

"Two nations, but one people," let us hope will always be the key-note of Anglo-American policy. A third nation, but not another people, may Canada become in time—is already so, indeed, in a sense; and it is to the honour of Mr. Cleveland's Administration that they have throughout steadily endeavoured to compose a difference among these nations that has been a lasting danger to their agreement as a people. War for any cause among the nations of the Anglo-Saxon race would be a staggering blow for civilisation, and disgraceful to all concerned. Quarrels will arise, causes of war even be bred, in the friction of competition; but, as in this case of the fisheries, the two nations, of one blood, one speech, one system of laws, one habit of thinking, have only to carry their dispute into court, to have it fairly adjudged, instead of coming to blows outside like *les autres*. Mr. Cleveland has done well in the Fisheries matter; may he be able to complete the work, crowning his Presidency with honour, by the conclusion of a permanent arbitration treaty with England!

THE League, it appears, is to be suppressed, as a last resource, only in the worst districts, where other clauses than clause 6 of the Crimes Act prove insufficient to stop intimidation. This exhibits the League as a remarkably innocent organisation: when the ordinary law and every other means fail, the League is suppressed in the expectation that crime will naturally disappear with it.

THE peaceable dispersal of ten thousand Leaguers at Ennis on Sunday, by a small body of police and soldiery, shows what may be done by firm dealing with the Irish agitators. The British Government has, it appears, only firmly and moderately to assert the supremacy of the law, and the people will obey. Not so perhaps the leaders of the National League, whose trade will be at an end when good government again prevails. While the Queen's Government is being reinstated we may expect to hear vehement outcries about Saxon tyranny and its atrocious work; but we would not deny these baffled patriots such poor satisfaction as they may derive from talking and making themselves ridiculous. Who but such featherheads would have met the order of the military to disperse, by an entirely inappropriate resolution claiming Home Rule and denouncing land grabbing?

SOME means ought to be found to inform the English electorate of the true state of the case as respects Mr. Gladstone and Ireland. There is little doubt, we fear, that, by the use of ambiguous language, which can be easily explained away at need, the "masses" are being deliberately deluded into the belief that Mr. Gladstone has abandoned his rejected Irish plans. Nothing however can be farther from his thought; all he has done is to ambiguously admit the possibility of changes; and to enlarge his original Irish plan into a plan of federation that shall give Scotland and Wales Home Rule also. Happily he is not likely to be called upon to divulge his plan in plain terms, for some years to come yet; but the danger is that the people are being educated to regard Home Rule as inevitable, and are led to believe that the man in whose character they have such unbounded confidence has dropped all the objectionable parts of his Irish scheme—that in fact he is a superior sort of Liberal Unionist, who is kept out of office, and prevented from carrying out his plans for the amelioration of Ireland, by a conspiracy of the Tories with some of his former followers.

GERMANY is steadily supporting Russia in her opposition to Prince Ferdinand; but it is a mistake to suppose that this indicates a prospect of a Russo-German alliance, or a drawing apart of Germany and Austria. The Central European alliance, which includes Austria, is secure yet, and will remain so, while any danger to Germany may be apprehended from either France or Russia. (And when will that not be the case?) But Prince Bismarck is not going to war to prevent Russia from sending a Russian General to Sophia: he is anxious before all things to keep on good terms with Russia; and therefore he makes a grace of indifference, and cheerfully consents to the proposed Russian Mission. It is a matter that he cares nothing about—one not worth quarrelling over; then, if he is not going to offer opposition, why not strengthen his position with Russia by getting the credit of ready compliance?

THE experiment of mobilising a corps of French troops, now going on, will be watched with curious interest by all Europe. In deference to German susceptibilities the trial is being made near the Spanish frontier, instead of the German or Belgian as first proposed, which was regarded with great alarm by Germany and must, if persisted in, have brought a mass of German troops to the neighbouring frontier to guard against a possible "rush." That was a dangerous situation, which has been happily avoided

through the good sense and moderation of the French Government; but it is by no means certain that another dangerous situation will not now follow. The handling of the whole corps on a war footing will be done, and the real fighting tried, in a few days. If this trial should not answer expectations, France will perceive that she is not yet ready for war, either with Germany or England, and a lower tone will perhaps be adopted in foreign policy; but if it prove the reverse, and France feel herself as strong as she can ever expect to be, who can say what will be the outcome of the resulting enthusiasm? Why should she wait longer for *la revanche*?

At the "Ashfield" (Mass.) annual dinner the other day, Dr. Stanley Hall, of Johns Hopkins, said a good word for "frogology." He deplored the lack of practicality in modern methods of training in the public schools—the substitution of instruction for education. He himself had studied a single muscle in a frog's leg for two years, and at last felt that he had mastered one thing—and that the whole universe was related to that one thing.

In its agricultural article *The Times* of August 22 gave details of experiments which have been recently carried on by Messrs. James Carter and Company in crossing varieties of wheat. Side by side with the new crosses, Messrs. Carter, it appears, have recently cultivated in juxtaposition upon the same land every known variety of wheat that is handled commercially in the London, Liverpool, and other markets. The result of the tests so made is, it is claimed, that even the Canadian Red Fyfe wheat—admitted to be one of the best grains that find their way into Europe—"cannot compare with Messrs. Carter's new crosses, not only for general quality, flour substance, and thickness of straw, but in respect of the important feature of earliness." Some of these crosses may prove of value to our Northwest; but to determine that it is necessary to test their growth in the Northwest. What matures early in the garden of England may prove late on the Canadian prairies. And to some extent this applies to the recent experiments we have already noticed at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa.

EXPLORATIONS carried out at Woodcutts, Wilts, by General Pitt-Rivers, the President of the Royal Archaeological Institute, have revealed the existence of an entire British village of the date of the early occupation of Britain by the Romans. The skeletons dug up show that the race, whoever they were, that inhabited this village was very inferior in stature, the males being on an average only five feet two inches in height, and the women only four feet ten inches. Nevertheless, they must have had a civilisation of their own, for General Pitt-Rivers has in his museum a very large collection of articles of daily use, including coins, both British and Roman, brazen, silver, and gilt fibulæ, knife-handles, chains, tweezers, bracelets, locks, padlocks, flint arrow-heads, fish-hooks, and horse-shoes, to say nothing of a bowl of Samian ware, and the bricks of a hypocaust. These tumuli of a Romano-British village, it is expected, says the *Times*, will soon reveal other vestiges of the bronze and stone ages; and there, in the west of England, where the Romans colonised so sparingly, we feel, to use General Pitt-Rivers' own words, that we are dealing with a genuine race of aboriginal Britons, who lived on into the Roman period, and who possibly may have been a race reduced to slavery and thereby sunk in status and diminished in strength and stature.

A PAMPHLET has lately been published in Paris by the Abbé Larrien, formerly a missionary in China, in which he seeks to demonstrate that the Great Wall of China does not exist, and never has existed. According to the Abbé, the popular notion of a wall wholly constructed of cut stone, thirty cubits high by twelve cubits broad, running straight on—down valleys and up mountains—regardless of obstacles, like a Roman road, is a mere delusion, founded, perhaps, on the fact that a Chinese Emperor once constructed a chain of square towers of earth, something in the nature of our Martello towers, and that these still exist, scattered at considerable distances from each other, along the line of the alleged Great Wall. Our readers, says the *Spectator*, will be relieved to learn that this bold attempt to relegate the Great Wall to the position of "Prester John" or "The Three Impostors" has been firmly met and overthrown. In a letter to the *Standard*, Mr. William Simpson, an artist, explains that he has actually seen and sketched part of the Great Wall, and that it is, in fact, all our fancy painted it—i.e., "about twenty feet high and fifteen feet wide on the top, with square towers every two or three hundred yards." A drawing from Mr. Simpson's sketch, to be found in the *Illustrated London News* of February 1, 1873, shows the Great Wall and its towers crossing a range of hills, and running up and down their sides in the most satisfactory manner possible.