



from this would be contrary to all our traditions and our national interests, and would lead to consequences which neither the President nor the people of the United States could regard with favor." In spite of all the clamor raised throughout the United States by ignorant and prejudiced demagogues, this reply is just about what one would have expected from so level-headed a statesman as President McKinley. This will probably convince the Boer delegates that talk is cheap in the United States, especially about election time, but they may as well make up their minds first as last that they will get no aid from the United States Government.

AMERICA'S BEST FRIEND.—The hero of the Spanish-American war, Admiral Dewey, who is probably in a better position to judge of the matter than the Dutch and Fenian rabble that is at present shouting itself hoarse in honor of the Transvaal delegates out of a hatred to England, is said to have expressed himself in reference to Great Britain at a luncheon given on May 4th by the University Club, of St. Louis, Mo., in the following significant words: "We can whip any nation in the world, except England, and England is our best friend." For a moment there was an impressive silence, which was followed by a loud cheer, and the president of the club, Mr. Lamberger, rising to his feet proposed a toast to America's best friend, "England." As one man the guests arose and drained their glasses.

THE demand for Hampden goods has become so great that the Company have been compelled to refuse to fill orders for special named movements on dials and plates, and a great many orders for special named goods that had been taken for Canada have had to be refused in consequence, and dealers for the balance of the year will be fortunate if they can get their orders filled for regular goods just as they come through the factory. Such a condition of things in the watch business is in sharp contrast to what was experienced a few years ago, and shortly after the bicycle craze was on, at which time it was difficult to sell watches, while at the present time the trouble is not to sell them, but to get enough to supply the demand. There is no supreme happiness in this world, even in the watch movement business.

FOLLOWING in the lead of those Philadelphia fools who organized the school children of that city to send a message of sympathy to President Kruger by special messenger, some of the people of Windsor, Ontario, proposed last month to send an address of sympathy and cheer from the Windsor school children to Aguinaldo, in the Philippine Islands, on his splendid fight for freedom against the great American nation, who are unjustly trying to take it away from the natives by force of arms. This action is just as sensible in every way as the Philadelphia farce alluded to above, but we are glad to say that Canadian public sentiment was healthy enough to show the projectors of this movement that two foolish actions won't make one wise one and they therefore dropped the matter. It was well for Canada's reputed common sense that they did, for we can't afford to have our good name dragged in the mud.

AN EXHIBIT of much interest to jewelers and Canadian merchants of every kind was held at Toronto last month at the Ontario Artists' Gallery, under the name of the "Applied Arts Exhibition." It was free to the public and was visited by a great many people, all of whom expressed themselves as delighted with the idea and the hope that in future years it would be worked on a larger and more comprehensive scale, as the tendency was to improve every branch of Canadian manufacturing industry by elevating and beautifying its products. Speaking of it during its continuance, a well-known critic said of it:—"The display is not extensive but it is meritorious and deals with many of the crafts. A spinning chair and Moorish table, elegantly carved, a decorative mantelpiece in stained woods, plaster casts, the display of pretty book-binding and unique and graceful designs for house decorations may be mentioned as samples of the exhibit. There are stained glass designs, of delicate and tasty outline, samples of exquisite hand-made lace, wood carving that is unique and poster designs original and striking, and a particularly effective decoration for a piano front."

THE OPTICAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA, which has for several years occupied the premises at 60 Yonge Street, Toronto, have discontinued their contract with Dr. Hamill and removed to Montreal, where the classes will be conducted by Dr. Gauthier. The removal of the Optical Institute of Canada to Montreal, offers Eastern men an opportunity of taking an optical course nearer home. The management of this institution are to be congratulated on having obtained the services as instructor of so eminent an oculist as Dr. J. Lyons Gauthier. Dr. Gauthier is a graduate of the Laval University. He is thoroughly conversant with both English and French, in which languages his classes will alternately be given. A much needed want will be supplied by the French courses given by the Optical Institute of Canada, and those interested will do well to communicate with Mr. J. S. Leo, Principal, 1685 Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

IF NELSON (B.C.) don't knock the scheme on the head, it is the intention of the watchmakers and jewelers of that town to form a union and affiliate with the Trades and Labor Council of that place. By-laws have been adopted and the following officers elected: President, A. T. Noxon; secretary-treasurer, W. L. Smith; J. H. Nickerson, E. W. Grier and J. Wadds, delegates to the Trades and Labor Council. The journeymen watchmakers and jewelers pledge themselves to support and uphold the employing jewelers of Nelson who are willing to pay good workmen good wages, in order to help them maintain the present scale of prices for repairing. Of the shops doing business all but one have joined the union. The new union will adopt a reasonable scale of prices and request every shop to follow this schedule. Should any shop refuse to accept the scale, the matter will be placed in the hands of the Trades and Labor Council for adjustment.

SURROUNDED.—One of the best evidences of the growth of the departmental store business in Canada may be seen in Toronto, where the R. Simpson Company are engaged in erecting a new addition to their magnificent building which now takes in the whole business block between Richmond and Queen Streets on Yonge Street, except the jewelry store originally built by the Kent Bros., and now owned and occupied by John Wanless & Co. This beautiful store with its handsome cut stone front, is completely surrounded on three sides by the great Simpson building of iron and brick, and situated as it is right in the middle of the block, it is rendered all the more conspicuous on account of the difference in its height, color and architectural construction. It sits there like a pearl in its setting and is in every way suited for the carrying on of the high-class jewelry business that the firm have built up during the half century they have been in business.

WE ARE GLAD to see the position which we took in our editorial last month in regard to Imperial Federation has since been completely endorsed by such authorities as Lord Salisbury, Premier of Great Britain, and the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, both of whom enunciated their views at the annual banquet of the British Empire League, held in London on the 30th April. In his speech Lord Salisbury, deprecated any attempt to expedite a fusion of the Colonies with the Mother Country by legislation, declaring that it will be better to allow this wonderful growth of sentiment to grow by its own laws and according to the impulse of its own vitality. The Hon. Joseph Chamberlain said he cordially agreed with Lord Salisbury's argument against any artificial hastening of colonial union, and he supposed, therefore, that the creation of a Colonial Council was still distant, and that it would continue to devolve upon the Mother Country, as trustee of Imperial interests, to guard the future of the Empire. Alluding to the assistance given by colonial troops in South Africa, he said: "The fact is, we are only just beginning to realize the greatness of our own Empire and its possibilities in the future. To-night we recognize with heartfelt gratitude the sentiments that moved the colonies to join us in an hour of trial. If the occasion should unhappily arise when we may be called upon to reciprocate with something stronger than words I believe the Old Country will stand the strain."