

**A Rash and  
Ridiculous  
Resolution.**

You may resoloot till the cows come home,  
But if any one touches the boy,  
He can check his trunks for a warmer  
clime,  
Than he'll find in Illinois.

Hay.

The General Council of the Seine is reported to have unanimously adopted a resolution that the French Government take the lead in an effort to bring about an arbitration of the issues between Great Britain and the Boers. Now, we sincerely hope that this harmless expression of Gallic sympathy with the Boers will not be taken too seriously.

The resolutions, bouquets, banners, and banquets tendered to the old gentleman who is now making a tour of Europe, and spending money which the sufferers by his obstinacy and folly sorely need, will not disturb those who are engaged in the good work of ensuring the future freedom and peace of Her Majesty's subjects in South Africa. There is no issue left to arbitrate in the controversy between the Briton and the Boer.

**A Disturbing Discovery.** There appears to be no limit to the searches of human wisdom, and it is, perhaps, not surprising that a member of our Natural History Society has discovered that Mount Royal is of volcanic origin, and that the mountain to which thousands of sons of toil love to resort in the sunny summer days, has been "forced up from below, through an opening in the limestone of the surrounding country." It is useless to try and comfort the frequenters of the mountain top by assuring them that in all probability this convulsion of nature happened "seven millions of years ago."

The discovery, if confined to the circle of sensible savants comprising the Natural History Society, would have disturbed no one; but the opinion of the eminent lawyer and scholar as to the origin of Mount Royal, that splendid buttress against the gales which might otherwise lay waste our island homes, is likely to be repeated in hushed whispers in many hitherto happy households, and their juvenile occupants will whisper together about the danger of ascending a mountain from the top of which we may yet see lava, steam, sulphur gases, and the like, ejected, even after the lapse of eleven millions of years.

It is, indeed, a disturbing discovery, and we would almost have preferred to remain blissfully ignorant of the forces of nature as thus exemplified in our immediate neighbourhood. It is now in order for our insurance companies to insert a special volcanic clause in life and fire policies.

**A GOOD APPOINTMENT.**—Mr. J. W. Garrett, late assistant general agent of the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society, for the Province of Ontario, has been appointed Assistant Superintendent of Agencies, for the National Life Assurance Company of Canada. Mr. Garrett is a well-known life insurance underwriter.

**Come and  
See Us.**

"What can they know of England  
who only England know?"

In recommending the members of Lord Salisbury's Cabinet to obtain personal knowledge of the Colonies by visiting them, the "Canadian Gazette" is giving them excellent and necessary advice. Mr. Chamberlain is said to know little of Canada by personal association, although he has visited the United States. The new Lord of the Admiralty is told to spend his first vacation in a cruise to the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard of this country, where he will find lots of splendid material for the Royal Navy Reserve, only awaiting such encouragement as that recently given to the fishermen of Newfoundland now receiving instruction in gunnery and seamanship on the ships of the North American Squadron. We have all been made familiar with the First Lord who "hadn't a notion of the motion of the ocean." Let us trust Lord Selborne is not afraid of the sea, and that he will come to see us, accompanied by Mr. Broderick, the new Secretary of State for War, who might pick up many a hint in our country for his contemplated reform of the army.

However, it is comforting to know that the new Foreign Secretary, Lord Lansdowne, knows something of that Greater Britain to which the attention of our kinsmen across the ocean has been closely drawn of late.

**The United States and Turkey.** The question whether Turkey has the right to refuse to recognize consuls appointed by the United States at such commercial places in the Sublime Porte as may be selected by our neighbours promises to provoke another lively international squabble. It would seem that Turkey is being used by some other nation to ascertain how much "bluffing" the great Republic will stand.

That this view of the embroglio is plainly seen by the Americans, may be gathered from the comments of the New York "Commercial Bulletin," of Monday last.

Referring to the sending of a warship to Smyrna, that paper says: "As long as our Government is indisposed to use force, making a show of it is ineffective. The visit of the Kentucky to Smyrna merely makes us ridiculous."

Is it not possible that, finding the United States has failed to collect the indemnity for American property destroyed in 1894-6, the Turkish Government has come to the conclusion that our friends are only bluffing.

There would seem to be lively times ahead for the world, and the early part of the next century will make a lot of history for some nations.