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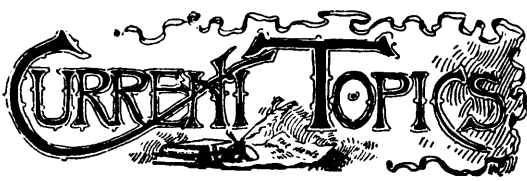
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## Mr. Goldwin Smith on "Loyalty."

A feature of the less prominent phases of the rebellion of 1837-38 was the attitude assumed by the various nationalities who constituted the settlers in those counties in Lower Canada bordering on the American frontier. The bulk of the people—natives of Canada or of good old-country stock—were loyal, and the younger men eagerly volunteered into the various corps of militia raised in the Eastern Townships, and which, by the way, did excellent service in preventing American sympathizers and outlawed rebels from making raids on the otherwise unprotected farm-houses near the line. None showed open signs of sympathy for the rebels, for whatever their sentiments were, the loyalists would brook no treason in their midst. Some, however, were decidedly lukewarm, and were evidently waiting to see which way the proverbial cat would jump. This class was largely composed of Americans and radical Englishmen, the latter being the more disagreeable class and the more hostile to the government. As was the case at that stormy epoch, so it has been in Canada ever since, and is to-day, radical Englishmen invariably siding with foreigners, admiring foreign institutions, and belittling and sneering at those of the country in which they live. A marked instance of this exists in the case of a gentleman of unusual culture and taste, residing in Toronto, who, unfortunately, sees fit to occasionally decry in the most public and prominent manner such institutions of our country which most assimilate to those of the Motherland, and which, possibly of small importance in themselves, are dear to the majority of Canadians as links in the chain of British connection. MR. SMITH is well known to be a warm advocate of the commercial union fad, and, as such, his sentiments on the trade relations, as expressed in his speech before the Young Liberal Club at Toronto on the 2nd inst., evoke no feelings of surprise. But that a man of his known intellectual standing should devote so much of his speech to sneers at the loyal men of Canada, and to misleading and totally unfounded insinuations as to their sentiment for British connection being entirely based on pecuniary motives, is a slur and an insult, and can only be attributed to the unpatriotic views and nominal republican sympathies held by English radicals; we say nominal, because they evidently find it convenient to live under monarchial rule. To thinkers of this class, loyal sentiment in Canada is out of date; in the country they profess to admire so much, it is certainly out of date, and family sentiment is also rapidly following its example. Possibly they are

also willing that family sentiment here should become a thing of the past. As a rule radicals, as they advance in age, discard many of the theories they had upheld in earlier life; but MR. SMITH appears to grow in hatred of our form of government. He protests that there is no use for a governor-general; that the conferring of titles by the Sovereign on distinguished Canadians is useless, and "breeds nothing but false ambition, flunkyism, and sycophantic resolutions." Brave words, are they not? and will tend much, no doubt, to the speedy reduction of our social and political systems to the democratic level of the republic he admires—from a distance. The orator fell in line with a well-known French-Canadian lawyer of Montreal, in re-echoing the latter's statements condemning 'swaggering demonstrations' of national victories. How grateful Canadians should be for such kind remarks,—especially people of Toronto, who have always been foremost in showing pride in British blood and British prowess. Many of the speaker's comparisons were singularly inappropriate, such as that of the English-French commercial treaty, as compared with one of commercial union or unrestricted reciprocity between Canada and the United States; and the endeavour to prove our railways, especially the C. P. R., as largely American,—the latter, in fact, "half a Yankee road," shows a remarkable absence of common-sense. In all, MR. SMITH'S remarks on 'loyalty' have been the expression of sentiments which meet condemnation from all classes of the British-Canadian people.

## Life in Russia.

In view of the frequency of the publication of details of Russian cruelty, one might suppose that they were of comparatively recent occurrence. Since MR. KENNAN'S memorable *exposé* of the horrors of the convict system, and of the miserable existence of the prisoners in Siberia, the veil of secrecy that hid these dark doings from the civilized world has been more often thrust aside,—long enough to thrill English-speaking people with feelings of pity for the wretches that fall into the iron clutches of the Czar's government. The unhappy condition of the Jews there has been flashed into prominence this week, and is intensified by the fact that the rigours to which they are ordinarily subjected have been rendered doubly oppressive since humane citizens of London organized a public meeting to express their indignation at the barbarous manner in which that race is treated. Again, we have a vivid instance of the horrors of their prison-mines brought nearer home in the narrative of the experiences of J. W. MORRIS, the Boston skipper, who, with other Americans, for capturing walrus in Russian waters, were condemned to imprisonment in a coal-mine for three years. The usual brutal treatment of Russian officials was meted out to them. Kept underground for three years without once seeing the light, sleeping on the floor of the mine, and existing on rice soup, was the routine, to which was added—in CAPT. MORRIS' case—the horror of being chained to a corpse for 15 days, and having at last to divide the body with his spade to obtain release from the ghastly companionship. It is to be hoped that the United States government—if only in the interests of common humanity, apart from the national interest involved—will take immediate diplomatic steps towards obtaining redress for these gross brutalities towards one of its citizens. For centuries the country of the Czars has been a synonym for all that is degraded and vindictively cruel in the treatment of the slightest transgression from its iron code, and the civilized countries of the world have quietly folded their hands and adopted no measures by which Russia could be shamed or threatened into treating men and women as human beings instead of as beasts. The time is fast coming when public opinion will force Christian governments to break off all diplomatic connection with a country whose rule is one vast perpetuation of all that is savage and inhuman, and which appears to glory in the shame fixed to it by recent disclosures, and to redouble its efforts to find new means of torture for those who come under its ban.

# The Dominion Illustrated Prize Competition, 1891

## QUESTIONS.

FIRST SERIES.

- 1.—State where mention is made of the war of 1812, and give particulars as concisely as possible.
- 2.—Give details of the announcements of forthcoming books by Canadian authors.
- 3.—Where is mention made of an unfinished work by an English writer now dead.
- 4.—Describe briefly a midnight scene in the forest, and state where mentioned.
- 5.—Some habits of a well-known English novelist are mentioned. Give particulars.
- 6.—Where, and in what connection mentioned the most prominent poetess of this century.

NOTE.—All the material necessary for correctly answering the above questions can be found in Nos. 131 to 135 of the "Dominion Illustrated," being the weekly issues for January.

The second series of Questions will be given in our issue of 28th February.