dence can put forward a Peel, a Pitt, a Cobden, a Beaconsfield or a Gladstone, or a hundred of them if necessary, and dispence with them once their day of usefulness is over, but will furnish no footing for a Cromwell or a Napoleon. The oscillation of public feeling will not permit the building up of a personal rule, a state which has frequently been practically reached in free countries through extreme hero worship.

But in the event of a change of political power in Great Britain, what will be the colonial policy of the new ministry is what concerns us most, and when we look over Mr. Gladstone's record while in power the colonies will have very little cause for regret when he goes out of it. His has been a policy of non-interference some people will tell us, but it has also been a policy of non-assistance carried to a parsimonious extreme With him the abolition of a penny a pound of a tax upon tea has been a matter of much greater importance than the development and encouragement of new fields under the flag of the empire when there was room for the millions of the crowded mother country to make free homes for themselves. His aim seems to have been to manage the British masses much the same as the Governor of a huge poor house would those under his control when he wanted to avoid complaints. A sort of cooped up arrangement which would guarantee the right of existence and scarcely anything more. How the outside colonies fared under him may be judged from the refusal of Secretary Campbell Bannerman to make any investigation regarding the Hudson's Bay and Straits, when the Canadian people first talked of opening that route to the Northwest. The colonies in the eyes of Mr. Gladstone were only so many dis tant lands in which the people of Britain had but little interest, and which were no doudt ornamental geographical attachments so long as they called for no attention and gave no trouble.

Some people are ever ready to tell us of the meddlesomness of British Toryism, and the trouble the same would cause in the colonies. Such people imagine that in Britain the colonial oppression and blundering of a hundred years ago can be resurrected and inflicted upon us. But as already shown the power in Britain is now in the hands of the people and not of the few as it was in those days; and they also show how the exercise of that power

oscillates as the interests of the nation demand. The people of the colonies have nothing to fear from the people of the mother country, except it be the neglect which radical rule has shown.

Conservative statesman have always shown a strong desire to consolidate the British Empire colonies and mother land as much as possible, and it is from such desires taking practical shape that the former, and especially new colonies like our own are likely to profit. Britain has a plethora of population and unemployed funds, while we have a scarcity of both. Our chances of sharing in these are much better under a party seeking closes union with us than with one which took no interest in us. In many other respects there is profit to the colonies by a closer linking with the mother country, and while we may tot be prepared to bury our commercial or legislative interests in any union in which our identity would be lost, we can have much closer relations than we have at present and profit by the same.

When we view the results of the elections now going on in Britain in this light, we must say that we see little cause for regret in the change which is taking place, and should the Conservatives secure a fair working majority we belive the colonies would have cause for satisfaction with the changes which would take place.

HIGH-TONED IDLERS.

The idler is an animal known to exist from time immemorial, although at different periods and different places he has been known under various names. What the Egyptians or Chaldeans or even the Greeks and Romans called him we do not now remember, and do not consider it worth our trouble to post ourselves. During the present century he has assumed quite a number of names among the English speaking population of this universe, from the "gentleman of leisure" of eighty years ago to the "loafer" of our own day, and in all he has been the same good-for-nothing mortal.

As might be expected in a new country like our own we get a share of the idler class, although where nature has spread around so many fields in which human industry is carnestly invited, we have very little use for them, and indeed few can see their utility here. We have frequent cases of the poor devil out of a job and "dead broke," whom it would be unfair to class among our idlers, as his aim generally is to get out of that list. Then we have the political loafer who certainly performs some work but never accomplishes anything that is beneficial to

his fellow man. These and other samples are all more or less of an armoyance and draw-back, but all of them fall short of the high-toned idler who is by far too common among us, and who amounts in many instances to a perfect nuisance.

The high toned idler is usually a recent importation from the Old Country or the East, and not unfrequently he is sent here and supported by remittances in the hope that he may in a strange country improve, or what is still worse he is sent here to keep him out of harm's way and from disgracing his home friends with "conduct unbecoming their station in society." While the remittances continue to come they benefit only the gunsmith and the bar keeper, if we except the occasional small instalments contributed under an alias to the support of our police arrrange-While therefore the financial resources of the high-toned idler last they accomplish no good for our community in

If we might be allowed to coin a word for the occasion we should certainly speak of the "remitivorous" idler as a bad specimen, and when his source of support is withdrawn he seldom fails to become either a load upon long suffering acquaintences or a troublesome public charge.

But we have another species of the hightoned idler in that self-sufficient individual who has squandered his financial resources before coming here, and reaches this country with the insane hope that a lucrative and responsible position will be easy for him to secure with what he deems his superior talents and the remains of a social standing, which would vanish with his money in his own country. specimen of the idler is by far the most annoying to business men, and the cheek with which he at times presses his claims for a position in keeping with the standing he has hitherto held in society, is refreshing and amusing to a mind imbued with western industry and thrift. Such men have been known to expect the first commercial positions in the country, while some have signified their ability and willingness to undertake the editorial management of any journal here, build a new railway or manage it, or in fact fill any position from which they could look down upon the toiling masses under them. Such men never dream that our most successful men have filled low positions in their day, and that in this new country only the man who toils can hope for success.

Unfortunately it is not in the power of the people here to cut off the supply of high-toned idlers who come, but we sin cerely desire that our transatlantic and eastern friends will. We are prepared to find homes for all who will toil for a living at any labor which comes in their way, but our ideas of the ornamental have not advanced far enough to admit of ar ornamental class of society among us, Papas and mammas with idle spendthrift sons would do well to keep this in mind.