

Dr. Bourinot and many others be found at all, it will, we venture to think, be found along some such lines as the foregoing. We must cease making a fetich of the public school, and remember that there are other means for training mind and forming character equally necessary and perhaps even more effective.

The Merry Dean
Hole.

"When Macaulay talks," once remarked Lady Ashburton, tartly, "I am not only overflowed with learning, but I stand in the slops." We are apt to have much the same uncomfortable sensation at a lecture, when the tide of information of dry, formidable, relentless facts, rises higher and higher, and our spirits sink lower and lower with every fresh development. But one has no such feelings when attending the lectures of Dean Hole, at least such a lecture as that delivered at the Massey Music Hall on Monday evening last. The "Church of England" was the subject announced, and over two thousand of Toronto's most cultivated and serious-minded citizens gathered together to hear him. The audience evidently expected a great and ambitious historical or controversial discourse on the Church, an expectation which was further strengthened by the lecture being prefaced with a number of soul-stirring, triumphant Church hymns, sung with fine effect by the combined Anglican choirs of the city. But the audience did not get what it expected. The lecture, though a very entertaining discourse, was wholly misnamed an unfortunate mistake. "Reminiscences of English Church Life" would have been a much more appropriate title. Thus named the lecture may be considered an unqualified success. The Dean's fine and impressive presence, his easy-flowing, cheery chat, his buoyant, youthful spirits, his great fund of anecdote, and his remarkably winning manner all tend to make him a most attractive public speaker. It is to be regretted that a little want of judgment in choosing a title should have been the means of partly spoiling what would otherwise have been a thoroughly delightful evening. The merry Dean does not take life quite so seriously as we Canadians do. He loves to dwell on its joyous aspects and its humorous side—a disposition which unhappily is not a marked characteristic of the Canadian people.

Massacre of Armeni-
ans.

If the half of what is told by the Varna Correspondent of the *London Standard*, concerning the shameful atrocities committed by Turkish soldiers, under command of their officers, upon thousands of defenceless Armenians, is true, it is time that the civilized powers of Europe adopted some stringent measures for suppressing the misrule of the "unspeakable Turk." As the alleged offences were this time committed in Asia, something more sweeping than even "bag and baggage" expulsion from Europe would be required. For some time past stories have been rife of cruel persecution of the Armenians on account of their faith, or rather of their refusal to accept the faith of the False Prophet. But, in this instance, if the story of outrage and massacre be even founded in truth, the case equals or surpasses in diabolical cruelty the Bulgarian atrocities, the mention of which still sends a shudder through the heart of Christendom. Unless Lord Rosebery deserves the character for weakness and vacillation which is said to have been ascribed to him by a British minister at a foreign court, he will see to it that some means are taken to get the facts of the case, and that, if the reports are substantiated, the influence of Great Britain is exerted in favour of some decisive measure for putting an end, once for all, to all possibility of the repetition of such scenes. Possibly the view of Mr. Hagopian, Chairman of the Armenian Patriotic

Association in London, that an end should be put to the Turkish regime, would hardly be going too far. The combined nations of Europe should surely have power to put a stop to a misrule so demoralizing as a world-spectacle, as well as detestable in itself. Why should not a community of nations have the same right as any smaller community to protect its peoples from demoralizing spectacles? But, then, what of the Great Northern Bear?

The United States as
Mediator.

Should it fall to the lot of the President of the United States to interpose successfully as mediator between the two great Eastern combatants, the event would confer a new lustre upon American diplomacy. Of course the position would differ widely from an unsolicited intervention. The President's good offices would consist merely in bringing the representatives of the two warring nations together, at the urgent request of at least one of them, to consider terms of peace. He would, in other words, act merely as a trusted go-between to ascertain what is, on the one hand, the least which the exultant Japanese would be willing to accept, and, on the other, the utmost which the humiliated Chinese would be willing to bestow, by way of damages for the trouble and expense to which her victorious antagonist has put herself in the matter. The United States as a nation, as well as the individuals who have been taught in its school, is generally good at a bargain, for itself. Whether it can do equally well for another, the event would show. At first thought one would suppose that the republic which has treated Chinese immigrants so badly for many years, and has at length compelled the Chinese Government to consent to their ignominious exclusion from its shores, would be the last to which the Government of China would turn, even in its despair, for friendly offices. But then the United States is, probably, the only great power whose past and present policy free it from all suspicion of having selfish ends to serve in connection with the settlement of the future of South-Eastern Asia.

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The Study of Government in Canada.

DR. BOURINOT, in that practical spirit which distinguishes all his writings, took occasion, in the course of his speech at Trinity University, a few days ago, to dwell on the importance to Canadians of the study of political science so that everyone may thoroughly understand the origin, character and operation of our political and other institutions. His remarks were so suggestive that we feel we cannot do a more useful service than summarize the most important points he made in a speech necessarily short on such an occasion. Anyone who has studied the subject, will agree with him that it is amazing to think that a study which above all others is so intimately connected with the whole fabric of our society, on whose clear understanding depend the property, security and very life of the whole people, should have so long been neglected for studies of far inferior importance. Our whole system of Government from the Imperial to the Dominion, from the Provincial to the Municipal system, demands so complicated a machinery, that it takes a man even of mature years a long while to understand it thoroughly. It is becoming absolutely essential that the principles of our Government, Dominion, Provincial and Municipal, should be taught in every university, collegiate institute and public school in the country. No wiser resolution was passed at the first meeting of the National Council of women under the presidency of her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen than that which emphasizes the necessity for the