St. Paul's journeyings. In Cyprus we view together "English soldiers pitching their tents and dressing parade over the dust of warriors who bore helmet and shield at the time of the siege of Troy." We sail along the coast of Asia Minor, with its historical and sacred associations, visit Rhodes, Patmos, Scio, and Ephesus, the bazaars of Constantinople, and the English Embassy; and consider the influence of American Missions in Asiatic Turkey. We are brought into conversation with Lord Dufferin, who was then at Constantinople, and dive to the very bottom of the Eastern Question in the Black Sea, Bulgaria, and Roumania. The volume contains graphic descriptions of the various places and peoples treated of, especially of the "unspeakable Turk"; how deliverance from him came about, and how the late war went on. The whole is told in a racy way, lit up by shrewd remarks, historical reminiscences, and entertaining anecdotes.