

all the adjectives in the dictionary in attempting to describe their view of the situation. "The people will be starved by thousands," they say in their appeal to the American people, unless aid is forthcoming." A number of United States politicians, with an eye, doubtless, to the November Elections, have formed themselves into a committee to receive subscriptions. We beg to suggest that the money should be converted into provisions. The American farmer is suffering from the McKinley Bill, and will be glad enough to sell his corn and his hogs at the present moment.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach gives an amusing account of the way in which "distress money" is distributed in Ireland. In 1886, Mr. Morley got a grant of £20,000 which was handed over to the Poor Law Guardians in the threatened districts to dispense and Sir M. Hicks-Beach, who was Mr. Morley's successor, tells how these patriots dispensed it. They relieved everybody. They relieved their own relieving officers. They relieved large farmers with plenty of cattle and sheep. They relieved men with money in bank. They even relieved the local money-lenders. So generous were they with the Imperial funds that they actually had on their relief lists, in at least one instance, a number of names largely exceeding the whole population of the union. Then the guardians found out that part of the expense would fall upon themselves, and in a single week, at the worst time of the year, the number on the relief list in Clifden union—to take one of several instances—fell from 18,500 to 3,500 souls.

A proclamation has been issued removing the export duties on spruce and pine logs capable of being made into shingle bolts. The Government was led to take this action as the lumber duties by the McKinley tariff were said to be on the whole unfavourable to Canada. On the contrary on several classes of lumber the duties were reduced by that Bill and only on one quality increased.

**Political Dialogues,**  
**NUMBER THREE.**

Taschereau and Mercier.

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SCENE.—The Cardinal's palace, Quebec. CARDINAL TASCHEREAU is standing before a *Prie-Dieu* dressed in his conventional garb.

The Cardinal (*Soliloquizing*): The prophets and martyrs, the hosts of saintly men and holy women, the unnumbered millions of pious hearts within our communion attest and confirm the promise of our Lord—"And, behold, I am with you always until the consummation of the world!" Now that "with you" means, as we are taught, with the Church; that is the Pope, cardinals, priests, deacons and the *hoi polloi* (*ahem!*)—the faithful. And, seeing that our Lord is with us, we cannot, of course, go wrong. Therefore, we must be always right. Consequently, in burning heretics and in acting in what the Protestants term "an intolerant manner," we are supported by the assurance of Christ himself! Can anything be clearer?

And yet—(*pauses*) Can doubt invade the breast of an Prince of the Church? And yet, I repeat, the massacre of St. Bartholemew, which our church rejoiced over, strikes the mind as an act of inhuman treachery. What gain did our church reap by that adventure? Is not France to-day infidel? So again in regard to Italy. The condition of the peasants on the Papal Estates under the administration of the Popes was miserable in the extreme. The taxation was oppressive. Brigandage abounded. Government there was none. There were no schools—no intelligence, no industry, not even common morality. At last things became so bad that the people murmured and the Pope had to bring in foreign swords to maintain his sovereignty. Could it not have been foreseen that when France and Austria withdrew the Italians would treat the Pope as the enemy of their race? Or did the Curia

imagine that a few benedictions would remove the memory of the wrongs under which the Italians had suffered?

For my own part, I regard the loss of the temporal power as a distinct gain for the Church. Was it not Christ who said that his Kingdom was not of this world? Upon what ground then can the Vice-gerent of Christ claim temporal power? Has the church ever displayed wisdom in temporalities? The condition of those countries which have been governed from Rome affords a sufficient answer. Our true policy should confine us to spiritual matters, leaving to Cæsar the things belonging to Cæsar. (*Sighs.*) If they could only be brought to see this at Rome!

(The Cardinal strides up and down the chamber, his face showing signs of disquiet.)

(*He resumes.*) I entered the Priesthood because I wished to serve Christ and His Church. How often have I not doubted whether in serving the Church I have not sometimes disobeyed the plain commands of Our Lord. We follow the traditions of the Fathers, forgetting that the ancient Jewish Church was led into error by pursuing a similar course. (Matt. xv. 1-9.) How much do I believe in the holy coat of Treves or the liquification of the blood of St. Japarious or the thousand and one miracles recorded? (*Passionately.*) How much do any of us believe in these things? How many iniquities among our Priests are ignored or smoothed over for fear of scandal? To what extent are we governed by expediency instead of conscience? These are matters hard to answer.

(A scratching noise at the door is heard.)

The Cardinal—Come in.  
(A priest enters, bowing lowly, and gives the Cardinal a card.)

The Cardinal (*reads*). THE HONORABLE HONORE MERCIER, PREMIER. (To the Priest): Request Mr. Mercier to enter. (*Exit Priest.*)

Enters Mr. Mercier, who kneels and kisses the signet on the hand graciously extended to him—

Mercier: Your Eminence is very kind to see me.

The Cardinal:—You are welcome, Mr. Mercier.

Mercier (*rising*):—I am welcome as a man of your race, Cardinal, or as a politician who has served the Church, or as a liberal who has foresworn his theories?

The Cardinal:—In each and all capacities, Monsieur.

Mercier:—Well, then, let me speak first as a man of your race—a Frenchman. (*Engagingly*) May I speak quite frankly?

The Cardinal:—Entirely, my brother. (*Goes to the door and locks it, placing a chair against it in such a way that the back covers the key-hole.*) Now—

Mercier—Your Eminence is right in supposing that the object of my visit is of importance. I will not waste words. You know the situation. The Jesuits' Estates Bill was put through by me as a matter of policy—and as such, it has been fairly successful. The Orangeists raised the race and religious cry and have forced the French into a compact mass. This I had foreseen, just as I foresaw the utility of Riel's death. At the present moment it is impossible for any French-Canadian to oppose me without appearing to oppose the Church, whose protegee I am, or the Race, which I claim to represent. So far, so good.

The Cardinal: (*as the other lapses into silence.*) Well!

Mercier:—It is not well. My government is too powerful: it has too many friends—friends who want favours. Your Eminence has no idea of the rapacity of some of our leading supporters. Then, again, every young man who can get his cure to recommend him, comes to me for a position in the Civil Service. I repeat—you have no idea—

The Cardinal:—But are you not strong enough to be able to resist attempts at peculation and to say "no"

to those young men whose services are not required by the Province?

Mercier.—Perhaps. But there are greater difficulties, I might say, dangers before us and it was about these that I come to consult your Eminence.

The Cardinal (*startled*) Dangers!

Mercier.—Yes, dangers. The success of the Jesuits in Quebec is attracting to us swarms of religious confraternities from all parts of Europe. Carthusians, Franciscans, Brothers of this and Sisters of that. What are we going to do about it? The Province is poor; the Treasury is empty; the people are already over-burdened with taxes and tithes and assessments. Thousands upon thousands of our race have gone to the United States where they lose their entity with even greater rapidity than the Irish. I say to you—is it well?

The Cardinal.—It is not well. But what remedy can you propose?

Mercier.—Let us enter into a compact. You put a stop to the immigration of these new and very empty foreigners and restrain Lafleche and the rest from putting the farmers into the position of being either robbed or cursed; and I, for my part, will do what I can to guard the Treasury and promote the interests of the Province.

The Cardinal.—Alas! I have no power over the confraternities, nor can I prevent Bishop Lafleche from imposing tithes.

Mercier.—Then we are likely to have a revolution before long. Don't you see that the situation is exactly like that which existed in France before the Great Revolution; tithes, privileges, exemptions, exactions without number? But in France the people kept their language while casting off their religion—here the people will lose both!

(*Mr. Mercier rises and departs.*)

The Cardinal.—Remarkable man that! But he thinks I can do impossibilities. It would take a Richelieu to accomplish what he suggests. Enforce moderation upon the Bishop; restrain the religious orders; abate the tithes; perhaps consent to the abolition of tax exemptions! Quite impossible! But something must be done, it is quite evident. Perhaps, it might be well to revive the old Gallican spirit. Then the people would regard the Church as part of their national life. The Irish Bishops have succeeded in that line to the extent of being able to ignore the Pope's rescript. It would be a difficult task and the Jesuits are a nasty lot fight. I am afraid I am not strong enough for such an enterprise.

(*The Cardinal retires.*)

Enters FATHER BARTHOLEMEW, S. J., with cautious tread and listening to the Cardinal's retiring footsteps.—Bartholemew (*log.*) Very nasty lot, Your Eminence. You did your best to keep us out of the country, and, even when we got the money from Mercier, so arranged that we were only allowed to retain a fraction of it. Mercier is right, though, about the other religious orders. There is not room for all of us, so that we must do our best to keep the others out. And this we can do much more effectively that His Eminence and Mr. Mercier together. A very interesting letter shall I have to send to the General at Rome. (*Exit.*)

**Correspondence.**

[While we give full publicity to the views of our correspondents, we wish it to be distinctly understood, we do not hold ourselves responsible for them.]

**Welsh Anthracite.**

To the Editor of the ANGLO-SAXON:—SIR,—I understand that the Welsh hard coal is equal in every respect to the Pennsylvania article, and that some two years ago a gentleman in Montreal imported a few hundred tons at a cost not exceeding \$4.75 per ton.

As our American cousins have lately made it clearly evident that they do not wish to trade with us, or, for that matter, with any one, it might be well for us to buy our coal where we can sell our wheat.

There are many wealthy men in the Montreal Lodges of the Order of the Sons of England and perhaps one of them could be induced to take the matter in hand.

If the Welsh coal is as good as the American and can be laid down in Montreal at \$4.75 and Ottawa for \$5.00, the Brethren in the two districts would, no doubt, be willing to dispose of a pretty large shipment.

I make this suggestion in the hope that it may meet the eye of the right man.

Your obedient servant,  
Ottawa, October 23rd. T. W.

**Imperial Federation.**

To the Editor of the ANGLO-SAXON:

SIR,—I read the first chapter of Mr. Macfarlane's essay on Imperial Federation, which appeared in your last number, with much interest. The essayist knows what he wants himself, but knows also that there are others within the ranks of Imperial Federationists who want other things, and that there are even some who do not know what they want. The last are always the most troublesome section in any party. Mr. Macfarlane refers to the success which attended Mr. Cobden's agitation for the repeal of the Corn Laws. He says: "When we reflect that the Anti-Corn Law League accomplished its object in seven years; that from the start its object was well defined, and that five years have elapsed since our movement was inaugurated, we cannot but be convinced that an accelerated rate of progress would result if the Federation faith were properly formulated, and a standard raised round which true British men might rally and fight, and which they might ultimately carry forward to victory."

But Mr. Macfarlane forgets or, at any rate, does not mention, that Cobden's agitation was promoted and made effective by subscriptions amounting to hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling, by millions of tracts (nine millions of these being promulgated in 1843 alone) by thousands of public meetings in every district of England and Wales and by at least sixteen monster meetings. These are the methods of successful agitation nowadays, and if Mr. Macfarlane is quite sure he is right let him go ahead and collect subscriptions, issue tracts and organize meetings. His faintest Leaders will quickly fall into line if his ideas carry, and will lose no time in appropriating them just as Sir Robert Peel appropriated Cobden's, or as Sir John Macdonald would those of the Opposition if they possessed any that were likely to succeed.

Your obedient servant,  
"BRITON."

**A Correction.**

To the Editor of the ANGLO-SAXON.

SIR,—I am directed by Middlesex Lodge to call your attention to a paragraph appearing in your September issue, which the lodge thinks is liable to be read as a reflection upon one of its members named John Harrison.

The brother in question has been a true and tried officer and member of this lodge for many years, and the lodge is convinced of his integrity.

The matter referred to, in the paragraph, has been investigated, and it is beyond doubt that John Harrison the brother of Middlesex Lodge, is not, and never has been other than an upright and conscientious brother.

He has been sick for a considerable time, and it would appear that some designing person is acquainted with that fact and so made use of his name.

Your giving this letter as wide publicity as the paragraph is asked in justice to the brother and lodge.

Your fraternally,  
W. H. SYMES,  
Sec. Middlesex Lodge.  
Toronto, 11th October, 1890.

[District Deputy Prouse, of Windsor, Ont., writes with reference to the Communication published last month in the ANGLO-SAXON signed "Acorn." It will be remembered that "Acorn" stated that a new lodge would shortly be opened in Windsor under the name of "Commercial Union Lodge." The ANGLO-SAXON suggested at the time that a better title would be that of "British Commercial Union Lodge." It now appears, according to Brother Prouse, that the promoters of the proposed new lodge had no idea of departing from the custom of the S. O. E. Society in such a matter, which is to bestow names on Lodges of distinctively English significance.—EDITOR.]

**The Expansion of the Frozen Meat Trade.**

(From the New Zealand Weekly Press.)

Below we publish an instructive table dealing with the New Zealand frozen meat trade, forwarded to us by Mr. P. Cunningham. The table shows the present position and past progress of this important industry. From it can be ascertained the rapid strides which have been made in the export of frozen meat from 1882, in which the

trade commenced, to the 30th of June last. The figures disclose a rapid and gratifying advance year after year without exception, while the exports for the half year ending June 30th last very nearly approached those for the whole twelve of 1889, practically equal those for 1888, and considerably exceed those for 1887. Progress such as these statistics disclose is probably unrivalled in the history of colonial production, and speaks volumes for the productive capability of this colony, and the enterprise of our agricultural and pastoral population. In the frozen meat trade New Zealand has practically a new source of wealth, already exceeding our total gold production, and promising at no distant date to equal the present dimensions of our wool industry itself. Nine years ago, in 1882, the frozen meat trade sprang into existence. In that year the export was valued at £19,339, gradually increasing till 1889 it reached over £700,000, while the year which is just half over promises to greatly exceed any former one, as the statistics for the past six months show. Dealing with the figures for the year beginning on July 1st, 1889, and closing on June 30th, 1890, the quantity exported during that period was worth, free on board, within a few pounds of £1,000,000, and with the stocks in hand considerably exceeded that amount. In other words, the sum just mentioned was received by the stock-growers of the colony, the only deduction being the freezing and local charges up to the date of shipment. Compared with the exports for the corresponding twelve months there was thus an advance in value of over a quarter of a million sterling for the year under notice. To cope with this enormous export business provision has been made for taking away considerably over one cargo of frozen mutton per week all the year round. A million pounds per annum represents interest on £15,000,000 sterling capital, and it may safely be said that the frozen meat industry has at least added that amount to the assets of the colony. Nor is this all. It may be affirmed that the industry is capable of very large expansion. The following exports show the increase of this industry each year:—

EXPORTS OF FROZEN MEAT.	
	lbs.
1882	1,707,328
1883	9,873,200
1884	28,445,228
1885	33,204,976
1886	38,758,190
1887	45,035,984
1888	61,827,376
1889	73,564,084
1890—For 6 months	57,791,101

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