The Colonist.

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1890.

CROAKING PATRIOTISM.

The Toronto Globe on Dominion Day devoted nearly two columns of its editorial space to a dismal jeremiad. The article may be said to be one long groan. It represents Canada's present condition as unmitigatedly bad, and it sees little hope for the future. The time is out of joint. Nothing is as it ought to be, and everything is as it ought not to be.

No reader of this doleful complaint would think that this Dominion of Canada is the home of five millions of people who enjoy as many of the comforts of life as any five millions on the face of the globe. They, too, possess and exercise all the rights and privileges that free men prize most highly. We question whether the inhabitants of any country in the world have more real freedom, and use it more rationally, than these Canadians over whom the Globe, on their national holiday, makes its moan. A people who enjoy a fair share of physical comfort, who are intelligent, and who have all the rights and privileges of self-government, are not to be wept over as if they were steeped in misery or on the high road to ruin.

The people of Canada have not exercised their political rights in the way which the Toronto Globe considers best. They have freely chosen as their rulers men whom the Globe, and the party which the Globe represents, disapprove. They have deliberately adopted a policy which the Globe and its upholders condemn. This may be unfortunate or it may be the reverse, but as the majority of Canadians still believe that they have done right, it is very foolish for the Globe to scold them in so melancholy a fashion. It just may happen that the majority of Canadians know better what is good for them and for the country at large than the minority.

It is hardly wise in the organ of the Liberal party to get into the doleful dumps because it cannot persuade the people of the Dominion to accept its views. Its tearful mood, to say the least, is not manly or philosophical. If the principles which it holds are sound, let it advocate them in a courageous and sensible manner; but let it be cheerful. People generally feel a contempt for a whiner, and chronic croakers are never popular. If the Globe is right, the majority will come round to its views in time, and, if it is wrong, it may, perhaps, find out where its mistake is, and pursue a wiser policy. But it must dry its eyes first and stop lamenting. It may depend upon it that the people of this Dominion will not be the more disposed to consider its arguments because they are advanced in a melancholy manner and in querulous tones.

Besides, the gloomy picture which the Globe draws of Canada and everything Canadian is not calculated to produce a good impression abroad. The people know this, and they neither like nor respect those who decry their own country. The prophets of evil are heard with reluctance and they are never cheered. When people know from their own experience, from what they see going on around them every day, that those prophets are not fairly representing the state of the country, they become prejudiced against them, and are not disposed to give them credit for any ability that they may possess. Everyone knows that Canada is not going to the dogs, and the men who habitually represent that she is on the high road to ruin, are not regarded as the country's friends—as they really are not. They become discredited and disliked, and they make the party to which they belong unpopular.

The wisest thing that the Toronto Globe can do, now that it has turned over a new leaf, is to cultivate a cheerful spirit. Let it take a hopeful view of the country and its prospects. Let it look at the bright side of things. Let it try to be jolly, and stop its weeping and its wailing. If it does this it will be certain to raise both itself and its party in popular esteem.

CO-OPERATION WANTED.

It is to be hoped that the efforts of the Provincial Exhibit Association to have this province adequately represented at the principal exhibitions to be held in the east will be completely successful. It is of great importance that British Columbia should be known and appreciated abroad. In no way can the inhabitants of the other parts of the Dominion and of other countries obtain a fair idea of the resources of this province or be enabled to form a just estimate of its capabilities so well as by examining a properly selected and a full exhibit of its productions. It is, therefore, of the first importance that the exhibit should contain the best samples of what every part of the province and of the sea which washes its shores produces. Justice should be done to Vancouver Island and its fisheries as well as to the Mainland.

In order that this shall be done the hearty co-operation of the producers in all the departments of industry is necessary.

No one should be deterred by local feeling from doing his best to aid the Association in effecting the object it has in view. That object is a general one, and it can only be attained by general effort. This Island can send as fine specimens of fruit, of cereals, of roots, and of other agricultural and horticultural products as can be raised in any part of the province. Its mining interest, its lumber interest, and its fisheries should also be adequately represented. This cannot be done unless a lively interest is taken in the work by influential and public spirited men and the different organizations which have been formed to advance the prosperity of the province. If the Chamber of Commerce, the Agricultural Society and the Corporation of Victoria took the matter up and aided in the collection and selection of exhibits, the work would be done quickly and thoroughly. There is no time to be lost. The harvest will soon be on, and the season of exhibitions will begin almost as soon as it is ended.

It would be a deep reproach to the Island of Vancouver if, in a British Columbia exhibit, intended to be displayed at eastern exhibitions, it was not well and fully represented. The Association's advertisement, in another column, contains the information that intending exhibitors require.

THREATENED STRIKES.

Strikes have become very common in Great Britain. Workingmen and women are ready to strike when the grievances of which they complain are not redressed. The readers of newspapers are not surprised at this, for ordinary work-people are perfectly free to be idle or to work as they see fit. But it is something new to hear of policemen threatening to strike. Policemen are under a discipline which is almost military in its severity. The policeman must obey orders. Disobedience or insubordination in the force cannot be tolerated. When, therefore, it is seen that the police of London, on whose vigilance and fidelity so much depends, threaten to refuse to do their duty, if certain requests which they make are not granted, people at a distance are amazed. Who can be depended upon, they say, if the guardians of the peace become unruly and refuse to obey orders? We see by one telegram that twenty-one divisions told the Home Secretary that the only way to avoid a disastrous strike is to grant the demands which they have made. The crisis, it appears, was averted; but whether it was by giving the policemen what they wanted, we have, as yet, no means of knowing. But we see by yesterday morning's telegram that the spirit of insubordination has spread to the soldiers. A strike in the army would, indeed, be something wonderful. In any time antecedent to this it would be called "a mutiny," and, whether the men had reason and justice on their side or not, the authorities would consider it their duty to put it down summarily and with a strong hand. But it appears that the Grenadier Guards were allowed to express their dissatisfaction with the acts of their commanding officer, and to declare that they would not obey his orders. This it appears to us was of itself a very serious breach of discipline which would in former days be promptly punished. But we see that one of the Under Secretaries said the trouble was a "trifling matter." Times are changed when a state official tells the House of Commons that insubordination in the army is a trifling matter.

Then we find that the telegraph operators, who are in Great Britain servants of the Government, have become recalcitrant, and have expressed their opinion of the Head of the Post-office Department in very strong language indeed. What their fate will be it will be interesting to learn.

WILL THEY RETALIATE?

The Chinese as a nation are improving. There are in China to-day natives of good ability and high intelligence. They know what is going on in the world, and they have a high appreciation of the advantages they possess. They know, too, what are their rights as a nation, and they are disposed to resent what they regard as a slight or an injustice. The Government of China has observed how its subjects are treated in the United States, and it has expressed its disapproval of that treatment in very plain terms. Its representatives say to the American Government in effect: "If you will not allow Chinamen to enter your country and carry on their business there, you cannot expect that our Government will allow American citizens to live in China and to do business there. You cannot expect the Chinese to treat you better than you treat the Chinese."

The United States carries on a very profitable trade with China. American citizens have millions invested in the trade with that country. If the Chinese retaliate and enact exclusion laws against United States citizens, such as have been enacted against the subjects of the Emperor of China by Congress, the result may be very unpleasant. But we do not see how the Americans can complain. When the measure they mete out to others is meted out to them they must admit that they are only treated in the way they had reason to expect.

There is a prospect that the relations between China and the United States will, in the not distant future, become strained, on account of the exclusion laws that have been enacted and enforced on this side of the Pacific Ocean. If the Chinese Government insist on reciprocity in the matter of intercourse between the two nations, the United States Government will be placed in a rather embarrassing position. The dislike of the Chinese in some parts of the United States is very strong indeed. A considerable proportion of the electors will not allow the laws excluding Chinese to be repealed. But the trade with China is of great importance. It is necessary in order to carry on that trade profitably that United States citizens shall reside in China, and the men interested in the trade with the Flowery Land are influential and numerous. When the choice is between the exclusion of the Chinese from the United States and the loss of the whole or the greater part of the trade with China it will be interesting to see what course the United States government will take. The Oregonian discussing this subject, says:

"In dealing with the Chinese as a nation, through treaty, many overlook the fact that this Government is not dealing with the cringing, plodding, apologetic subjects of the Emperor of China, who have found their way here under treaty, but with the officials of a great empire. These officials are not ignorant men, incapable of understanding the terms of a treaty and the equity upon which all treaties are supposed to be based. On the contrary, they are men who are well versed in state-craft, and who are able, not only to answer cheap labor argument from their own standpoint, but to see behind them the selfish logic of the politician, bidding for popularity or for votes. Therefore, while our growing trade with China is a matter of national congratulation, it may be well to look to it that it is not shut out or "restricted" through the short-sighted or illiberal policy of men who seek to make international courtesy and traffic a one-sided thing."

THE BOARD OF TRADE'S REPORT.

The Annual Report of the British Columbia Board of Trade, which we publish in another column, must be satisfactory to the inhabitants of this province. It shows that its mercantile, manufacturing, mining and other interests are watched over by a number of intelligent and independent men, who know what is good for the country, and who are not backward in expressing their opinion when anything is done or left undone that affects the business of the province favorably or adversely. Independently and fearlessly expressed opinion of this kind is most valuable to the men who are entrusted with the direction of the public affairs of the country. It may not always be pala able, and it may sometimes be colored by local or class interests, but it can be depended upon as being that of the men in the province best qualified to judge of what is necessary to aid in the progress and advance the prosperity of the community. It is greatly more worthy of respect and consideration than the utterances of persons whose main desire is to say what is pleasing to the men in power.

We are pleased to see that the Board of Trade keeps up its numbers, and that it has added to its membership during the year just ended many gentlemen remarkable for their intelligence, their energy, their enterprise and their knowledge of the business of the province.

Many of the subjects to which the report calls attention have been pretty freely discussed in these columns during the year. We are pleased to see that in nearly all of them the Board of Trade takes the same ground as we did. We notice that in the matter of the China steamers calling at Victoria the Board confine their remarks to the inaction of the Government in the premises. They are silent with respect to the assurance given by the president of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company that the steamers will call at this port provided sufficient dock accommodation is prepared for them. For our own part we place every confidence in these assurances, and believe that the ships of the company's line will give the people of this city and this island generally all possible accommodation.

The loss of Constance Cove as an anchorage for merchant ships is much to be regretted, but we believe that in the course of time arrangements will be made by which the ships of war will get all the accommodation which they need without depriving the merchant marine of the shelter that they so greatly require. The erection of a breakwater extending from Holland Point to Broachey's ledge would, without doubt, add very greatly to the harbor accommodation of Victoria, and it is an undertaking well worthy the serious consideration of the Dominion authorities.

The suggestion with respect to lighting and buoying the northern section of the coast line of the province is a very valuable one. We trust that it will not be lost sight of. The coast of this province should be well lighted, and its numerous and intricate channels carefully buoyed. This, of course, cannot be done all at once. But the work can be accomplished gradually as the necessities of commerce require.

We see that the Board of Trade advocate the lengthening of the dry dock. There are some who believe that the construction of a second dock beside the present one would be preferable, and would not be greatly more expensive. Whether the present dock is lengthened or a new one built is a mere question of the means best adapted to meet a pressing requirement, the experience of the past year very clearly shows that more dock accommodation is needed at Esquimalt.

We are glad to see that the members of the Board have re-elected Mr. Robert Ward, President. He has shown himself to be zealous, public-spirited and energetic—the right man in the right place. Mr. T. B. Hall will render him effective assistance and will perform the duties of vice-president cheerfully and conscientiously. The Council is composed of good men and true. They will look well after the interests, not of Victoria alone, but of the whole province. It is quite a mistake to look upon the British Columbia Board of Trade as a mere local institution. It is composed of liberal-minded men who have large interests in almost every industry carried on in every part of the province.

MERCIER'S POLICY.

The speech which Mr. Mercier delivered at the Club National banquet is causing some discussion in the Eastern Province. The Quebec Premier in that speech gave in outline the policy which he intended to pursue. Part of his "programme," as he called it, is one that will hardly be acceptable to men of any party outside of the province of Quebec. Mr. Mercier is, as is now well known, a strong advocate for provincial rights. His views on this subject may be regarded as extreme. He has evidently taken the United States as his model, as far as the rights and powers of the different provinces are concerned. He would have each province sovereign within its own jurisdiction. He would take from the Federal Government the prerogative of the veto. He would have questions relating to the constitutionality of provincial laws settled by judges. He also favors a stricter limitation of the jurisdiction of the provinces than now exists. He would have it clearly defined what the provincial legislatures can do and what is beyond their powers. He would prevent, as far as possible, by amendments to the Constitution, all clashing of jurisdictions. He is clearly impatient of the slow process of interpretation which is now going on. He would place little or no dependence on precedent and practice, but would have everything set down in the bond. He would have a perfect paper constitution, to be in good working order as soon as made. This was to be expected of a Frenchman. The French mind is logical. It likes to carry out principles to their legitimate and logical results. It is impatient of compromises and looks upon constitutional fictions as foolish concessions to an unreasoning conservatism.

In all this Mr. Mercier will have with him a large proportion of the thinking men in every province of the Dominion. The exclusive jurisdiction of the provinces is highly prized by many of their inhabitants, and they would like to have it "exclusive," not only in name, but in fact. They do not wish to see it nullified by the prerogative of the Federal Government. They are jealous of the veto power, and they believe that the Federal Government should use it with the utmost caution and only in cases where it is clearly demanded by the general good. There are many, too, who would like to see the occasions for Federal interference with provincial legislation made as few as possible, and, if an amendment of the Constitution is necessary to define the respective powers of the provincial and the general governments more clearly, they would favor its being done. In his desire to preserve the autonomy of the provinces, Mr. Mercier has the sympathy of many who differ from him very widely, indeed, on other subjects.

It is rather a pity that, in giving his view of the financial relations that ought to exist between the Federal Government and the different members of the Confederation, Mr. Mercier abandoned his model altogether. Politically he would have the provinces stand in relation to the Dominion Government very much as the States of the Union do to the Federal Government, but financially he would have them occupy a very different position. Instead of being financially independent of the Federal Government as the States of the Union are he would have them its pensioners.

There are very serious objections to the subsidy system that now obtains and Mr. Mercier would increase both the number and the gravity of those objections. It seems to us that a statesman holding Mr. Mercier's views with respect to the importance of preserving the autonomy of the provinces should, to be logical and consistent, insist upon it that the provinces should raise with in themselves all the money necessary to support the services over which they have, by the constitution, exclusive jurisdiction. This, of course, would make it incumbent on the Dominion Government to raise no more money than is required to keep up the departments that come within the federal jurisdiction. Under this system the federal legislature would have to provide only for what is federal, and the provincial legislatures must support out of their own resources all that the constitution defines as provincial. Political independence should involve financial independence.

But Mr. Mercier is very far from being true to his own principles. He would make the Federal treasury the milch cow, so to speak, for all the provinces. This may be because the province of Quebec has run deeply into debt. It owes some $27,000,000, and has to pay every year on its funded debt alone over a million dollars as interest. Quebec incurred this immense debt for its own purposes. Its people had the fun of spending all this money, but now, when the load of debt has become unpleasantly heavy, Mr. Mercier wishes the other provinces generously to help Quebec to carry the burden.

It is just possible that the chance of compelling the Federal Government to pay the debt when sufficient pressure of the right kind was brought to bear upon it, had the effect of causing the Quebec politicians to be somewhat reckless in their expenditure. There are people in this world who, when they believe that some one else will have to pay the debts they contract, are not as economical as they would be if they knew that they would themselves be compelled to foot the bills. One of the evils of the subsidy system is that provinces which have been extravagant or improvident are tempted to apply to the central government for "better terms" when they find it difficult to raise the money they need.

It seems to us that the other provinces of the Dominion will not view the Quebec situation in exactly the same light as that in which it is seen by Mr. Mercier. They will feel inclined to tell Quebec to bear its own burdens and will, if they are wise, determinedly refuse to allow any part of its debt to be shifted on to their shoulders. For that is what an application to Ottawa for more money means.

It may be that Mr. Mercier will give the politicians of the other provinces to understand that if they allow him to put his arm up to the elbow into the Federal treasury he will permit them to put their hands in also. This is just where the evil which Mr. Mercier desires to perpetuate and to increase lies. Giving more than what is safe and fair to one province makes it necessary to give more than what is safe and fair to all the rest. The best thing to do is to shut down resolutely on this "better terms" business. If Mr. Mercier and his friends try to make trouble, because the Dominion Government refuses to do what is unjust and impolitic, he and they must be taught a lesson which they will have to learn sooner or later, and better sooner than later.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer takes a common sense view of the Behring's Sea difficulty. Commenting on the sensational reports that are being circulated in the United States newspapers, it says:

"There are, indeed, very serious differences of opinion between the two countries, but there is not the least likelihood of war. The matter will be settled just as a thousand other questions of equal importance have been settled, by negotiation. Nobody need have the slightest fear that there will be any fighting between these two great nations over the Behring's Sea seal fisheries."

The Post-Intelligencer is right. The men who have the settlement of the matter in hand know too well what a terrible thing war is from every point of view to rush into it with a light heart, or to attain an end that can be easily and satisfactorily arrived at by peaceable means.

AMERICAN NEWS.

The Population of St. Louis.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 9.—The official rough count of the population of St. Louis, Mo., made public by the census office, to-day, makes the population of that city 448,124, an increase of 28 per cent. over the census of 1880. This makes St. Louis rank fifth in population of the principal cities. The population of Baltimore, Md., (official rough count) is 433,539.

Loyalty to the Queen.

BOSTON, Mass., July 9.—Prof. A. C. Johnston, of Hamilton, Ont., who is in Boston, says that he has received a communication stating that Lord Knuttsford has presented the address prepared on behalf of the negro subjects of Canada to Queen Victoria, and that the Queen was much gratified by the expression of loyalty which it contained.

Burglars Captured.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., July 10.—Two burglars, who robbed the Danbury jewelry store last night, have been captured and lodged in jail at Brewster. They give their names as G. W. Wallis, of Albany, aged 25, and A. W. Spalding, of Bridgeport, Conn., aged 23. At two o'clock this morning two officers, who had been sent to responded, and about 25 shots were exchanged without effect. Having emptied their revolvers the men fled in different directions, both heading for the woods. A searching party started out, and at noon a searcher found one of the burglars asleep in the bushes and captured him and his share of booty.

Tobacco Warehouse Burned.

CINCINNATTI, July 10.—The Globe tobacco warehouse on Front street, between Vine and Race, owned by the Brookes and Waterfield Co., was destroyed by fire this evening. One thousand hogsheads of tobacco were consumed. The loss is estimated at $130,000.

A Race War.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 10.—It is reported here to-night that four negroes were killed during a fight between whites and blacks in Fayette county, and that the rioting has not yet been suppressed.

Died From Excitement.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., July 9.—August Rubender had a noisy quarrel with his daughter-in-law this afternoon in front of Brewster and stationed where they could command a view of the road and station, saw two suspicious characters approaching. The men were ordered to halt, but instead fired on the officers, who the house of Mrs. Ann Morlock in Hied Avenue. Mrs. Morlock came out and ordered Rubender, who was intoxicated, to go away, but he turned on her threateningly and a quarrel ensued. Mrs. Morlock turned to go into her house but dropped dead on the steps. It is supposed she died from excitement, and it is not known whether Rubender struck her or not. Rubender was arrested.

The Knights Drill.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., July 9.—Six thousand people visited Cold Springs Park this morning to see the opening of the competitive drill of the Uniformed Rank Knights of Pythias. The Redcross division of St. Louis was the first to go through the manual, and they executed the commands with celerity and accuracy, and elicited considerable applause. New Albany, Indians, came next, and they presented a fine appearance as they came on the drill ground with their shining silver. Every move they made was accurate, and they were heartily cheered. Grand Rapids, Michigan division, followed, and as each movement was completed they were cheered to the echo. Drilling will continue during the week, the Fort Dearborn division of Chicago being the first on the programme for to-morrow.

Estate of the Late James Donahue.

NEW YORK, July 11.—Surrogate Ransom has issued auxilliary letters testamentary upon the will of the late James M. Donahue, the wealthy Californian, who left a large sum to charities in San Francisco. He gave $20,000 each to the St. Vincent's and Roman Catholic orphan asylum, and $5,000 to each of the other orphan asylums in San Francisco; $100,000 to the Archbishop of San Francisco to divide among charities; $25,000 for a fountain in memory of his father, and other large sums for similar objects. The executors are Peter J. McGlynn and J. F. Burgin. Mr. Donahue left some creditors in the city, the principal ones being J W Seligman and Ladenburg, Thalmann and Co. Their claims aggregate $183,,946.69; but they hold collateral to the value to the value of $50,000 in excess of this. They claim the right to sell this collateral on July the 15th, and the executors propose to contest this proposed action as unjust.

A Family Tragedy.

TROY, N. Y., July 11.—Mrs. Jas. Williams, who lives about two miles out of Fairhaven street, murdered her two children, a girl 17 years and a boy of six years; set fire to the house and cut her own throat about 3 this morning. One other child, a boy 13 years old, who was sleeping upstairs, escaped with his life. He was awakened by the smell of smoke, and going down stairs he found the house full of smoke and his mother standing in the door screaming for help. There was a great wound in her throat and the blood was streaming down her dress front. He attempted to get her out, but she was determined to go back, and only by a violent effort was he able to get her safely outside. She was undoubtedly insane. About two weeks ago her husband was killed in his slate quarry by falling from a considerable height.

Attempted Suicide in a Cell.

BUFFALO, N. Y. July 11.—Rose Dimling and Kate Connon, two young girls under arrest for larceny, attempted suicide at the police station last evening, by turning on the gas in their cell. The smell of gas attracted attention, and it was turned off before their purpose was accomplished. The girls were charged with stealing two valuable rings belonging to their employer. A lawyer visited them yesterday afternoon and so frightened them with threats of a long term in prison they determined to end their lives. In the police court, this morning, they confessed the attempt at self destruction. Their case was put over till to-morrow.

Diocese of Omaha and Cheyenne.

ST. LOUIS, July 11.—A special cable dispatch to the Western Watchman brings news from Rome that the propaganda has arrested the appointment of Bishop Rourke as Bishop of the combined diocese of Omaha and Cheyenne. The importance of the news arises from the fact that it is evident that the propaganda will not sanction a Roman appointment as against the recommendation of a congress of American Bishops. The bishops recommended Vicar-General Philip Brady of St. Louis, and will now recommend him a second time.

The Crisis in Buenos Ayres.

NEW YORK, July 11.—Foreign bankers to-day ordered $1,000,000 more gold, making thus far $2,000,000 to go by to-morrow's steamer. It is expected that $10,000,000 will be shipped next week. This movement is understood to be due to the financial crisis in Buenos Ayres.

Methodism in Boston.

BOSTON, July 11.—The centenary of Methodism in Boston was celebrated this afternoon by a meeting near the site where, 100 years ago to-day, Rev. Jesse Lee preached the first Methodist sermon ever heard in this city. Dominic Lee's pulpit was a table lent him by a carpenter, and his canopy was the old elm on the common. To-day's exercises, which were largely attended by the clergy of the Methodist and other denominations, as well as by the laity, consisted of music, invocation, Scriptural readings, a poem, an address by Bishop Mallalieu on the progress of Methodism, and a historical statement by Rev. L. B. Bates. Prayer by Rev. H. A. Spencer and benediction by Rev. J. W. Lindsay brought the meeting to a close.

The Hill Farm Mine Disaster.

DUNBAR, Pa., July 11.—The coroner's jury in the case of the Hill Farm mine disaster, to-day rendered a verdict censuring Supt. Lang for ordering a drill hole opened in an improper manner, and holding Lang as criminally responsible for the deaths of the miners.

A DIPLOMATIC DRAMA.

How Count Skouvaloff Laid a Trap for an English Foreign Secretary.

Washington letter in the Baltimore American: Speaking about the Russian treaty and the principles involved in the treaty, I am reminded of a good story which was recently told me by a native connected with the Russian legation. It illustrates the remarkable detective qualities of the officers of the Russian army and navy, and shows how an important movement in war strategy was made by the use of detective ability on a social occasion.

In 1876, during the Russian-Turkish war, the sympathies of the English Government were on the part of the enemies of Russia. At that time there were in England two rival chiefs—namely: The famous Disraeli (Lord Beaconsfield) and the Grand Old Man, Mr. Gladstone. The former was in power, and the latter striving to oust him out of power. Lord Beaconsfield sounded the key-note throughout Great Britain that through the successes of the Russian arms in the Balkans the British interests were in danger, while on the other hand the Grand Old Man made speeches that "the Turks must go, bag and baggage, out of Europe."

Each and every success of the Russian arms in Turkey so alarmed the Tory Government that it was resolved at last in a Cabinet meeting to aid the Turkish Government in arresting the victorious Russians from marching on Constantinople, and negotiations were opened with the Turkish Government for that purpose. This came to the ears of the famous Count Skouvaloff, the then Russian Ambassador to the Court of St. James, who was determined, in order to find out more fully of the nefarious designs of England on Russia, to give a quiet dinner party in honor of the English Foreign Secretary, Lord ——.

Invitations were accordingly sent out, and Lord —— accepted the same. Here followed the strange story. Count Skouvaloff, the Russian Ambassador, set out a table at that dinner party in a superb manner, the plates and other accessories of the costliest value. Lord ——, being the guest of honor, sat at the right of the Russian Ambassador. During the repast the Secretary, who is well known as a kleptomaniac, helped himself to the costliest spoons, salt-cellars, etc. This was observed by the steward, who, with amazement, informed the Russian Ambassador. He said that the Foreign Minister, his guest, had stolen some of the best ware from the table.

"Hold on!" said Count Skouvaloff. "Don't say any thing. Keep quiet, for we have bagged the enemy."

The dinner was over finally, and the party retired to an adjoining room for the purpose of smoking. Count Skouvaloff inquired of Lord —— of the truth of the report that the English Government was going to send a fleet to the Bosphorus for the purpose of arresting the forward movements of the Russian army in the Balkans and aiding the Turk. Naturally, the English Foreign Secretary had little to say on the subject.

On the departure of Lord —— the Russian Ambassador escorted him to his carriage. While opening the door of the carriage the Russian Ambassador was approached by the steward, who whispered something into the former's ear. The Ambassador immediately turned around to Lord —— and said: "My Lord, something dreadful has happened, so the steward informs me, and your Lordship's attention will be called for a few minutes to the ante-room." Lord —— acquiesced, and upon his arrival there was confronted by the steward and charged directly with the theft of small gold spoons and salt-cellars studded with diamonds.

"What!" exclaimed Lord —— to the steward; "how dare you insinuate this against my person!"

In reply the steward said: "I have seen you put the gold spoons in your trousers pocket, and the salt-cellars in your dress-coat pocket. I am responsible for those costly plates; hence I watched you closely. Please hand them out of your pocket."

"Villain!" exclaimed Lord ——; "search me and your falsehood will be branded, and for that insult you will pay dearly."

"I dare not," replied the steward. "put my hands on your Excellency's person; but, pray, do it yourself."

"I will;" said Lord ——; and, putting his hands into his pocket, so unconscious was he of his kleptomaniac propensities that he drew forth the gold spoons and salt-cellars. In a complacent manner he handed them to the steward as if nothing had happened.

"Hold!" said Count Skouvaloff; "it proves to me that your Excellency abused my hospitality as a host and committed a gross outrage on society, as well as against my person. I have to send for the police and have your Lordship arrested."

"No," replied Lord ——, "do not disgrace me and my official position!"

"Well," said the Count, calculatingly, "it can only be done if your Lordship will promise on the honor of a Minister to her Majesty the Queen that you, as a Foreign Minister who has the greatest voice in the Cabinet, will oppose the sending of the English fleet to the Bosphorus in order to hamper Russia."

To this Lord —— assented; and, true to his promise, he opposed the proposition of sending the fleet to the Bosphorus, and, on that account, he had to resigh his office, and Lord Salisbury, the present Premier of England, was put in his place.

A Grip on Tomatoes.

The Yankee has got the grip on canned tomatoes, and even if a raw carrot is dropped into a can occasionally to fill up the consumer overlooks it on the ground of scoident. American tomatoes are now sold in every country on the globe, and are as familiar in Borneo as in Chicago.

A One-Sided Discussion.

A Wisconsin court has decided that a man has a lawful right to open his wife's letters. Now, if we could get a binding judicial decision which would compel a husband to mail his wife's letters within a week after she gives them to him to post—but that would be requiring a moral impossibility.