

though valuable, is of less value, as well as far less sure, than those of countries which do not manufacture for themselves, while the policy which has killed the mercantile marine of the United States, and prevents its resuscitation, rids England of a most dangerous rival all over the world.

THE *New York Nation* is so good as to advise the English press "not to be led astray by the foolish talk of THE WEEK, which rejoiced lately over the Attorney-General's circular enjoining the enforcement of the law against the exportation of explosives, and said that this showed what could be done, etc., etc." "The circular," adds the *Nation*, "was really of no importance whatever." No importance was ever attached, by the "Bystander" at all events, to the circular beyond that which it unquestionably possessed as a recognition of an international duty which the *Nation* has not itself been very anxious to see performed. Nor has the "Bystander" said that "this showed what could be done, etc., etc," or used any expression susceptible of that courteous paraphrase. Anger, which in the present case is extreme, disturbs perceptions as well as manners. When a foreign journal seeks to influence English opinion, at the same time doing its utmost to damage English interests, on the Irish question, British journalists have a right to pluck off its mask of impartiality, and to warn their readers that it is the organ of an Irishman who sympathizes with the Disunionist movement, and has plainly betrayed, not only a political, but, a social antipathy to England. Antipathy to England may be a highly respectable emotion, but it is not a qualification for giving sound advice to Englishmen. It never has been suggested that the American Government should take extreme measures against Dynamiters, much less that it should "suspend trial by jury." The difficulties under which it labours in this matter are well known, and the world in general is not so bereft of common sense as the *Nation* always seems to imagine. But the people of the United States owe, like the rest of us, allegiance to civilization. They are called upon to say whether their law, which is the embodiment of their national morality, does or does not sanction the holding of public meetings and the collection of subscriptions in aid of assassination, and of the assassination of particular persons named by the promoters of the meetings? If it does, where is the turpitude of murder, and why should murderers be hanged? A BYSTANDER.

#### HERE AND THERE.

It seems to be taken for granted that Toronto ought to have a great public hall—one capable of seating four or five thousand people. But there is a division of opinion on the form such building ought to take. The proposal that it should be included in the projected civic buildings would appear to be inadvisable, as it is said any hall so built would have to be on an upper floor—a fatal objection in a room so large. Surely if a hall of such dimensions, and with such pretensions—for it is proposed to make it *the* Canadian hall—is necessary, it might be made a commercial success; and if so it is worthy a separate and central location. It is a common thing in other large cities, and especially in those which are used as pleasure resorts, to construct large concert halls or theatres in connection with winter gardens. These huge, covered spaces also serve as promenades in unfavourable weather, whilst the surrounding attractions induce the constant presence of numbers of people who are always ready to swell the attendance at any specialty in the main building. Such concerns generally pay good dividends, and it is very probable that a similar venture in Toronto would prove a sound investment. Certainly it would be the most practical manner of providing the city and the Dominion with a place of meeting sufficiently capacious and ornate.

THOSE who have heard Dr. Talmage repeatedly were not surprised to read "Grumbler's" letter in the *Mail*. That correspondent complains that the preacher-lecturer's last deliverances "were nothing but a re-hash of his old lectures which I heard years ago," but which had been re-baptized. Mr. Talmage, it is well known, has not an inexhaustible *repertoire*. He has delivered the same lectures over and over again in America, Canada, and England. The impression he made in the northern counties of the latter country (where they are apt to see whether a man preaches for Christ or for the loaves and fishes) was not universally favourable, and his visit to Bolton, amongst other places, must bring anything but pleasant memories to the popular preacher.

THE cabled information that a thousand emigrants are now on their way from England for Canada need cause no alarm to those who have been protesting against the continued shipment of people from the Old Country who are not needed, or who are no acquisition. Not only are most of the

men farmers and mechanics, but situations are awaiting them on arrival. There are really two parties on board, the smaller being under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Bridger, emigrant chaplain at Liverpool, and consisting of selected young women who cannot find employment in the fierce fight for existence in England, and for whom registered situations have been found on this side by the indefatigable Miss Richardson, of the Government Reception House, Point Levis. They have, moreover, been prepared for domestic life in the hard-working but prosperous homes of Canada. Writing on the possibility of finding safe openings for young women in this country, Miss Richardson says:—"I am inundated with applications, and could place an unlimited number of women and girls in good homes. It seems a pity, healthy, well-behaved girls do not arrive in greater numbers; the demand is practically unlimited and ever increasing." Miss Richardson places herself directly in communication with the Girls' Friendly Societies which are beginning to spring up in Canada, and with the protective homes which exist in most of our large towns, and works in conjunction with Miss Adelaide Ross, the organizing secretary for Mr. Bridger's party.

THE reported gazettement of Colonel Middleton as successor to Major General Luard lacks confirmation, though the appointment would be a good one. Meanwhile General Luard has been given the command of the 2nd Brigade of Aldershot, pretty convincing proof that the military authorities at home fully recognize the difficulties the General has had to contend with out here, and they evidently do not blame him for the unpleasantness caused during his term of service in Canada, by his desire to promote the interests and efficiency of those under his command.

THE *Chicago Current* is unrepentant, and will not acknowledge that it was a victim of the hoax which brought upon the devoted head of Matthew Arnold such an avalanche of American vituperation. The *Current* was "in full knowledge of the hoax," and now "cheerfully reiterates" its opinion:

The ungrateful utterances of so many of the eminent Englishmen who have come to America for no higher motive personally than to replenish their exhausted purses, but who have been, as the guests of the nation in a sense, accorded the recognition of private hospitality, are numberless. Matthew Arnold's expressions, both while here and since his return to London, have been in the worst possible taste, and he had himself prepared the public mind to accept as true the recent hoax. The *London Times*, a few days ago, very loftily declared that there had been nothing in American affairs for some time worthy of a paragraph in an English journal. Such a declaration means that Englishmen have no personal interest or solicitude in the progress or welfare of their American cousins. The United States will probably survive the indifference of the English press, the money-coining cunning of her poverty-pressed lecturers, or the taunts of her aristocratic idlers.

But surely the *Current* does not take the *London Times* as a characteristic English journal? Nor can our contemporary seriously mean that "Englishmen have no personal interest or solicitude in the progress or welfare of their American cousins," because the least enterprising London daily can find nothing American which would interest its antediluvian readers? And this in face of the long columns of matter which is daily and weekly appearing in the leading organs on the Presidential elections, the tariff, and the American social world?

"THE weather prophet, Wiggins, of Canada, has been remarkably unfortunate in his predictions. The hobby of Wiggins is the tidal wave. Several times he has announced, with the gravity of the Delphic oracle, that the Atlantic Ocean would, on a certain date, rear high in the air and fall with crushing and overwhelming force upon our eastern coasts. Notwithstanding his repeated failures he continues to blow his trumpet of woe, and two or three awful cataclysmic predictions are now pending. Mr. Wiggins, however, is not regarded with honour in his own country. He is an employé in the Canadian Civil Service, in the Financial Department, and it is asserted that he devotes a large portion of the time which he should consecrate to the Government's work to his own meteorological dreaming and figuring. The *Quebec Chronicle* says: 'We have had enough of this Professor. A man who fails nine times out of ten ought to go into another business. Storms are clearly out of his forte. He has no right as a public officer of the Dominion, to use the name of the country in these wretched "predictions." That he does so use his official position in the manner indicated is established beyond question.' Strangely enough, this man, pronounced a humbug in his own country, is regarded by many Americans as a seer of extraordinary power." Thus says the bright *Chicago Current*.

THE chief drawback to cricket in Canada is in general the great difficulty in procuring a suitable ground on which to practise upon. That difficulty may, however, be obviated by the use of cocoa-nut matting, which makes a very fair and playable wicket. Asphalte has sometimes been used, but the balls are soon knocked to pieces on it. Matting has