

many American industries as cheerfully as Artemus Ward offered to devote all his wife's relations to his country, by sending them to the war. The enthusiasm of some of our esteemed contemporaries is likely, however, to be considerably dampened if the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario adhere to their policy of conserving the forests in those provinces for the benefit of the people to whom they belong. In our judgment it would be nothing less than criminal to allow them to be exploited for the benefit of our esteemed neighbours. The policy of the Quebec and Ontario governments, one Liberal, one Conservative and both patriotic, has been abundantly justified by success. American capital is pouring into the two provinces to develop a Canadian paper manufacturing industry and will continue to do so as long as our present policy is maintained.

Noisy Street Cars.

The Countess Szechenis, formerly Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, was afraid that she would be annoyed by the noise of the street cars on a projected new line in Budapest. The Count offered to give \$50,000 to the poor if the tracks were laid a few blocks distant and threatened to leave Budapest if the cars were allowed near his residence. The city accepted the \$50,000. If the cars are as noisy in Budapest as they are in Montreal, it was worth \$50,000 for a rich man to get rid of them. But they manage these things better in New York. There, if the cars are too noisy the Public Services Commission orders them to be withdrawn from the streets until they are put in order. The same system would be quite feasible in Montreal. The cars of the Montreal & Southern Counties Railway which are tolerated in Montreal from the Victoria Jubilee Bridge to near the foot of McGill Street are almost inaudible. This is due to well constructed rolling stock, kept in first class repair, and well-laid tracks, the lightest rails of which are eighty pounders. The citizens should not be expected to purchase relief from a noisy infliction amounting to a public nuisance either in Budapest or in Montreal.

Imperial Budget.

On Tuesday the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Hon. David Lloyd George, presented his budget for the year 1911-12. He estimates the revenue at £181,716,000 and the expenditure at £181,284,000. In 1910-11 both revenue and expenditure were somewhat larger. The naval expenditure is estimated at £44,393,000 against £35,807,000 in 1909-10 and £31,170,000 in 1902-3. Old age pensions are estimated at £12,415,000, £275,000 more than in the previous fiscal year. No new taxes are to be levied and the duty

on cocoa is to be abolished, at a cost to the revenue of £45,000 a year. Members of the House of Commons are to be paid £400 a year, but no travelling expenses or pensions, and cabinet ministers in receipt of salaries will receive nothing additional as members. The total cost of members' salaries is estimated at £750,000.

Population of Scotland.

The population of Scotland as shown by the census just taken is 4,759,521, an increase of only 287,418 or 6.4 per cent. in ten years.

This is the smallest increase shown since the census of 1861, when it was 6 per cent. In 1871 it was 9.72, in 1881 11.18, in 1891 7.77, and in 1901 11.09. The only part of the United Kingdom which has made a worse showing in this regard is Ireland which in the decade ending in 1907 increased only 5.23 per cent. In the same decade England increased 12.17 per cent. Emigration, of course, is chiefly responsible for the smallness of the increase in the population of Scotland and the later census returns will, no doubt, show that a large proportion of the Scottish emigrants have come to Canada. Dr. Johnson used to say that the royal road for a Scotchman was the road that led to England. If the interesting old cynic were living to-day he would probably say: "Sir, the royal road for a Scotchman is the road that leads to Canada."

The Murder of Explorers by Turkish Subjects.

If the Turkish Government cannot inspire its fanatical subjects with some regard for the lives and some respect for the rights of foreigners, in countries of such world-wide interest as the Holy Land and others it is very likely to have the ungrateful task taken out of its hands. The murder of Decore, a member of an American archaeological expedition by semi-barbarian Turkish subjects is an offence against the whole scientific world. It would be the easiest thing in the world for a few of the British troops in Egypt or the French troops in Tunis to cross the frontiers of one of those countries into Tripoli and teach both the fanatics and the Turkish Government a few much needed lessons. The ancient ruins in that country are of great interest to the whole civilised world and of no interest at all to the barbarous tribesmen who resent every attempt to explore them in the interests of science. Tripoli had the misfortune to come under direct Turkish control only in 1835 and the historic interest of its cities dates back to more than half a century B.C. The treatment of foreign explorers by Turkish subjects calls for a joint remonstrance from the great powers, and if this is not found effective something stronger should be tried.