

attempting to carry out the project would be ruinous and the city cannot afford to run risks. No matter what our confidence in the skill and judgment of our City Engineer, prudence approves the proposal that another expert of the highest eminence should be called in, that the scheme may be approved or rejected by a second competent engineer. The Board of Works have recommended the employment of an engineer of the highest eminence from England, to make an independent investigation. The recommendation seems wise, the caution proper and commendable. But let what is needed to make assurance doubly sure be done without delay.

Is Hypnotism a
Reality.

This question must be regarded as still *sub judice*. Of a given number of educated men, professional or otherwise, it is not unlikely that about as many would give it an affirmative as a negative answer. And yet it is evident that if the affirmative answer is the true one, it involves issues of tremendous importance. The wonder is that a question of so great practical as well as theoretical and philosophical interest has not yet been set at rest, or rather that no serious and exhaustive inquiry has been instituted either by public authority or by private love of knowledge, with a view to setting it, if possible, at rest. The latest important discussion of the *pros* and *cons* took place at the Medico-Legal Congress, which was held in New York, week before last. The subject was introduced by President Clark Bell, in a paper on "Hypnotism in the Courts of Law." The subject is or should be one of deep interest to all members of the legal profession, because of its possible bearing upon legal decisions of the first importance. The majority of lawyers, we are told, do not recognize as existing facts the phenomena of the hypnotic trance. But what if the hypnotic trance be, nevertheless, a mysterious fact, as so many competent witnesses are ready to attest. If so, the hypnotized person may at any time be made an unwitting agent in the commission of crime. Nay, he may even be made to forget all about the crime which he has, unknown to himself, been caused to commit, while under this influence. In the course of the discussion, Dr. William Lee Howard, of Baltimore, said: "I have made the ex-governor of Maryland give me his note of hand. I have also hypnotized the cashier of a bank and caused him to go to the vault and take out \$5,000." There is beyond question an immense amount of fraud in the hypnotizing business, but this does not prove that the thing thus counterfeited may not have a real existence as so many believe. Granting its reality the possibilities of abuse and the temptation to abuse of so wonderful a power are beyond calculation; and there is manifest need of the most stringent regulation of its use.

Canada and Her Relations to the Empire.

THE current number of the Westminster Review contains a notable article by Colonel G. T. Denison on "Canada and her relations to the Empire." The article is too long to reproduce in full in THE WEEK. We can only give an outline with such extracts as our limited space will permit.

The keynote of Colonel Denison's masterly paper is the erroneous idea of American "friendliness," the indifference of the English people to the interests of their own Empire on this Continent, and the way the English press is often used for attacks upon Canada. From the days of the United Empire Loyalists Canadians have seen their interests constantly sacrificed by Great Britain in order to propitiate American friendship. Colonel Denison shows that whilst there is no doubt at all that our interests have been sacrificed there is very great doubt if American friendship has been won

for England. Here is a fine bit about the United Empire Loyalists and the beautiful friendliness of the Yankees:

So they went penniless to Canada, while Lord Shelburne and Benjamin Franklin, between them, arranged the treaty of peace. Then, at the outset, Canada suffered, and has suffered ever since, from the first misunderstanding. Franklin at once began to play upon the weakness of Lord Shelburne. He sent agents to London and professed the greatest of friendliness. The United States were to be friendly for ever to England, but, as a mark of good feeling, England was to give way in everything to the Americans. Canada then extended down the Ohio and up the Mississippi to the Lake of the Woods. There was no doubt on this point, and English troops held the most important posts. Franklin was anxious to get this immense territory, and played upon Lord Shelburne's desire for "reconciliation" and free trade with great astuteness.

And again:

Thus, at the close of the war, with about 270,000 square miles of the best part of Canada given away to their enemies, with their fisheries opened to those who had wronged them, deprived of all their worldly effects, and driven from their homes, these true friends of England entered upon the almost hopeless task of re-establishing British power on this continent. They plunged into the wilderness and were lost to sight. They had no roads, no towns, no villages, no shops, no newspapers, no printing presses, no means of recording their wrongs, save by tradition. Their history has been written by their enemies, and for a hundred years English writers have generally made it the fashion to ignore these brethren of their race, while their energies in writing on transatlantic topics have been devoted to belauding the American Republic.

After many years of hardship to these Loyalists, the great struggle between England and Napoleon came on. England was fighting for her life against almost the whole of Europe, and then the first opportunity arrived for the United States to show her "friendliness." At once the feeling of hostility became manifest. The pretended cause of quarrel was one the Canadians had nothing to do with. The Orders in Council were passed by the English Government in the English interest alone, and on this pretext the United States declared war.

In Upper Canada a scant population of 70,000, with only 1,500 regular troops at the outset, faced the attacks of a country with a population of about 8,000,000, which, during the war, placed under arms no less than 86,000 regular troops, and 471,622 militia and volunteers, or a total of over 556,000. Once more in an English war the Loyalists and their sons had to fight for three years to uphold the British flag on this continent. Practically almost every able-bodied man in Canada was under arms. Our fields were laid waste and many of our villages burned; but at Detroit, Queenston Heights, Stoney Creek, Lundy's Lane, Chrysler's Farm, Chateauguay, and other fields, the Canadian militia and their British comrades faced as heavy odds and won as brilliant victories as are inscribed in the annals of our race. At the close of the war we were victorious. The enemy did not hold one inch of our territory, while their capital city had been captured by an English army, and the public buildings destroyed, in retaliation for the destruction of the public buildings of the capital of Upper Canada.

After pointing out how stupidity and mismanagement on the part of the Colonial Office brought on "the so-called Rebellion" of 1837, and how the "friendliness" of the Americans permitted our southern border to be subjected to inroads of filibusters from the United States for nearly two years, Colonel Denison takes up the Maine boundary question and shows how the great and only Daniel Webster, the American commissioner, suppressed the evidence which was in his possession showing Canada's undoubted right to the disputed territory, and deliberately, in writing, expressed to Lord Ashburton his confidence in the validity of the United States' claim. The Yankee Senate ratified the treaty "knowing it was obtained by dishonest methods." Colonel Denison then touches upon the Reciprocity Treaty and the Fenian raids. We quote: