

other leading men expressed their intense sympathy with the United States. Colonel Taylor, a distinguished American officer, raised a hurricane of cheering by saying, "As you have stood by us in our day of trial, when your day of trial comes, count on us." Sir Frederick Pollock replied, predicting that there would be "one fleet under two flags to keep the peace of the world." In proposing a health to President McKinley, Lord Coleridge asked, "Where can the Old World show such a line of rulers of men as have been the free choice of the American people?"

With such a concord of the best sentiment of Britain, the United States can afford to smile at the malice of the Spanish paper which declared that President McKinley was a naturalized Chinaman born in Canton. Its knowledge of geography is rather weak, and it confounds the Buckeye State of Ohio with the Middle Kingdom.

SPANISH SPIES.

Signor Carranza must have been extremely astonished and chagrined when he found his confidential letter, freely criticising both Spanish and American methods, acknowledging his own system of espionage and asking for a naval office for himself, made public. The whole system of spies, of false flags, of *ruses de guerre* is humiliating and demoralizing. Open war with armies and banners, with ironclads and rifled cannon is bad enough, but it has an element of manhood and bravery about it that extorts sympathy where it does not command the judgment; but the sneaking, crawling, subterranean system of secret spies and conspirators is one which excites only our loathing. Certainly these mole-like workers underground have no right to make the neutral soil of Canada the scene of their plottings against our neighbour, with whom we are at peace.

The Spanish Consul in Toronto denounces every American Consul as being as guilty as Carranza. The consuls of Spain and of the United States are here for the discharge of legitimate commercial business. When they use their position for political plotting, they transcend their privilege and wrong a friendly power to which they are commissioned.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN RAPPROCHEMENT.

Kaiser Wilhelm is an uncertain quantity in European politics. In him the personal equation is so marked you never can tell how he will act. Nevertheless,

it is pleasant to think that more friendly feeling prevails towards Great Britain than at any time since the famous telegram to Oom Paul. Great Britain and Germany seem to be acting together in China in maintaining the policy of the "open door." The German Emperor is to pay a visit to the Queen at Balmoral, and *Punch* represents him in kilts as dancing the Highland fling under the name of Mac—something.

Such violent language as the following from *United Ireland* can only exasperate both German and English sentiment: "The bouncing, notoriety-seeking, muddle-headed braggart who lords it over Germany and thinks himself a modern Caesar, has again turned to licking the hand of England. His royal grandmother, whom somebody nicknamed 'a great foreign minister,' but who is really well versed in continental politics, because her relatives cling like barnacles to almost every court in Europe, has, no doubt, been giving the prancing Hohenzollern a bit of her mind, and the result is that he is now a sycophant of the Queen."

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION.

The growing rapprochement between Great Britain and her daughter land to the United States is the natural and happy result of the strong sympathy shown by both the mother country and her colonies in the chivalrous war for the liberation of Cuba. Our Canadian statesmen have wisely taken advantage of this access of kindly feeling to seek the removal of all causes for friction between the two countries.

The joint commission which has been appointed to bring about this result will meet under the happiest auspices in the old historic city of Quebec, the birthplace of Confederation, and the scene of so many stirring historical events. We doubt not that the exhibition of conciliation and good will of a desire to reach just and righteous results—will be crowned with success. The sunny ways of genial diplomacy will open the hearts of both negotiators where the attempts to coerce Canada into submission to unreasonable demands would utterly fail. Amid these kindly influences the antipathies and jealousies which too long kept these kindred countries asunder, in the high tide of international friendship, will thaw into cordial good will just as the ice bergs of Baffin's Bay melt rapidly beneath the lavings of the Gulf Stream.