

its two great principles are that equality of taxation ought to mean equality of sacrifice, and that great wealth is to contribute at a higher rate than moderate property. In the death duties, moreover, for the first time, land is to be on the same footing with other forms of property. The first two principles will be seen, on inspection, to be essentially one. That one had already been recognized, as it is in this country, in the provision for the exemption from taxation of incomes falling below a certain minimum. It is a principle which, once it is clearly accepted, admits of extension to an indefinite extent. In the form in which Mr. Morley expresses it, that equality of taxation ought to mean equality of sacrifice, it is hard to set any limits to the extent to which it is capable of being pressed. To tax the income of a millionaire until he was made to feel the sacrifice as the mechanic or farmer with an income of a few hundreds feels it, would at present, whatever the future may have in store, be regarded as little better than an act of confiscation. Replying to the Duke of Devonshire's argument that under the new taxation the landed proprietors would not be able to keep up their estates as heretofore, and that, consequently, these taxes would react unfavourably upon the poor by depriving them of employment to which they were accustomed, Mr. Morley said: "It is you and I who have been keeping up the pleasure grounds. If the Duke pays so much less than his proper share, in order to perform these public duties, you and I have to pay so much more. It is we who keep up Chatsworth." This leaves us where we were, the real question being what is the proper share or proportion of an estate like Chatsworth?

There are evidently possibilities of serious trouble in connection with the Korean affair. The ambassadors of both China and Japan, in England, protest that their respective Governments wish to avoid conflict with each other. Nevertheless Japan's attitude is not that of one who is prepared to yield her claims readily, even under the advice of the great European powers, while China is likely to be emboldened by the outspoken determination of Russia to prevent Japanese success, should a struggle arise. There is no doubt that Russia would be glad to have a reasonable pretext for the occupation of Korea, which would supply her great need of a Pacific seaport better than Vladivostock, where her strong fleet is now assembled. But, on the other hand, England is opposed to any such arrangement, and has, it is believed, plainly intimated that she cannot permit her great Northern rival to interfere in the quarrel. It is therefore not impossible that the outbreak of hostilities between China and Japan would precipitate a conflict between Russia and Great Britain. The Chinese claim to the country is said to be based upon aid granted in 1720 to the

usurping and successful Khan Amursana. Japan seems to base her claims largely upon the fact that she is the chief purchaser of Korea's products, and that her traders advance money every year to the farmers of Korea on their crop prospects. Russia's claim rests upon her absorption of Bokhara and Khokand, whose Khans formerly received homage from Korean tribes, while England's rights were derived through the conquests made by the Afghan ruler a few years since. As in almost all cases, England has the lion's share of the trade, supplying the Koreans largely with cotton and other goods. Of late years the Koreans have made wonderful strides in civilization and commerce, and, as a natural consequence, are less disposed to submit to the exactions of either native magistrates or wealthy foreigners. Hence the internal struggles which have created the present situation.

We are glad to see that the question of the tunnel under the Bay for the purpose of securing a safe and abundant water supply, in accordance with the recommendation of the City Engineer, has again been brought to the front by the Mayor's message, and is occupying to some extent the attention of the Council. Was it not a tactical mistake, however, on the part of the Mayor, to bring forward the other great need—that of the trunk sewer—at the same time? We have on previous occasions expressed ourselves strongly on the sewer question, and we still consider it a disgrace to the city and a reproach to the intelligence and the "niceness" of its people, that they have so long continued to let the waters of their beautiful Bay be defiled with the rivers of pollution which are being constantly poured into it. But "one thing at a time" is an excellent practical motto, whose value Mayor Kennedy must have learned in the course of his business experience. To bring two such gigantic enterprises before the city fathers in the same breath could hardly fail to cause hesitation and delay in respect to both. It seems to us that his recommendation would have been more effective had he decided in his own mind which of the two was of the most immediate and pressing importance, and concentrated the attention of the Council, if possible, as well as his own energies, on that, until active measures had been taken for hastening its accomplishment.

Urgently necessary as both improvements are, it seems to us clear that the tunnel is the more immediately pressing. There are two reasons in particular why this should have the precedence and be pushed forward with the utmost energy. Upon the chief of these we have dwelt in a recent article. It is, in a word, the ever-present danger of a failure of the present system and a recurrence of a period of foul water, with its attendant disease. The other rea-

son, if any other can be needed, for giving this project first place, is that, with the Engineer's report and other information already gained before us, there is left very little room for doubt as to what is the best and only reliable plan to adopt. On the other hand, it is by no means so clear that the plan of a trunk sewer, intercepting the streams of sewage only to change their course and turn them into another part of the lake, is the wisest and best way of meeting the difficulty. It is even possible that while purifying the bay we might be but placing the sewage in a position where it would be even more likely to taint the source of our water supply. In our opinion every inquiry should be made with regard to the feasibility of purifying the sewage itself, by eliminating and destroying its noxious elements, before letting it enter the waters of the lake at any point. By all means let the sewer scheme drop into the background for a little, or let ample time be taken to insure the adoption of the best possible method for the disposal of the sewage, and let the main problem be at once and forever solved by the construction of the tunnel with all practicable speed.

Thanks largely to President Cleveland's resolute attitude and action, the great strike is virtually at an end. The forces of law and order have proved too strong for those of anarchy. One of the results can hardly fail to be that the men of the labour organizations must see, whether their leaders do so or not, that their cause has been seriously injured by the ill-advised or at least ill-managed revolt, and the outrages which have accompanied it. It is hard to say to what extent the strikers were the real culprits in the assaults upon persons and the wholesale and wanton destruction of property, which aroused the indignation of the whole nation against them. But their strike furnished the opportunity and they will be held responsible. It can hardly be denied, moreover, that their denunciations of unlawful and violent deeds was not so vehement as it should have been had the majority really had no sympathy with the perpetrators of the outrages. An investigation, if one is held, will probably show that many of the strikers quickly go beyond the control of the leaders and do dastardly deeds in spite of any efforts that may be made to restrain them, though there can be no doubt, we suppose, that the most savage outrages are the work of anarchists and others of the lawless classes with whom the labour unions have really nothing to do. The sincerest friends of the labourers and those who have most sympathy with their more reasonable demands, will deeply regret the injury—an injury that may prove in some respects almost irreparable—which has been done to their cause by this terrible outbreak.

President Cleveland has won golden opinions from almost all classes, by the de-