

international decency, are American citizens, though probably, in most cases, not American born. futile—because such a thing is physically, and happily still more morally, impossible.

Any palliation of dynamiting and boycotting, the two most atrocious developments, (setting aside direct assassination,) of modern race and political hatreds, indicates on the part of a press which degrades itself by so joining hands with iniquity, an absolute extinction of the old-time sense of rectitude.

As regards boycotting, we are glad to observe that Mr. Mathewson, the Montreal wholesale grocer, whom the "sugar-combine" have been endeavoring to crush, has been legally advised that he has excellent grounds for an action for conspiracy against those who have boycotted him.

With regard to this offence again, the American Courts were justly prompt enough to stigmatize it in its proper light as a gross violation of the liberty of the citizen, who should be answerable for his conduct to no man, or clique of men, but to the laws of his country alone. There will, we should hope, be little doubt that the Canadian Courts, whenever a case comes before them, will not hesitate a moment as to their decision.

In the case of a section of the American Press as to its estimate of political crime, however atrocious, it makes all the difference whose ox it happens to be that is gored.

#### DR. SCHLIEMANN.

The veteran Dr Schliemann, the discoverer of the remains of Troy (a fact which, we think, does not admit of doubt) is going to Egypt for three months' research. Besides the ancient cyclopean cities of Tyrins and Mykenæ, in Greece, the doctor recently found in the Island of Crigo one of the oldest temples of Aphrodite, and he now intends to try his luck in Egyptian archæology. Any explorer may, at any moment, light on important discoveries; there is, therefore, no saying what valuable find may reward the energy of so dauntless and indefatigable a prosecutor of research as Dr. Schliemann.

Archæological discovery has reached a point at which it bears some resemblance to the gradually but surely closing cordon of a *battue*, or the convergence of three or four *corps d'armée*, as of the Prussians at Sadowa. Egyptian, Assyrian, Babylonian, and, of late, Hittite archæology, are in this way converging to illustrate Scripture narrative, to throw new lights upon it, and, here and there, to confirm its relations where we may have erewhile doubted its strict matter-of-factness. For example, while Assyriology has shown us the influence on the Hebrew record of the lore of a pre-scriptural antiquity, the recent unwinding of the mummy of the great Rameses brought us face to face, with a startling sense of realization, with the haughty lineaments of the more than probable Pharaoh of the Oppression. Last month the *Graphic* published an engraving of the oldest existing piece of upholstery known to the world—the throne chair of Queen Hatasu, of the 18th Dynasty, dating 1600 B. C. The *Graphic* gives no particulars, and eschews surmise, but we know it is not at all improbable that this Queen Regnant was actually that "daughter of Pharaoh" to whom the Hebrews are recorded to have owed the preservation of their great leader from the waters of the Nile.

There is a persistency and coherency of the tradition that Moses was brought up by his preserver and patroness as heir to the throne of Egypt, and that he actually commanded the Egyptian armies, which appeals to our love of romance, or, at all events, to that sort of belief in which the wish is father to the thought, and the idea has the advantage that none can say it was not so—at least at present. There are whom the gods seem to love, and Dr. Schliemann is one of them. Who is to say that he who was fortunate enough to disinter in Mykenæ a royal corpse—the contour of the face preserved by a mask of thin gold pressed down upon it—which may quite possibly have been that of Agamemnon—may not, even within a limited period of work, carry his good fortune on with him, and give us some point of Biblical light which may prove of inestimable value.

#### THE IRISH QUESTION.

The terms of Mr. Parnell's amendment to the address on the Queen's speech constitute a little study of a changing phase of the expression of Irish aspirations. It is reported to be worded as follows:—"Humbly to represent to Her Majesty that the only remedial portion of last session's Irish legislation tended to diminish crime; whereas repressive measures have done much to alienate the sympathy and respect of Her Majesty's Irish subjects for the law and administration of the Crimes Act, and that much of the general action of the Executive has been harsh and partial."

The studied moderation of the language in which the amendment is couched, and the tone of respect for existing institutions which pervades it, may be due to the idiosyncrasy of Mr. Parnell, who is a gentleman. It may also be legitimately due to the emollient effect on the Home Rulers of an evidently increasing amount of English sympathy.

However this may be, the ovations accorded to Messrs. O'Brien and Sullivan on their arrival in London, taken with several other recent demonstrations, indicate the rapid growth of an English commiseration which any Government would find it "kicking against the pricks" to disregard. Sympathy and partial success are powerful solvents, and it is just possible, that under its influence, the hatred of everything British which has so long characterized the Irish agitation, may be in process of softening down.

Mr. Gladstone's tone at the opening of Parliament also is more moderate than his recent lines of action have allowed us to hope, and he will certainly lose nothing by maintaining it.

It may be that the Irish leaders discern the advantages of temperateness.

If they adhere to it, it will combine with what—much as we love the reign of law and order—we cannot but think the erroneous policy of Lord Salisbury's Government, to soften the unnecessary acerbity which has tainted the discussion, and lead to that calm consideration of the justice of the Irish contention, which the suddenness of Mr. Gladstone's conversion, and his rashness in insisting on an utterly unconsidered measure, have been the means of delaying for two years of time, valuable if they had not been wasted—deplorable in the additional exasperation they have engendered.

Right or wrong, the recent revision of judicial rents, which takes off a capitalized value of \$70,000,000 from the Irish landlords, is practically a revolution, and is probably but another step towards a land-purchase bill, in the consideration of which the landlords will be handicapped by a *fait accompli* of deteriorated value, which will have the prestige of Parliamentary and official sanction.

Events seem to point to the early fulfilment of Irish aspirations. It is only to be hoped that it will be brought about with prudence, as well as generosity, and that the comparatively fair promise of to-day may not be found to have been delusive.

#### PROFESSIONAL ETIQUETTE.

The struggle for existence now being waged by individuals in all parts of the civilized world, seems to have almost obliterated the old spirit of chivalry that animated our forefathers in their dealings with each other.

In the so-called learned professions, law and medicine in particular, there were unwritten laws, never transgressed with impunity, which are still supposed to guide the members of these professions, but which, as it daily proved, are now more honored in the breach than in the observance.

Both are noble professions, holding out the incentive of tempting prizes when honorably pursued, but, alas, both have been hurled from their high pedestals, not by attacks from without, but by mercenary and unscrupulous members within. Professions which are dignified by the years of study required to master their details, have now been placed on the same, or, indeed, a lower level than the pursuits of the merchant, the tradesman, or the mechanic, by keen competition for business. We say a lower level, because these are at liberty, by the usages of business, to compete for and "drum up" trade, while professional etiquette strictly forbids the doctor or lawyer from so doing.

The majority of both professions, we think we are justified in saying, are gentlemen, and saying this, it is unnecessary to add that the honor of the professions is safe in their hands. This being the case, those members of the professions who are guilty of unprofessional conduct in "drumming up" clients, are taking the meanest of mean advantages, and when they, (as it is often proved they do,) take business at reduced rates, or on speculation, they make it almost impossible for the honest professional man to live at all.

Taking the case of the legal profession in this Province, it will be found that the fees allowed are very reasonable, in fact, extremely low, compared with legal charges elsewhere. A glance over the legal lists will show that our most eminent barristers are comparatively poor men, and that those who have gained wealth, have secured it through speculations, or other channels outside of the law. If barristers of large practice, who take their full fees, only succeed in making a living, the question naturally arises, "how do these unprofessional men make money by charging less than the full costs, or by taking suits on speculation?" The answer would seem to be that men who are unscrupulous in their dealings with their professional brethren, are not likely to be more particular with their clients. If the costs of a speculative suit amount to anything, the client will in the end have to pay them, and although he may be made to believe that he is paying reduced charges, ten chances to one he is paying more than the law allows. The bait is held out to allure clients, and, having secured them, the tricksters will find abundant means not "to lose money mit dem."

The slight hold that professional etiquette has on the medical profession in this Province was proved by the hospital scandal, and the legal profession seems to have reached almost as low a position. Practices that would not have been tolerated fifty years ago, are now of every day occurrence.

Professional etiquette is openly sneered at by many, while its warmest advocates to-day are men who have secured large practices by very questionable means. The recent law, giving the council of the Bar Society power to stamp out the evils of unprofessional conduct, will prove of little utility when a majority of that society are ready to wink at the most flagrant cases. Hardly a year has elapsed since the society refused to expel a member, against whom the charges were most specific.

King & Barss is the first legal firm to be investigated under the new law. On a previous occasion the firm was before the society, and admitted most unprofessional relations with a layman. On a promise to discontinue these relations they were let off, and the evidence now seems to show that they have since continued the same relations, only in a more guarded manner. If this firm is guilty of unprofessional conduct, what may be said of those which accept the business of the large commercial agencies? Of those leading firms that act for the numerous private collection agencies which have their agents out canvassing for business? Then how are those professional men whose connection with the press enables them to "puff" their cases; and thus advertise themselves, to be got at? In fact, is it possible to stamp out unprofessional conduct or breaches of professional etiquette through the medium of the law? We fear not. The honorable sentiment against breaches of professional etiquette which once ruled our legal fraternity has largely departed, and, in justice to the minority who still stick to the old rules, to their great pecuniary loss, the sooner that so-called professional etiquette becomes abolished the better. To all intents and purposes, it now scarcely more than exists in name.