

Lord Salisbury, who has for some time been desirous of retiring from the Foreign Office, and from the Premiership, in reconsidering the matter has, on being relieved of the responsibility of the Foreign Office, agreed to continue the Premiership. This gets over the question, for the time, of Lord Salisbury's successor in the Premiership. Mr. Chamberlain is represented as desiring to stand next in the line of succession. He has his own friends; but there is a considerable section of the Unionist party who fail to see in him a safe guide of the destinies of the nation. What was done, apparently on his authority, in committing Canada to the course it took regarding the South African war, is likely to have this effect; Canada will not in future willingly consent to put up with a military man for governor. She was ready and willing to send on contingents of men, but she did not want any governor to make offers, of his own mere motion, of men, whom it was the privilege of Parliament to vote and provide for. There are stories afloat about the Governor-General having, without the advice of the sworn councillors, framed a list of persons to receive honours on the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall; the truth of which we neither affirm nor deny, but simply remark that the advisers of the Crown in Canada cannot, in such cases, be ignored; if anyone fancies that they can, the sooner he renounces the error the better.

Ghouls hovering around the murdered President McKinley's tomb led to one of the seventy sentinels, who guarded it, being stabbed. A man hiding behind a tree refused to answer when challenged, but instead started towards the interrogator. After the challenge had been repeated, with upraised gun ready to fire on the intruder, the guard was about to shoot, when another man, who had got behind him, deflected the aim by action on the piece. When the gun went off, this second man stabbed the soldier. A heavy overcoat absorbed much of the force of the blow, and only a slight bruise was received by the intended victim. Both the ghouls got away. The Anarchists, one would think, would be willing to leave the dead President alone in death; but if this new outrage be their work, they have not been frightened by the various violent means proposed for putting down anarchy. Some have gone so far as to propose that the use of the name should be a capital offence; that an anarchist should be treated as a public enemy, whom anyone should be at liberty to kill. When the heat of the distempered brains subsides, even these persons may see the necessity of the law holding its supremacy and taking its course. It is not safe to advocate the abolition of law, or the putting it aside at the will of individuals or mobs; those who advocate such means are themselves practical anarchists, for they desire, like Anarchists, to set aside the law, and thus show how unfit they are to be treated as wise or safe counsellors.

The necessity which has been admitted and acted upon of removing the preference of Porto Rican over Cuban sugar is a lesson to us of what evil a wide preference may sometimes do. The favored Porto Rican sugar, which was first sent to Cuba, and then reshipped as Cuban to New York, has by a formal order of the

War Department, issued on the initiation of the President, been deprived of the privilege of the special rebate amounting to \$3.40 per 100 kilos; and so the smuggling of the preferred coffee by fraudulent substitution will cease.

The projected tariff law, published by the German Government, some time ago, to feel public opinion on the question, has not been favorably received; as a result, its enactment in its original form is not probable. The manufacturers feel that Germany could afford to be put at a great disadvantage, compared with some rival nations, in the cost of her workmen's food. Even the proposed high taxes on machinery have not got the support from domestic manufacturers of machinery that was expected. The German workman now subsists on a less generous diet than even their English rivals, and still less generous than that of American workmen. The German operative artizan will not willingly consent to reduce the quality of his food supply. The Agrarians will have to be content with less than they asked. Five per cent. of the 15 manufacturing workmen are in a state of enforced idleness. Herr Moeller, Minister of Commerce, declares that higher protection for agriculture is a political necessity, which means that the Agrarians are in a position in the Legislature to insist on and enforce their demands.

France, the eldest son of the Church, is showing considerable sternness to the parent. What is called a law of associations went into effect this week; under it all religious associations have put before them the alternative of applying to the secular authority for civil authorization, or, if they remain in France, to submit to be dissolved by law as illegal institutions. But many of them have elected not to remain in France; there has already been an extensive exodus to other countries, the Benedictines of St. Malo having gone to the Isle of Wight; others have gone elsewhere, and it is probable that Canada will get some of the overflow. The new law will have the effect of nominally suppressing the Jesuits and some other orders, as it is understood they would be unable to obtain authorization, without which they will have no legal right to civil existence. A large number of associations have already applied for authorization, under the law; some will not apply at all; there has been an exodus of religious Orders, which went out of the country in a great stream. Attempts are being made to escape the doom of confiscation, which the law pronounces in certain eventualities, by making nominal sales of the property of the recalcitrant orders; but it is not probable that such devices will ultimately be successful. How tenderly English legislation bears on religious Orders, compared with that of France, was recently shown when a bill was before Parliament authorizing inspection of convents, in which industrial operations are carried on, for sanitary reasons; and exception being taken, their case was made an exception to the general law.

The Montreal Harbor Board entered into a provisional contract with Mr. Jameson to do certain work; which contract required the sanction of the Minister of Public Works to give it effect. Mr. Tarte instead of giving the necessary sanction, made a charge against the contractor that he had bribed or offered to bribe,