

*Globe* was demonstrably in the wrong, though Todd seems to support its contention. A glance at the results that would almost surely follow the refusal of Lord Stanley to follow the advice of his Ministers, should they ask for an early dissolution, ought to settle the controversy. The Ministers, finding their advice refused, would, of course, resign, as no longer possessing his confidence. What would be the result? The installation of a new Ministry. But the new Ministers would find themselves obliged to appeal to the people. Hence the result would be just that advised by their predecessors.

THE correspondence, which has just been published between Hon. Mr. Dewdney, Superintendent-General of Indian affairs, on behalf of the Dominion Government, and the Chiefs and other Protestant Indians of the Lake of Two Mountains, reads very strangely. Many will rub their eyes and re-read Mr. Dewdney's letter two or three times before they will be ready to believe that their eyes do not betray them in respect to the following:

I beg now to notify you that hereafter no assistance will be given to any Protestant Indians who continue to reside on the above location at Lake of the Two Mountains, and would urge upon you the advisability of closing with the offer already made to you by the Government of homes on the Gibson reserve.

We do not pretend to understand the merits of the legal and moral questions involved in the dispute between these Indians and the Seminary at whose instance the Government has been so long ineffectively trying to secure their removal. But it is hard to imagine any state of affairs which can justify the Government in coercing the Indians to remove from the location they have so long occupied to any reserve not equally valuable for their purposes. Still more difficult is it to imagine circumstances which can justify the use of a threat by the Superintendent-General which could provoke and seemingly justify the following reply:

The Indians are very sorry to learn from your last letter that you have decided to punish them for their religion. You say that after this no assistance will be given to any Protestant Indian who continues to live at Oka. From this it would appear that you intend to give assistance to those Indians who are Roman Catholics and who remain at Oka. They also think it very unfair for the widows and orphans who have been receiving a little help from the Government to be punished because the men who own land here will not give up the property and go to Muskoka without getting anything like the value of their land. The Indians wish to know if the widows and orphans can still get their assistance if they go to Muskoka, and leave the men who own land behind, or can they continue to get this assistance if they turn Roman Catholics.

More light is needed. It may perhaps be found in the blue books. But such a correspondence ought not to go forth to the world without explanation and justification.

THE passage of the much discussed McKinley Tariff Bill by the United States' Senate seems now assured. Senator Quay's influence has prevailed and the malcontents in the Republican ranks have been so far propitiated that they have agreed to a programme which will ensure a vote upon this Bill before the ninth day of September. The manner in which this agreement has been reached illustrates very clearly some of the peculiarities of American political methods. The chief difficulty in getting through with the very numerous clauses of the Bill, in order to reach a vote before adjournment, was that presented by the friends of the Election, or "Force" Bill. Senator Quay's first proposal involved the throwing over of the latter Bill entirely, a course which was strenuously opposed by those Republican Senators—not a very large number, it is thought—who were determined to push that measure to a vote. These have now been brought to accept a compromise. In return for their concession in favour of the Tariff Bill, they are said to have received a formal pledge from a majority of the Senators, that they will be present at the short Session to be held in November, and will aid in fixing a date in December for the vote on the Election Bill. Thus there is little doubt that within two months we shall see the great Republic putting in force one of the most extreme measures of protection ever passed by any modern state. The effect upon trade with Canada will, we dare say, be considerable for a time, though no doubt other outlets will soon be found, as heretofore, for any surplus products which may be effectively shut out from their accustomed market. It would be a mistake to suppose that the McKinley Bill has been conceived, or is being supported in any spirit of hostility to Canada, or that it is a sequel to former attempts to force

us into annexation. Its reason for being is, doubtless, one of American politics, pure and simple. Like all similar measures it makes its appeal to national selfishness, though probably to a purblind selfishness. Were the United States a much smaller country it might be safe to predict a reaction, caused by the discontent of those who will find themselves compelled to pay a higher price for the necessaries of life, in consequence of its provisions. But the United States are so immense in extent of territory and variety of productions, and so vast in population, that the influence of any section aggrieved by the operation of such a measure may, very likely, be powerless in the presence of the great majority to whom the matter complained of is of little moment. The effect of a given measure in such a country can hardly be judged of by ordinary rules.

A THOUGHTFUL writer in the current number of the *Atlantic Monthly*, discussing "The Use and Limits of Academic Culture," admits that the colleges have gradually fallen into a certain disfavour with the masses of the people. Each year a larger, instead of a smaller, number find their way to the professions and other educated callings through schools of a lower grade. From much questioning both of parents and of young men themselves the writer reaches the following conclusions, which he says are identical with those of his friends who have made similar enquiries: "First, that a college education costs more money than can be afforded for the training of a youth; second, that it requires so much time that a young man is belated in entering upon the practical duties of life; third, that the system of academic training is in general not of a nature to aid a student in most occupations, be they professional or other." We know no reason for supposing that the tendency to shun the Arts colleges and take short cuts into the professions is on the increase in Canada. We are inclined to think that the change, so far as any is observable, is in the opposite direction. The yearly increase in the number of matriculants in the universities gives ground for this opinion. It is, however, to be regretted, in connection with all our higher institutions of learning, that the number of those taking the courses with any other object in view than that of preparing for professional pursuits is comparatively very small. Academic culture, for its own sake, irrespective of its bearing upon some chosen profession, is seldom sought. The opinions even of educated men differ widely, we are well aware, with regard to the desirability of the higher education which the colleges are supposed to afford for those who are to be engaged in other than professional pursuits, though few in Canada will agree, we think, with such views as those which Prince Bismarck is said to have recently put forth so emphatically, deploring the evils wrought by the too wide diffusion of education. Cultivation is the law of nature. It cannot be that this law, rightly understood, does not demand the fullest attainable development of all the faculties of body and mind, or that such development, along right lines, will not prove favourable, rather than the opposite, to the most efficient discharge of the duties of every station in life. If there is anything in the education given by our colleges and universities which tends to unfit men and women for the faithful performance of the duties of any and every honest calling, it must be that the fault is either in the character of the education or in the state of society. To suppose that men and women everywhere have been endowed with faculties capable of indefinite development by culture, but that such development is to be repressed in the case of all but a favoured few, least injury result to society, is to contradict the plainest teachings alike of evolutionary science and the doctrine of omniscient design.

IN one important respect our universities are fairly open to serious criticism by all who do not accept the view that collegiate education should be the privilege of the few. They have done and are doing little or nothing to promote general culture, and to bring their advantages within the reach of the many. The number of those who can shut themselves up for four years within college walls and complete a certain prescribed course is, in the nature of things, very small and must continue to be small. Is it fair to the people that the benefits of institutions of learning, whether founded and supported at the public expense or endowed by private philanthropy for the public good, should be confined within so narrow limits? A young man in this city was solicited the other day to matriculate in one of our colleges. His reply was, in effect, that he had neither the time nor the means to enable him to devote four years of his life—he had already attained a good degree of general culture, and was well read in some

departments—to a course of study which had no particular bearing upon his chosen life-work, but that it would be a great boon to him were there evening classes or lectures of a high character in some of the colleges, in which he could follow up certain lines of reading in history, literature and philosophy. There would be some reason, he added, for voting public money to the support of a university, which would do work of this kind for the benefit of the many, and the promotion of general culture. The necessity for this kind of work is, in some measure, recognized by the great English universities, in their "extension" work. Last year there were delivered, in connection with the university extension plan in England, 3,500 lectures, which were attended by 41,000 students, 4,000 of whom obtained certificates from Cambridge, London or Oxford. Is not the need for outside work of this kind even greater in a comparatively poor colony than in wealthy England? The time is coming, unless we misread the signs, when state supported universities will have to choose between bringing themselves in some such way into touch with the people, and ceasing to be supported at the public expense. Breadth should surely count as well as depth, quantity as well as quality, in education. It is time the truce between the advocates of culture and those of utility as the end in higher education were ended in a treaty of perpetual peace. An excellent basis for lasting compromise is afforded in the fact, which is now recognized by many of the best educators, that the two ends are perfectly compatible, that the science which stands related to the ordinary pursuits of life and the literature which is within the reach of all for recreation and delight in leisure moments may together be made instruments of higher culture as perfect as can be found in any department of learning. We plead, then, not for limitation in the number or the range of study of those taking full university courses, but for the extension of university methods and lectures, so as to bring opportunities for the best training, at least in special departments, within the reach of the hundreds and thousands of ambitious young men and women who are shut out by circumstances from the regular courses. Why not?

A NEW departure in Canadian Journalism" is announced from Montreal. *The Young Canadian* enters the field as "a high class, illustrated weekly magazine of patriotism for the young people of Canada." The aim of the enterprise is certainly a worthy one: "To foster a pride in Canadian progress, history, manufactures, science, art, literature and politics; to draw the youth of the various provinces together, and to inspire them with a sense of the sacred and responsible duties which they owe to their native country." That there is an unoccupied sphere for such a periodical is obvious. The educative influence exerted by journals and magazines specially prepared and adapted for the young is one of the phenomena of the day, yet, so far as we are aware, there is not in all Canada any such periodical as that which is now projected by the "Young Canadian Company," of Montreal. With the exception of the Sunday school papers, which are necessarily limited in size and almost exclusively religious in character, our young people are entirely dependent upon the United States for mental pabulum of this indispensable kind. *St. Nicholas*, *The Youth's Companion*, *Harper's Young People*, and several other publications for children and youth, published in the United States, are excellent and admirable, and are widely circulated amongst the young people of Canada. But none of these, nor all of them combined, can do the work of creating and fostering the national spirit which it is so desirable to implant in the coming generation of Canadians. The new enterprise appeals strongly, therefore, to the patriotism of the people of every province in the Dominion. We hope that the appeal may be heartily and generously responded to, and that the publishers may be well sustained in their courageous undertaking. We feel sure that the editors of *The Young Canadian* will have the good taste to shun a too common fault in such publications by avoiding bombast, exaggeration and unnecessary disparagement of neighbours, and that the patriotism they inculcate will be of the manly, generous, sensible kind, that will wear well at home and command respect abroad. We must not forget to add that *The Young Canadian* is to be published in every province. It is to consist of sixteen pages, double-demy, with a cover embellished by a full-page design, and other illustrations drawn by the very best talent in the Dominion. The price is two dollars per annum. Mrs. M. P. Murray, of 111 Mackay Street, Montreal, is the Secretary of the Company.