as a great highway between the Ocedent and Orient. But, lo! when she came to Montreal, she found it written in the tables of our laws, 'No Chinese allowed to desecrate the soil and emtaminate the air of our glorious country without paying \$50, to make amends for his unhallowed presence. Little wonder that Mrs. Ahak refused. Only think of it. We advertise ourselves to the world as a Christien nution, as having respect for the teaching and example of Him, who to destroy all such hindering distinctions, called himself the Son of Man; our churches are incessant in their appeals for men and means to convert the heatinen Chinese to Christianity, and then when a citizen of that pitied land comes to our shores we give them an exhibition of what Christianity has done for us. What an enigma Christians must appear to these followers of Confucius. One can understand how that with rank, beauty (for Mrs. Alakis said to be prepossessing in appearance), and moral characterin her favor, it should be stated that the Custom official with some hesitation informed heroftherates percapita, and that according to law she would hate to remain on the steamer until the Canadian Pacific rallway should give the Customs house a bill of lading for her arrival in Vancouver, from which part she was going to sail for China." Though the character of the law is not altered by the social position which the person applying for admission to our territory may occupy, it is in instances like the present that its unreasonable and un-Christian nature is particularly felt. So long as it was Li Ching or Lu Chang, or Chu Lu, or some other inconsequential person who sought admission, little compunction was felt in closing our gates, even though it should result in one poor follow taking refuge on the boundary line between the two great Christian nations, which, of all the nations in the world, are the only ones that treat their Chinese breth, on so unbrotherly. But when a woman of noble blood, unusual intelligence, and unimpeachable moral character is in question, the case seems quite different in the eyes of those who have to administer the unrighteous law. Mrs. Ahak thought about the law, our informant saith not, but tells us that "after some deliberation the Customs determined that it would not be breaking the law too much to take Mrs. Ahak around the city in a carriage along with an official. This they did, Mrs. Ahak stopping here and there to make a Canadian purchase. In the evening the bill of liding was secured, and Abak left Worked for China, and the a portrait of the Empire." That much longer conks is hardly posin lact that and absorbed and absorbed and absorbed and absorbed and absorbed absorbed and absor

condition of the fatal bridge. This conclusion will be generally approved of by these who have watched the proceedings of the investigation. From testimony adduced at the trial, it is beyond question that Roche know of the danger, a farmer who had passed over or near the culvert telling him what he saw. "What do farmers know about such things!" seems to have been Roche's conclusion. Well had it been for ann and his unfortunate victims if he had been less vain in his own conceit. The moral taught, in so far as this unhappy foreman is concerned, is one which many another may profitably ponder, viz. : Never scorn information even though it comes from a source whence little might naturally be expected: or what amounts to the same thing, be

The ubiquitous Englishman, with his wallet of gold, having "done" the United States, Mexico and other countries, and having expended many million pounds in buying up various industries in these countries, is reported to be turning his attention to Canada with a view to investing among us a few millions of his surplus cash. Not that he as hitherto passed us by, for many of our industries have already felt the influence of British gold. This latest investment is by what is known as the Phosphate Corporation which contains among its promoters such names as the Duke of Westminster, the Duke of Portland, the Duke of Abercorn, the Earl of Ashburnham, Lord Stalbridge, Lord Brougham, Lord Brassey, Lord Wanlock, Lord Moreton; Hon. C. C. Colby, President of the Privy Council; Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, Hon. Henry Parker, Hon. Cecil T. &cw. clesion Parker, Hon. Massey Mainwaring, Sir Jas. Whitchead, Sir Jacob Wilson, Sir George S. Badenowell, Sir Robert G. Head and a number of other English capitalists. The company has a capital of \$5,000,000 and proposes to buy up 50,000 acres of phosphate land in the region of Lako St. John, in the province of Quebec. Besides it is understood that the Local government are willing to grant the Company a large tract of phosphate land. It is the intention to bring to Canada a whole colony of phosphate miners and to establish a settlement in the Lake St. John egion. Considering the fact that the conditions of phosphate mining in England and Canada will be practically the same, and that these capitalists may be supposed to know something of the best methods of conducting mining operations, there is little reason to doubt that the enterprise will prove a success and that the expectations concerning it will be fully realized. Canadians, who are jealous of the reputation of their country and its resources, will cordially wish that the venture may result satisfactorily to the promoters. Failure in any scheme of this kind when undertaken by foreigners proves a poor advertisement for the country.

Just now the Dominion and especially the North West is in danger of being misrepre rented before the English farming commun-My by the want of success of what is popularly know as the "Kaye Farming Comof the North West. This company, rganized a few years ago with the intention of cartying on farming and stock raising on am immensio scale, bought out large tracts of Made along the Canadian Pacific Railway between Regins and Calgary. Sir Lister Rays was appointed manager, and with the configuration that the country of that the country of that the convert the North-west into the tracity necessary to the name of the tracity necessary to the name of the tracity necessary. was unsuccessful. The company, says his ofen bie worth an in experiments

became the talk and then manager laughing stock of all Canada." The farms proved a veritable maelstrom. To the capital stock raised at the outset and supposed to be sufficient for all necessary investments for a number of years, \$40,000 were added about a year ago, while only the other day £30,200 additional were raised "in order to meet the pressing liabilities of the company, and enable the present season's crop to be harvested." Speaking of this unfortunate venture, the Week remarks that "while we sincarely hope that it is not too late for successful retrenchment, we can but regret the disregard of new conditions and of the experience of practical men. which leads to such unwise management, and tends to bring a country of marvellous resources into unmericed disrepute." This witness is true. Every such failure must react to our disadvantage. It is to be hoped therefore wat this new Phosphate Company will have better success, and that in this respect our country will be advertized in a manner belitting the greatness and variety of our abundant resources.

Advices from Newfoundland state that a schooner owned by a Placentia Bay fisherman, and chartered by a West Newfoundland merchant to carry a cargo of dried cod to St. John's, was seized at St. Pierre, Minuolon, for violation of the bait act. It appears that the sailors in charge of the schooner had taken with them several barrels of cod rocs, upon which are paid a bounty for the French catch and cure, of \$4 per barrel, and were in the act of landing them without meeting the requirements of the law, when caught by the Customs officer. Forthwith the vessel was seized and a French guard put on board. The crew were lodged ashore awaiting a trial. It is expected that the verdict when rendered will involve the forfeiture of the cargo, which is valued at \$35,000, and the vessel, which is said to be worth \$1,000. This may be law according to the interpretation of the treaty provisions, but it is certainly not justice. Equity demands that those who have sinced shall be punished for their crime, and that the unoffending merchant and vessel owner shall not suffer for a deed they knew not of and could not It is to be hoped that the deprevent. mands of the French merchants who are said to be pressing for conviction, will not be

With a clear majority of thirty, which is now Mr. Mercier's position in Quebec, it may be presumed that he will feel perfectly safe in undertaking to carry out his bold policy in relation to that much discussed province. Recently he is said to have said that his purpose remains unchanged, to work along the lines of what he is pleased to call the policy of Nationalism, and which appears to outsiders to mean Quebec first, only and always. What the practical results of that policy will prove we can only wait and sec. Meanwhile it does not seem to tend towards the consoledation of the Dominion.

The cable announces that considerable feeling is aroused in St. Peterstory by the statement ascribed to the king of Sweden, that, while in the event of war between Germany and any other power he would remain neutral as long as possible, he would fight, if compelled to take part, on the side of Germany. This is regarded as a declaration of hostility toward Russia, whom the Swedes have never forgiven for the annex ation of Finland.

The commutation to impresonment for life of the sentence of murderer Chaplean, whose execution was to have taken place in Albany during the present week, will probably disappoint the morbidly curious ones who were anxious to know how electricity would serve as a means of inflicting the death penalty. On the other hand it will come with some surprise to many to learn that Governor Hill, takes perceivent refusal to interfere in such

cases, has made him appear unsympathetic in the extreme, has actually consented to exercise his prerogative of mercy and spare the guilty slayer of his fellowman. That the Governor realized the unusual character of his decision may be inferred from the manner in which he socks to justify his act. "This application," says he, "for executive elemency is based upon a petition signed by many of the leading citizens of Clinton county, including nearly all the county officials. The county judge strongly favors the application. The district attorney does not oppose it; the twelve jurymen who rendered the verdict against the defendant unanimously unite in asking for a commutation."

Though the present relations between

France and England can hardly be called strained, using the word in the sense in which it is commonly employed when speaking of nations, there is, nevertheless, an apparent disposition on the part of the former to uct in a manner by no means cordial. This unusual stiffness, owing, it is generally supposed, to the more than ordinary friendship existing between England and Germany, whom France has never forgiven for the loss of Alsace Lorraine, showed itself very plainly in the Chamber of Deputies the other day, when M. Ribout, speaking of the compensation to be demanded for the Anglo-German agreement with regard to the protectorate of Zanzibar, said:-"The Covernment are resolved on every occasion to defend the rights of the country. and exercise them to the length of their limits, but nover beyond. We shall set other nations that example, and rest assured we shall obtain from them the respect which we have a right to obtainnamely, respect for engagements. Whenever we disagree with a foreign power on a document which seems to us to infringe in any degree our right, before speaking of exchange, compensation, or bargaining, I shall first of all ask for an acknowledgment of our right, because our country's dignity ought above all to be upheld, and we shall arrive at this without violence, without bitter words, and certainly with courtesy. but at the same time with the firmness which we should always show in handling the affairs of the country." In themselves there is nothing particularly objectionable in these remarks, if only they could be separated from the circumstances under which they were spoken, and freed from the suspicion that they mean a good deal more than appears on the surface. In demanding strict justice Mr. Ribout appears to forget, that he who Shylock-like insists upon the pound of flesh which others swe him, must himself expect to fully meet his obligations to others. To consistently condemn another for treachery one must one's self be faithful. Now, though it may happen when the public verdict is pronounced, that Lord Salisbury's action will be con demned as violating the spirit if not the letter of the Anglo-French treaty concerning the island of Zenzibar, it is morally certain that an unprejudiced public will condemn France for similar disregard of treaty arrangements with England respecting Madagascar, with the independence of which France pledged herself not to interfere. But not withpledged herself not to interfere. But notwith-standing her promise, she has established a protectorate over the island, even against the consent of the native rulers. To this fact English journals are now pointing, and advising their rulers to turn it to account. Says the London Spectator. "If Lord Salis-bury is wise, it is there we shall seek a way out of our difficulties in both East Africa and Newfoundland." Probably when France perceives that the edge of her protest against the Lanzibar arrangement is greatly blunted by the fact that she herself has been guilty of a similar disregard of treaty provisions, she will be disposed to come down from her haughty position, and to manifest a greater she will be disposed to come down from her haughty position, and to manifert a greater willingness to treat in respect to the difficulties now existing between the two nations. As the Mail remarks: "It is possible that the troubles with regard to all three, New foundland, Zanzibar, and Madagascar, will be settled by a general shall's of treaty rights and privileges."