

It is proposed to coin sovereigns as well as Canadian gold, but inasmuch as the Canadian currency will most probably continue paper, there will be no use in Canada for the gold coined, and it will be exported to the great financial centres—the cost of transport, which is now borne by the miner, coming upon the trade or government."

However, Mr. Fielding did not state that "arrangements had been made." He simply said, so far as we can learn, that "negotiations were in progress."

Under the circumstances, we feel safe in saying that the Finance Minister will carefully weigh all the sound objections to the Mint project.

Now the 'Bus Goes. Dwellers in "dear old London" who have watched the removal of Temple Bar and other historic landmarks with philosophical calmness, will heave deep sighs of regret at the announcement that the doom of the omnibus and its driver has been pronounced. The London County Council has decided to institute a service of electric cars throughout the streets once traversed by the 'bus. Many an old city merchant will shake his head in mournful disapproval of the change. But his regret at the banishment of the ruddy-faced, much-muffled, and great-coated 'bus driver, will not equal the indignation of the latter at the surrender of Cheapside, Fleet Street, and the Strand to the motorman and his car. What the 'bus driver will say remains to be heard; but street railway officials are hardly likely to be favourably regarded by him. When the automobile first invaded the streets of London, the Jehu of the omnibus was continually pelting its engineer with invective involving a sceptical doubt of his future salvation.

The doom of the London 'bus will be heard with something resembling sorrow by all Englishmen, and the feathered denizens of the streets of London, preferring the horse to the electric car, will twitter an endorsement of its driver's opinion of the London County Council.

Eloquent Statistics. One of the most interesting reviews of what the South African war has cost in casualties has been prepared by Mr. Alured G. Bell for the London "Daily Express." The Role of Honour is a long one. The men who have responded to the trumpet call, hail from every corner of the world where the Union Jack is flying in the breeze. Mere scrutiny of one of the several tables prepared by Mr. Bell makes the heart beat high with pride and patriotism. The national losses for the Flag of Queen and Empire up to a very recent date are shown in the following record:

Countries.	Killed and died.	Wounded.	Missing and Prisoners.	Died of disease, etc.,	Total.
England (including Artillery and Departmental corps.....)	2,182	8,069	4,711	4,385	19,347
Scotland.....	767	1,873	2,444	398	5,372
Ireland.....	427	1,390	1,423	343	3,583
Wales.....	65	136	76	187	464
South Africa.....	493	1,370	2,773	448	5,084

Australasia.....	101	271	160	114	646
Canada.....	61	180	52	43	336
Other colonies (including India.....)	6	13	39	5	63
Totals.....	3,902	13,302	7,678	5,913	30,795

Out of the total of 220,000 troops, old England supplied almost two-thirds. She has lost less than two-thirds of the grand total, less than two-thirds of the killed, wounded and prisoners, but more than two-thirds by disease.

In killed and wounded, proportionately to their number of troops, Ireland, Scotland and South Africa take the highest place. The healthiest troops have been the South African colonials, who have lost less than two per cent. by disease.

Mr. Bell says: "The general totals for all the colonies are 1,271 killed and died of disease and accidents; 1,834 wounded, and 1,024 captured. Roughly speaking, this war has cost the colonies one life for every 10,000 of their population, while it has cost the United Kingdom one life for every 5,000 of its population."

It is significant of the unprecedented way in which all sorts and conditions of men rallied round the flag, to recall the fact that since the outbreak of the war, Generals Symons, Wauchope and Woodgate were killed; and Generals Methuen, Macdonald, Knox, Wood, Barton, Ian Hamilton (twice), Little and Rundle have been wounded. Among the peers, Lords Wincheslea, Ava, Airlie and Kensington have been killed; the Duke of Norfolk, Earl De La Warr and the Earl of Longford wounded, and Lords Ennismore, Leitrim, Abinger and Longford taken prisoners.

About 10,000 British lives have been lost in action or by disease in teaching Messrs. Kruger and Steyn a very useful lesson; but the South African war has silenced the foreign critics of the Empire.

Winter Navigation. The frozen regions of the North seem to possess a perilous attraction for explorers. Men and money can always be found for an expedition, having for its object the discovery of either extremity of the earth's axis. As the intrepid men who engage in such perilous work do not undertake to convey passengers to any particular port, no one need question their right to navigate the polar regions in search of knowledge. We are glad to think that the days of adventure have not entirely passed away, that for lack of new worlds to discover, the modern Columbus or Cabot is content to invade the frigid zones in repeated efforts to find that point on the earth's surface through which its axis passes. We admire Nansen, Andre, and their hardy comrades in adventure.

At the same time we cannot help regretting that every now and then some "recognized authority on questions of marine engineering and navel architecture" evinces a desire to keep the St. Lawrence river