

when no one can define what is not competitive traffic with these two lines. The best policy the Grand Trunk can pursue is to let them severely alone. After they have got the life-blood sucked out of their concern, by their American allies, whom they love so much, they will come and make better terms with, and for the Grand Trunk, when it will be in a better position to dictate to them.

To-day the Grand Trunk has secured its position to Chicago. When it begins to reap the fruits the Great Western will see the mistake they have made in refusing the alliance.

Mr. Vanderbilt has the Lake Shore and the Canada Southern to carry his traffic over the same route the Great Western runs, and why should he court the latter, except to keep it on the tenter hooks of expectation? It is not a through line; it is only a middle link, and it will be squeezed to make it take whatever may be given to it, like "Lazarus, the beggar," at the rich man's gate.

The *World* states that the Orleans Railway Company of France made one hundred and three thousand francs on one day by the Lourdes pilgrimage, and suggests that the English railways should get up a pilgrimage. One Sunday this summer the pilgrims, from New York City to Coney Island, 12 miles, paid the Railway Company \$48,000. In a matter of business it is hard to beat the Americans.

REVENGE ON CABUL.

Further reports from Cabul show that the slaughter of Cavagnari and his body-guard was in some measure, at least, brought upon themselves. The Afghan soldiers had been provoked by the withholding of their pay, and it was popularly supposed that the British troops supported the Ameer. Surely as far as things have gone there is no sufficient reason for the terrible revenge to which some English papers are goading the Government. One of them says that "the very least that can be done is to level the walls and citadel of Cabul, and to leave it an open city—to clear away a large portion of the habitations of the cut-throat inhabitants, as we cleared away a portion of Delhi." And further, this same newspaper holds it to be an act of undeserved mercy that we do not wipe the city from the face of the earth." Remembering all the facts of the case, viz., that the English Embassy had forced itself upon the Afghans at Cabul—that the angry soldiers regarded the Embassy as the money power behind the Ameer, and that the troops of the Embassy were the first to open fire, killing very many Afghans before they themselves were massacred, we must come to the conclusion that to wipe Cabul from the face of the earth would be an extreme act of revenge, and would border upon the vindictive.

TURKISH REFORMS.

Evidently Turkey has not yet done much in redemption of her promise to the European powers to enter upon the work of internal reform. The Constantinople correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* draws a sad picture of the present state of affairs in the Turkish War Office. He says, writing on the 25th ult., that the square in front of the Seraskierate and its corridors and halls are filled from early morning with women and children, mostly the wives of officers and soldiers, who cry for bread and arrears of pay and pensions, and heap curses on the Sultan and his Minister, Osman Pasha. The soldiers on guard do not interfere, since they also are incensed against the Government, and are only prevented by a sense of discipline from loudly expressing their dissatisfaction. The officials in the Ministry pay no attention to the clamour around them, and when they are addressed they invariably answer: "What can we do? We have nothing ourselves! You must apply to the Minister." At length Osman Pasha's gilded carriage appears at the entrance of the Seraskierate. Crowds of women instantly surround it, and epithets quite the reverse of complimentary are hurled at the "Lion of Plevna." "Dog, villain, thief," they exclaim, "we die of hunger, and you build palaces. Give us bread! Those who supported us have died for their country, and you leave us to die of hunger." The coachman then descends from his box and leads the horses with difficulty through the raging crowd. Stones are thrown at the carriage, and in the midst of curses and reproaches the Pasha, without looking to the right or to the left, goes quietly into his room. Such is the scene, asserts the correspondent, which has been repeated daily since the beginning of the Ramadan.

EDITOR.

PROTECTION AND PROGRESS.

In my last communication I gave a statement (mostly in his own words) of Mr. Herbert Spencer's theory of progress. According to this theory, progress consists essentially in change from the homogeneous—from the condition of being simple and all alike throughout—to that of being complex, and made up of many different parts. Certain German enquirers having shown that this process of diversification is clearly the law of organic progress, of the development of both plant and animal life, Mr. Spencer went farther, and laid it down as the law of all progress, in things moral as well as material. It holds good, he contends, in the development of society, government, arts, and industry, as well as in the production of a chicken from an egg, or of a tree from a seed. His application of the law to industrial progress is what now immediately concerns us here. In such progress there is division of labour and specialization of function among different individuals, towns, and districts, all within the same country, and finally between different countries. The subdivision of functions throws itself not only among the different parts of the same nation, but among different nations. "That exchange of commodities," he says, "which free trade promises so greatly to increase will ultimately have the effect of specializing in a greater or lesser degree the industry of each people. So that, beginning with a barbarous tribe, almost if not quite homogeneous in the functions of its members, the progress has been and still is towards an economic aggregation of the whole human race, growing ever more heterogeneous in respect of *the separate functions assumed by separate nations*, the separate functions assumed by the local sections of each nation, the separate functions assumed by the many kinds of makers and traders in each town, and the separate functions assumed by the workers united in producing each commodity."

That industrial progress must include division of labour among individuals is not to be disputed, and that an apportionment of different branches of production among different nations is largely in operation is equally undeniable. But I venture to maintain that progress, while undoubtedly favouring division of labour among individuals, tends not to increase but diminish the same division and differentiation as applied to nations. The importance of the point at issue can scarcely be overstated; for, if in the industrial progress of the future there is to be even more subdivisions of functions among different nations than at present, then Free Trade is really necessary, in order that each nation may be supplied, by other nations, with those articles which it does not itself produce. But if progress favours the diffusion among many nations of arts and processes formerly the special property of this or that nation only, then Free Trade is visibly antagonistic to such progress, while Protection is as clearly in harmony with it. That one of the two conflicting systems which is most in harmony with progress must be the system of the future, the other we may look upon as destined to pass away and disappear.

The English philosopher appears to me to have overlooked the consideration, surely a very obvious one, that a principal result of material progress is to overcome, or at least to minimize, those natural difficulties which before may have prevented the establishment of this or the other industry in any particular country. By new inventions man's dominion over Nature is extended, he becomes able to do what before he could not do. The result of new inventions and new processes is to make possible and even easy the carrying on, in almost any civilized country, of manufactures before limited to one or a few countries only. They increase man's control over natural forces, and render him less dependent upon *natural* conditions. We can do a thousand things in our day that our grandfathers could not have done in theirs, *ergo*, we are not so much under compulsion, as they were, to limit ourselves to this or the other locality for this or the other particular industry. The leading products and forces of modern civilization, the things which constitute our material progress, are pre-eminently agencies of *diffusion*. Through the mass of inventions and improvements it comes to pass that pursuits which before would have been confined to a few localities are diffused and rendered common to many localities. Before the invention of nail-making machinery, the manufacture of nails was localized in comparatively few places; now it can be carried on in Montreal, Hamilton, or Windsor, as well as anywhere in England or the United States. This tendency of new inventions to render easy the diffusion of manufactures among civilized nations generally, instead of confining them to one or two only, is the "missing link" which Mr. Spencer has omitted to include in his system. He has missed, also, the important distinction between conditions imposed by the laws of Nature, and therefore unalterable by man, and those of artificial growth merely—of man's own creation, we may say. The latter having been made by man, by man they can be unmade, made over again or amended; while the former are beyond his power to change, though material progress renders him less dependent upon them than before. The cultivation of the tea plant cannot be established in Europe, nor can we transfer the climate of Jamaica to Quebec. But, given the existence of coal and iron ore together, as in Pennsylvania, or as at or near Londonderry in Nova Scotia, the skill, labour and capital which have developed the mineral wealth of Great Britain may be transferred or repeated, and may perform on this side of the