

cognate and dependent trades, through the producers of forage and breeders of horses, the employes, and the countless trades dependent in part on their custom for food, clothing, rent, up to the President. Mr. Smith is known to be a good man of business, and no Knight even can believe that he buries his profits in the ground; he invests them rather where they yield him a further profit—to do which the capital must be aiding the production of something, and consequently must be affording employment to labour. And so the industrial world goes—inextricably interdependent; and in fighting Capital, tying up one arm of this industrial giant, the Knights of Labour are only impeding the effectiveness of the whole body. The trades-unions as we say, it is to be hoped, may by and by discriminate better than the Knights; but they too at present have much to learn. "Hitherto in the history of the human race," says our friend, the *Nation* again, "it has been held that the ambition to rise in the world, to make one's labour more valuable to one's employer, and thus to earn higher wages than the lazy and the shiftless, was a very proper and laudable ambition." But a bricklayers' union in Washington has fixed upon \$4 a day as the rate which should be paid to all workmen, whether good or poor, and, a number of men having found employers who are ready to pay them \$6 a day, it is authoritatively announced these must refuse to earn over \$4 and that "the Union will punish any member, by imposing a heavy fine, who shall accept anything in excess of \$4!"

MASTER WORKMAN POWDERLEY when asked as to the truth of a rumour that the "Plumed Knight" was also a Knight of Labour, indignantly replied: "No; in heaven's name there have been enough bad things said about us without that. Let it rest there." In sober truth, the United States narrowly missed national disgrace when, eighteen months ago, Mr. J. G. Blaine came so near carrying the Presidency. Mr. Blaine is little better than a political adventurer, who, as President, would continue to trade, as he has always done, on the hatred of the Irish toward Great Britain, lowering the dignity of his office, while making political capital for himself, by posing as swashbuckler-in-chief for the most turbulent element of the nation. But after all, we think Mr. Blaine scarcely deserves the censure now being heaped on him by the London Press and the Marquess of Salisbury, for his recent criticism on the latter's speech. As that speech was cabled here, as even it was reported in England by the Gladstonian Press, and interpreted by Mr. Morley, Lord Salisbury was said to have no alternative policy to propose for Ireland but coercion for twenty years, and emigration; but as it now appears from the full report of the speech and an explicit correction made by Lord Salisbury himself,—which could hardly have reached this side when Mr. Blaine spoke,—what Lord Salisbury really said was that crime must be put down, and to that extent he recommended coercion, but that the duty of the Government was not only to repress crime, but to ameliorate the condition of the people; and, as to emigration, he had not recommended emigration, but had only observed that, if a large sum of money were to be spent, it had better be expended on emigration than on the very contemptible process of buying-out landlords. Whether Mr. Blaine, when he made his speech, knew or did not know what Lord Salisbury had really said, we are not aware, but certain it is that in applying the words, "impudent," "insolent," and "brutal" to Lord Salisbury, he went little beyond the terminology used by the Canadian Home Rule Press in commenting on the same utterance; and, therefore, we trust that as the Plumed Knight has now declared that he used these opprobrious epithets in a sort of Pickwickian, or parliamentary, sense—(which admits of saying that a statement is untrue, without implying that its author is guilty of falsehood)—we hope the Canadian critics of Lord Salisbury will likewise make some amends by a frank admission that their Fenian cable-correspondents have for once been guilty of a small prevarication.

It is extremely gratifying to find the *Globe* at last admitting that it will never do to submit Ulster to the rule of a Parliament at Dublin. Commenting on a passage in Mr. Chamberlain's speech, reminding the House that the Constitution of 1840 which united the two Provinces of Canada was found not to answer, and the result was that the two Provinces separated, our esteemed contemporary remarks that Mr. Chamberlain does not appear to have learned, from the failure of the old Legislative Union of Ontario and Quebec, the obvious lesson that "it is folly to attempt to weld into one two peoples who differ widely in many respects; nor how much stronger may be the union between two such peoples when each is allowed to manage its own affairs in its own way." Precisely; but we beg pardon—this appears to be exactly what Mr. Chamberlain has learned. He cited the failure of the Canadian Constitution of 1840 to show the necessity of keeping Ulster and Celtic Ireland apart; if we do not misinterpret his plan, he proposes that Celtic Ireland and Ulster shall each manage their

own local affairs, just as Quebec and Ontario do theirs; but he objected to Mr. Gladstone's scheme, according to whose fundamental principle—applying it to Canada for illustration—the Ontario Assembly and the Dominion Parliament would both be abolished, and Ontario, in a minority of one to five, would be obliged to send representatives to the Quebec Assembly, which would hold co-ordinate authority with the Parliament at Westminster.

THE agony of the past six months is at last over; Mr. Gladstone has been shown that there are other minds in the Liberal Party besides his; the Empire has been relieved from perhaps the gravest peril that has ever threatened it, because brought upon it, not by foreign foes, but by the insane recklessness of a most powerful parliamentary chief; and finally, let us hope, Parnellism has, with all the evil it implies, begun its decline. Never again, we feel persuaded, will a British statesman of the first rank be found to betray the confidence placed in him by his countrymen, by secretly concocting without the knowledge of his colleagues or the mandate of his constituents a measure for the reward of treason and outrage, and trying to commit the country irrevocably to the principle of that measure through the votes of his subservient following in Parliament. Never again will the Irish Nationalists come so near surprising the constitution; and their leader having failed so miserably in his designs, may be expected, in accordance with Irish precedent, now to sink like an exhausted rocket. His utter rout will not be clearly seen perhaps till an appeal has been made to the country; but of the result of that appeal we have not the smallest doubt. The British people will not be governed by an American Irish dictator. If Mr. Gladstone, placed by his trusting countrymen in command of the fortress, could not with all the resources of his position succeed in betraying it to the enemy, the nation, made fully aware of the design, may be depended upon to replace him and his forces by a more trustworthy garrison and commander. All honour to the Moderates of the Liberal party who have prevented this great treason! On them as the true representation of the great sound Liberal heart of England rests the hope of all patriots of the British name; and in the elections that probably may ensue, or at all events must be held before this Irish question can be settled, we confidently predict that the principles of these Moderate Liberals, loyally supported by the Tories and the Radicals, will overwhelmingly prevail over the faddist adventurers, nonentities, and traitors that make up the Gladstonian army.

WE much fear that sinister events are brewing in Eastern Europe. A Russian army of 130,000 men has been gathered in Bessarabia and the Crimea; the collection and equipment of war vessels in the Black Sea has been pushed on, and the whole Black Sea fleet is in commission; and the Czar in a General Order issued to that fleet the other day, wherein he expressed a wish for the peaceful development of the nation's welfare, says, most ominously—for no doubt every word in the paper had been carefully weighed: "Circumstances, however, may render the fulfilment of my wishes difficult, and may force me to the armed defence of the dignity of the Empire." That warning we are persuaded can have but one meaning—a menace to Turkey. It was addressed directly, it would seem, to the new National Bulgarian Assembly then about to meet, which was expected to proclaim a kingdom. Russia will never willingly consent to the consolidation of an independent Bulgaria; and the proclamation of a kingdom, with Prince Alexander as king, may be the affront that will "force the Czar to the armed defence of the Empire." But his forces would be hurled against Bulgaria, only to open and continue their road to Constantinople; and then it may be counted on that the mistake of stopping short at San Stefano, so bitterly repented by Alexander II., will not be repeated. And who is to prevent, is a question that, while the alliance between the three Emperors is extant, can only be answered after the outbreak of war and the disclosure of the now secret terms of the alliance.

THE bed of the ocean is to an enormous extent covered with lava and pumice stone. Still more remarkable is it to find the floor of the ocean covered in many parts with the dust of the meteorites. These are like miniature comets, and are for the most part broken into innumerable fragments. We are all familiar with the heavenly visitants as shooting stars, but it has been only lately discovered that this cosmic dust forms layers at the bottom of the deepest seas. Between Honolulu and Tahiti, at the depth of 2,350 fathoms, over two miles and a half, a vast layer of this material exists. Falling upon land this impalpable dust is undistinguishable; but accumulating for centuries in the sea depths it forms a wondrous story of continuous bombardment of this planet by cometary bodies.