

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.]

THE TUG OF WAR.

To the Editor of THE HOME JOURNAL.

SIR—As a spectator of the tug-of-war contest between the Canadians and Englishmen at the exhibition, last Thursday evening, I desire to enter my protest against the manifest unfair decision rendered by Referee Tu'lock. The contest was given to the Englishmen on the ground that the anchor man of the Canadian team held on to the cleat with his hand. The fact of the matter was, the Canadian anchor man placed his hand on the timber to steady himself while he adjusted his belt, something which I never heard of rules prohibiting. Furthermore, the Canadians had pulled the Englishmen with surprising ease at least from ten to fifteen inches over the mark, and undoubtedly would have pulled the Englishmen through their frames in five minutes more. Comparing the two teams, it was generally remarked that the beefy condition of the Englishmen rendered them totally unfit to cope with the bone and sinew of Canada. The Canadians have challenged the Englishmen to pull again, with an unbiased referee, and I trust the latter will be sportsman-like enough to accept the challenge.

MAPLE LEAF.

ONTARIO'S CHIEF JUSTICE.

The elevation of the Honorable William Ralph Meredith, Q.C., to the Chief Justiceship of the Court of Common Pleas of Ontario removes from the sphere of active politics in that Province a man who, conspicuously above his fellows, was respected and admired by all to whom he was known. That the Conservative party of Ontario will regret the loss of their trusted leader, no one will deny, and it will be to them a difficult matter to find a successor of such sterling worth. But, on the other hand, the Bench of Ontario, already the pride of the profession, has gained strength by the new appointment, and he who was the honorable, upright, conscientious leader of the Opposition has but transferred his talents to a sphere where his brilliant attainments, fearlessness and legal acumen will be more conspicuous. Mr. Meredith is one of those men by nature especially fitted for the work of the judiciary. He is fair and impartial almost to a fault, tender though strong in his sense of right and intellectual in the highest sense of the word, while his force of character and pure, simple life have aided in shaping a noble man. It is somewhat of a surprise to many of his friends, that he would leave a law practice which must bring him at

least fifteen thousand dollars a year, to go upon the Bench, for he is yet a young man, comparatively, and had not ceased to rise in his chosen profession. Yet the choice is his, and he was doubtless moved to it by considerations of much greater moment than will appear on the surface. Now that he is to be His Lordship Mr. Justice Meredith, I venture to predict that "in the fierce white light that beats about the throne," amidst the learning and acumen of a brilliant bar and a worthy Bench, and in the multifarious duties of the new life, he will increase and grow in the esteem, honor and admiration of all.

RUMORS REQUIRING CONFIRMATION.

That a miner in the new gold mines of Culgardy, Western Australia, on digging down a considerable depth, suddenly struck upon a thin portion of the earth's crust, making a hole, fell through, and, at last intelligence, has not been heard of.

That the Chinese Empire may be regarded as a conglomeration of chaotic combinations.

That present indications point to a great battle between plucky little Japan and unwieldy China, in which Japan will come off victorious and be then on her way to Peking.

That the circumstances of the Sidney Railway have much improved, arising from the agricultural development of the Saanich farmers' proceedings from the harvest.

That negotiations are pending for purchasing the assets of the estate of Green, Worlock & Co.

That the Bank of British Columbia was lately thronged with Indians presenting cheques for payment, many of whom were good customers at the stores of our city.

That a minister of one of our Episcopal churches announced to his congregation that his former stipend of \$150 a month had shriveled down to some \$60 odd.

That at the next session of the British Parliament, there will be submitted, "That as last session was devoted almost exclusively to Ireland, in the session of 1895, matters relating to Ireland will have to give way to the consideration of subjects more immediately affecting the general welfare of the country."

POULTRY.

HAVE you any poultry at the fair? is the question we heard one fancier asking another on the streets to-day. "Oh, no," was the answer; "I can not afford to show for nothing." We share the opinion with the majority, that it was a shame that poultry was the only exhibit that had no cash prizes offered. When one goes to the trouble of breaking

hens from laying for two or three weeks so as to get them up to weight, then washes them the night before the show in hot water and soap, then pays expressage in and out, we think he should at least get as the most paltry exhibits at the fair.

Local dealers report a very fair sale of cull pullets at present.

Mr. Sylvester of our city is the discoverer and manufacturer of a new lice destroyer and disinfectant. From what we have seen and the praise we have given it, we should advise our readers to look into it, as there is nothing more disagreeable and expensive to a poultry raiser than lice during moulting season. Mr. Sylvester calls it Killun.e, and, use his words, "it will kill them."

Mr. C. B.—, of Oak Bay, wants to change his breed of fowls, as his look much like pheasants—to the eyes of hunters.

W. B. S.

MET HER NEMESIS.

Madge has met her Nemesis at last. In other words, Mrs. Kendal has been floored, non-plussed, so utterly flabbergasted, in fact, that she is said to have registered a solemn oath never to indulge in personalities at a dinner table again. The story of the flabbergasting of Mrs. Kendal is being bruited about in London drawing rooms just now and has tickled the risibilities of English actors from Henry Irving down. The love which her professional fellow-countrymen bear Mrs. Kendal is well known. The English actors are as fond of her as they are of her celebrated stump speeches in which she rakes her own profession fore and aft.

There was a big breakfast given in London a couple of Sundays ago at Mrs. Kendal and her husband were among the invited guests. Mrs. Kendal was taken in to breakfast by a distinguished looking middle-aged man whose name she did not happen to catch. No sooner were they seated at the table than Mrs. Kendal turned the conversation upon the stage and its immoralities. Her companion did not seem to be particularly interested in the subject. Mrs. Kendal, raising her voice slightly, addressed her remarks to the table at large.

Illicit relations as they exist upon the stage to-day, Mrs. Kendal declared were really dreadful. Moreover, there was no excuse for it.

"It's all trash and nonsense to say that simply because a woman is a genius she may be forgiven, while an ordinary woman for the same thing would be driven just outside the pale. A look