

had with Mr. McNeill touching the matter of his resolution, and surprised the member for North Bruce by taking exception to the coupling of the proposal for Imperial defence with preferential trade.

American Bounce.

The London Spectator, in commenting upon the Spanish Minister's action in publicly condemning the violence of American Senators' speeches in the Spanish-Cuba United States business, pokes fun at the Senate for demanding the withdrawal of the Minister. It is the privilege of the American Senator to denounce Spain as much as he pleases, and also to denounce the representative of Spain, if he objects to the language. But nobody must denounce the American Senator. He is a privileged being, and to him only is allowed freedom of speech. "It is not supposed," says The Spectator, "that Senor Dupuy de Lowe will be sent away; but the world is getting a little tired of all this. The Americans should either adhere strictly to diplomatic etiquette or grant full license of speech all round. It is a little hard to be shouted at and be compelled to whisper in reply." A Madrid newspaper, El Epoca, challenges the United States to doff its mask and display its true colours. If they want war, fiercely exclaims El Epoca, Spain is ready to face it with becoming dignity. Otherwise, it rightly advises the American politicians to desist from their vexatious debates and covert hostility. We are not surprised at the wrath of the Spaniards. They have had every provocation. It is to be hoped that Congress will look to its ways and learn wisdom.

Canada First.

SOME twenty years ago or more there was an attempt made in Canada to form a party under the device of Canada First. It was a generous but premature movement. But men who were not led away by mere sentiment refused to join the movement, because they saw that it was premature, and because they felt that, as matters stood, Independence must lead to Annexation. At that obstacle they paused, and the movement died a natural death. Another generation is coming to the front, and again Canada First is making itself heard. This time it is with a different intention. There has been a change of tone in England with regard to the England beyond the seas. When the Canada First party was organized, as we have said, a colony was spoken of in the style of "Tush, it is naught!" The Imperial idea seemed to be extinct, and the sons and grandsons of Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen felt that they were considered by the people of the islands from which their ancestors came as aliens, and not akin. This feeling has disappeared in the home land, and a Canadian now knows that England, Ireland, and Scotland are in no sense more an integral part of the British Empire than Canada, Australia, or the Cape. Therefore, there is now not the feeling of bitterness there was twenty-five years ago on this point. Thus, a desire for independence is by no means as accentuated as it undoubtedly was then.

The supporters of the party were drawn from two sources. There were, first, those men who were born in this country, and who had the feeling in their breasts which Sir George E. Cartier has given expression to in his verses, "Oh Canada! Oh mon pays!" These men felt that the position of their country as a dependency was nondescript and unsatisfactory, and their desire was to see her take a place among the nations of the world. The second class of recruits were those who were humiliated by the attitude of Englishmen with regard to the Colonies in general and Canada in particular. The press and the platform both proclaimed that England would rather

be rid of the Colonies, and particularly rid of Canada, so as to propitiate the United States and gain their good will. It was not unnatural that the new movement received many adherents, and all the young feeling of the country was called forth in its favour.

But against annexation, and in favour of Canada's separate existence, there still remains the same passionate feeling. Canadians love their country, and intend to keep her for themselves. What, then, can now be said to be the new Canada First party? It may be placed in the form of a declaration which would run somewhat as follows:

(1) Canada before everything.
(2) Canada an integral part of the British Empire—*Quis separabit?*

(3) This Canada to be one Dominion, not a union of Provinces, but one Dominion, one nation.

(4) The Dominion to be supreme—no state rights; no provincial *imperium in imperio*. A Canadian to be a Canadian, not a Quebecer or Ontarian, or Nova Scotian, but a Canadian.

(5) The law of Canada to be supreme.

(6) Development of national resources. Deepen the canals, encourage immigration, stop academic disputes as to the tariff. Leave it alone; do not shatter the confidence of financial men in the permanence of Canadian institutions. The tariff, as it stands, has done good work, and will do better if it is left alone. Old Cicero used to say that nations must be kept not only from fear, but from the fear of fear. Our philosophers have violated this cardinal principle. Who will invest a dollar in Canada if he thinks that next year his investment will be legislated out of existence? We have also run after the United States too often. If they erect a Chinese wall we can do without them. Devote our energies to trading with civilized nations, not barbarians.

(7) Act on the principle, Sell more than you import. Seek new markets; make what you can for yourselves; encourage your workmen to believe they can find work in Canada. Give them work. The modern system is for the State to inaugurate and carry through public works, to manage them when they are completed, and thus to return to the people the taxes levied.

(8) Look facts in the face. The Dominion can only exist by a steadfast policy of concession. If the Francophobes, the Anglophobes, the Orange fanatics, the ultra supporters of Papal supremacy are not soon put in their place they will turn Canada into a Donnybrook fair. Protestant and Papist, French and English Canadians, meet in business, meet in the drawing-room, eat side by side. They must learn to give and take in politics. Any member of the House of Commons who does not act on this line must be driven out. It is on this point that the Equal Righters, *lucus a non lucendo*, come to grief. That is why they will not succeed.

(9) Organize the defence of the country. Again, look facts in the face. We must not expect heaven to help us unless we help ourselves. Aggression from us against our neighbours is ridiculous, but defence from their aggression is a thing to be provided for at once.

Such is the *credo* of young Canada. Old Canada is living comfortably on the shelf. It has been drawing salaries for a long time, and nothing else. The prominent members of the opposition are fighting the same old windmills they have been fighting any time during the last twenty years. New men are wanted—younger men who wish to see Canada go ahead. We would like to see nominations in every constituency of men pledged to carry out a programme such as we have outlined. Few of the present old stagers need apply. Most of them