

German manufacturers sent an expert to the United States to enquire into the possibility of establishing German textile factories there. After a three weeks' stay in Pennsylvania he has returned to Germany with the opinion that the United States can compete with Germany only in cheap articles, but not in first or second rate goods, owing to the high rate of wages, the scarcity of good hemp and the price of wool, which has risen instead of fallen. He, therefore, doubts whether German exports to the United States will be greatly injured by the McKinley Bill.

The state of the finances of the Province of Quebec is decidedly not one of prosperity or calculated to produce a feeling of security. An annual deficit of two millions and a floating debt of five or six millions and more to follow, looks as if the Province must be extravagant in some way. A new loan of ten million dollars is to be negotiated, but this will probably not do more than meet existing deficiencies. New taxes of various and ingenious descriptions will help to supply the treasury with the needful, but upon the whole a feeling of apprehension prevails over this state of affairs. In the face of this stringency the Legislature, at its recent session, arranged for the opening of night schools in the cities and towns at the expense of the Province. We highly approve of providing a means for self-improvement for those who are at work through the day, but we fear the expense will be too great for a Province already deeply in debt. There may come another re-adjustment of money matters between the Dominion and the Provinces, and when it does there will be serious questions to be settled.

We have received from Mr. M. P. Murray, Secretary of the *Young Canadian Company*, a letter explaining the scenes on the title page of the specimen copy of the *Young Canadian*, which we commented upon recently. It is rather unfortunate for an artist to be obliged to interpret his pictures—they should speak to the heart through the eye as clearly as speech does through the ear. In this case, however, it appears that it is necessary. Mr. Murray explains that the scenes are mainly historic, and are not intended to be associated with any special Province, and that the names of the several Provinces are placed on scrolls in artistic arrangement only. If any connection between the two has been made, it was no part of the design of the artist. Having no especial love for the dog-sleigh part of Canadian history, and having unwittingly offended so many blue-noses by it, the Proprietors of the *Young Canadian* have made an alteration which they hope will remove all cause of offence. With this better understanding on both sides, we wish the new journal all success. We trust, however, that the objectionable design has not already had the effect of spreading the erroneous idea that Nova Scotia is situated in close proximity to the North Pole, when the unvarnished truth is we have the finest climate in the whole of Canada. If the *Young Canadian* would do Nova Scotia the justice to impress this fact upon its readers it might help to root out the idea sown by the dog-sleigh picture.

The *London Times* a short time ago published an account of Bismarck's deposition from the Chancellorship, which is said to have electrified Europe. The story is that Bismarck, during a conference with the Emperor, became annoyed and expressed his intention of resigning. Afterwards, in calmer moments, he thought no more of his threat and imagined that the Emperor would not take it seriously. The Kaizer, however, seized the opportunity to get rid of Prince Bismarck, and when the resignation did not come the next morning he sent for it. Bismarck put the matter off with an excuse about not having had time to prepare it. The Emperor sent twice again, and still the resignation was not ready. Up to this point we are not quite ready to accept the story as told by the *Times*, but it gives us something to tax our credulity when it goes on to state that Prince Bismarck betook himself to the Empress Frederick to beseech her influence in his behalf with her son. Bismarck was never a friend of the Empress, and if the story is true she revenged herself upon her enemy fully at this juncture. To his earnest entreaties she replied that he had done all he could in the past to injure her and place her influence with her son at a discount, and that now she could do nothing for him. Bismarck departed and wrote the resignation for which the Aide was waiting. Thus the proud Chancellor was humiliated. His fall was sudden and stands unique in history. Of all the events of the year 1890 this was about the most startling, and the present version of the affair, which is said to be vouched for as correct, makes it even more remarkable. The picture in our mind's eye of Bismarck kneeling at the feet of the woman to whom he had shown little respect, is a strange one. She would have been more than human if she had consented to intercede for him with her son, even if, as is highly improbable, she thought her intercession would have any effect upon the determination of the young Emperor.

The latest feature of the Behring Sea dispute, which developed itself too late for anything but a short news paragraph last week, is now of absorbing interest. While both Canadians and Americans have been taken by surprise by the case of the *Sayward* being referred to the Supreme Court of the United States, it is reasonable to suppose that those behind the scenes have had the matter in preparation for some time, and that Mr. Blaine, although deeply aggrieved by this coup on the part of English diplomats, knew, as indeed he states, that the move was to be made. The matter at present stands thus:—Mr. Choate, on behalf of the owners of the *Sayward* has made application to the Supreme Court of the United States for a writ of prohibition, to be directed to the Judge of the District Court of the United States in and for the territory of Alaska, restraining him from

proceeding with the condemnation and sale of the vessel. There are not wanting those in the United States who entirely disagree with Mr. Blaine's extravagant claims, and who see clearly that his course may lead to an unrighteous war on their part, and a portion of the press, Democratic chiefly, fearlessly speaks its mind on the subject. Before the elections it looked as if the warlike attitude was assumed for the purpose of catching the anti-English vote, but since then the attention given to strengthening the fleet in the Pacific points to something more serious. As to the case of the *Sayward*, which has now been brought before the Supreme Court of the United States by means of a side issue, it has been on appeal before that Court for two years, and it is stated that in the ordinary course of procedure it will not be reached for at least two years longer. It will be a few days before we can hear whether the present application for writ of prohibition will be allowed, as the Attorney-General of the United States was given a fortnight to consider the case and show cause, if he can, why it should not be allowed. The indignation in the United States over this movement on the part of Great Britain would, we fancy, be not so great if they thought they had a just claim. The Americans are very liable to attacks of spleen when they find they have not a monopoly of the world's supply of smartness, and in this case they are hard hit. It would appear, however, that they ought rather to consider the action highly complimentary, as signifying the confidence placed in their highest tribunal by Great Britain. In any event, we think the policy of procrastination and long-drawn-out controversy pursued by the United States has received a check. If the *Sayward* case does not bring a settlement, next sealing season in all probability will see the dogs of war let loose. See how easily it could come about. A British sealer will exercise its rights and take seals. An American cruiser will take the sealer, and a British man-o-war will go to her rescue. Shots will be exchanged, and then there will be no more use for diplomatists for a while. But let us hope that a peaceable solution may be arrived at, and the horrors of war between two kindred people avoided forever.

The report brought to Toronto by Dr. J. D. Thorburn and Dr. Winnett, who went to Berlin in November last to investigate Dr. Koch's wonderful cure for tubercular diseases, is of the most encouraging nature, and leads us to hope that the expectations indulged in as to the cure and final total extermination of consumption may be realized in the course of a few years. The *Toronto Globe* publishes what the doctors have to say about their experience in Berlin, and we are glad to observe that every facility possible was given them to carry on the object of their visit. Very naturally this new departure in medicine has been looked upon with some doubt up to the present time, but in the light of the information gained by these Toronto physicians we feel justified in thinking that a genuine cure has been found. Dr. Thorburn gives in brief a statement of the general effect of the lymph. "The cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (consumption) are divided into three classes by stages. In the first stage there is rapid improvement and some undoubted cures, some of which we saw. In the second stage the patient is usually much benefitted and apparently on the way to a perfect cure, but so far the experiment has not lasted long enough to be able to speak positively as to this. In the third stage the patients do not seem to be benefitted. This is in itself an invaluable step in medicine, for it means that consumption has been met and overcome, for in a few years the cases of the second and third stage will have died out and there need be no further new cases. Not only is the lymph a cure, but it affords a better means of diagnosis than any hitherto known. Where the true reaction follows the injection, it is proof of the presence of tuberculosis. It brings the disease to the surface as it were, so that its presence is revealed. It is not pretended that the lymph gives immunity from the disease to the person who has been treated. Patients are liable to a relapse. In cases of lupus, the dose is larger than in the other. Many cases of lupus have been cured. The results are brought about very rapidly. In laryngeal tuberculosis (consumption of the throat) a common and very serious disease, the patients do better even than those suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. In the case of tubercular joints it is found necessary sometimes to make an artificial opening, so that the dead matter may be expelled. In short, the lymph fully sustains the positions taken by Koch in his first paper on this subject before the International Medical Association." It is to be noted, however, that Dr. Winnett states that a spurious preparation is being sold in Berlin at fabulous prices, chiefly to Americans. This, if not at once checked, will have the effect of throwing discredit upon the genuine lymph, which, as the same gentleman says, has up to the present verified every proposition claimed for it by Professor Koch. If experiments are tried upon patients so far gone in consumption that nothing human skill could do could save them, the sad result should not be laid to the charge of the new remedy. Experiments are now going on in Halifax, a supply of lymph having been secured by the Government for use in the Victoria General Hospital. Jenner was verging on his great discovery in medicine near the close of the eighteenth century, and at the beginning of the present century it was fully recognized as an incalculable benefit to the human race. Jenner had the greatest difficulty in getting the profession and the public to recognize his discovery, but in 1802 a Parliamentary grant of \$100,000 was made him, not, however, without great opposition. The sum was altogether inadequate to compensate him for his outlays and sacrifices in the pursuit of his discovery, and further grants were afterwards voted him. It is remarkable that Jenner's discovery did not lead up to the discovery Dr. Koch has made long before this, for it seems to have been but the initial step upon the right road. Germany will be able to claim the credit of giving the world a cure for consumption, but England has no need to feel badly about it, for Jenner's discovery of vaccination has almost rid the world of small pox, which at one time was a terrible scourge in all classes of society.