

than one boot ; and that boot carried him to his grave more cheaply and expeditiously than a pair ever could have done."

Our economists have thrown this man in the shade. Life is only a matter of debit and credit account, and does not pay. Its balance is vanity and vexation of spirit. National life is equally unsatisfactory, and is terribly expensive. But a panacea has been suggested that has the double merit of being an effectual remedy, and a good speculation. The nation is advised to cut its throat to save itself the cost of living.

But the writer must not forget that he is not an American. He is not even an Englishman; he is only a colonist, and is trespassing on forbidden ground. "You protest as well as remonstrate. Were I *critically* to examine your language I could not admit your right, even individually, to protest against any legislation which Parliament may think fit to adopt in this matter." Such is the salutary lesson which a very distinguished British Minister has taught us. But he has also taught us another and a far more important lesson, that a century, that beginning with the amiable Oswald and ending with the Washington Treaty, has not even earned for us the empty right to "protest as well as to remonstrate," has been a slight mistake. A very trifling change in our destinies a hundred years ago would have made a very great change in the language of his homily. But a little reflection will suggest some sources of consolation.

If "Praise undeserved is satire in disguise," British diplomacy has been a cruel satire, not only on the nation, but also on, what is more desirable, the Americans. Never was the principle more triumphantly vindicated, than "a little civility goes a very long way." The Government of the United States has paid a dear penalty for having repeatedly allowed the Fenians to invade the Dominion, and has been bitterly reproached by the obsequious thanks of timid servility.

In this matter we may feel proud that we, as Canadians, can thank God that we have no apologies to offer to the Americans, and