

ordinary conversation of society. Even at five o'clock teas more serious subjects are discussed. Ladies find entertainment from the lectures at which they have been present, to the great advantage, it would appear, of Christian charity. The intelligence of humanity is not divided into water-tight compartments as the hulls of our vessels, and it is impossible to develop and elevate one faculty without other endowments being more or less impressed.

"The advantages are not in a less degree for the universities themselves. By these means they make themselves known and appreciated. This intimate relationship with the body of the people places the professors in the position of rendering an account to themselves of a mass of things of which, without this experience, they would be ignorant their whole lives, and these labours obtain from it an impress of reality which will greatly add to their value.

"During the middle ages the people proceeded to the universities, and the students had to be content with what was then given. In the system which we unfold it is the universities which go to the people to extend to them the instruction, which at the same time will be the most agreeable and the most useful. Taking all in all this system is of as much worth as that of former days.

"But again, this form of education, as in all others, will only obtain its full measure of success when placed in the hands of professors distinguished by their zeal. What we require in the teacher is that spark of fire by which missionaries are animated. And after all the mission to instruct the humble, those struggling to live, is it not in itself as exalted as any other, wherever we may look for it? Does it not contain the essence of the apostle's life, that true force which appeals to those generous natures, who are animated by the feeling of self-sacrifice for their fellows? The thought of doing good to those about us, to enlighten the intelligence of our brother sojourners in this world is one of the noblest to be felt, and at the same time it has always been the one most fertile in great self-devotion."

During the Convention of the N.E.A., to which I have already referred, a most interesting meeting of the College Department was held in the school-room of the Metropolitan Church, at which this subject of University Extension was treated by probably the most competent expert in America, Professor Herbert B. Adams, of Johns Hopkins University. In the discussion that followed his lecture, Dr. Stanley Hall occupied the extreme left position, as an avowed unbeliever, and Professor E. J. James, of the University of Pennsylvania, the extreme right, as a believer, apparently willing to suffer for his faith and to make others suffer for their unbelief. Dr. Adams held the scales evenly, admitting failure in some places, in some subjects, with some classes of pupils, and with some lecturers, and doing so with a frankness that evidently seemed to enthusiasts unnecessary and even excessive. The facts given by Dr. Adams and the warning of the President of Clark University that we must beware lest in our zeal for University Extension we so dissipate the time and energies of our Professors that we would soon have no university to extend, ought to make thoughtful men pause and consider the whole matter thoroughly before trying the experiment in Canada. Dr. Hall's idea of a university is that of a place endowed for research, and he knows well how poorly equipped our best institutions are for that purpose. But surely a university is to teach as well as to discover truth, and the question to be considered is whether the whole of the teaching must be confined to the classrooms or whether we may not extend its usefulness by organizing similar work in different local centres. It seems to me that there is room in Canada for different kinds of University Extension, but that, before engaging in it, consultation should be held that we may avoid the rocks on which others have made shipwreck, and that we should beware of pitching our expectations too high or of blowing too loud a blast beforehand. So far, two different methods of beginning this work have been tried in the United States. In Philadelphia a call was issued for a meeting of citizens interested in the movement and as a result a Society was organized. Having assured itself of the co-operation of the universities of Pennsylvania, Princeton, Rutgers and others in or near the city, the Society sent its secretary to England to study the movement in the place where it was born. The services of Mr. R. G. Moulton, of Cambridge, were secured and systematic instruction was undertaken at different points in the winter of 1890-91. The success was so great that it was determined to establish a National Society, whose object is to strive to make every college and university in the United States a centre of University Extension. In the State of New York the Legislature voted last year ten thousand dollars and placed it at the credit of a supervisory body, known as the Board of Regents, for the purpose of co-operating with local organizations and individuals desirous of extending higher education. There seems to be no reason why both of these methods should not be combined in Ontario. A central fund is required for the purposes of organizing proper methods of work, printing syllabuses and certificates, conducting examinations, paying a secretary, and meeting other initial expenses, even although the whole payment of lecturers and other expenses should be borne by pupils and the local societies. The Minister of Education might therefore very well ask the Legislature for a modest grant. But volunteer effort must also be encouraged and organized, and how this may be best done is worthy of the most earnest consideration.

G. M. GRANT.

THE RIVER TOWN.

THERE'S a town where shadows run
In the sparkle and the blue,
By the river and the sun
Swept and flooded thro' and thro'.

There the sailor trolls a song,
There the sea gull dips her wing,
There the wind is clear and strong,
There the waters break and swing.

But at night, with leaden sweep,
Come the clouds along the flood,
Lifting in the vaulted deep
Pinions of a giant brood.

Charging by the slip the whole
River rushes black and sheer,
There the great fish heave and roll
In the gloom beyond the pier.

All the lonely hollow town
Towers above the windy quay,
And the ancient tide goes down
With its secret to the sea.

DUNCAN CAMPBELL SCOTT.

DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES AND IMPERIAL FEDERATION.

AS an Imperial Federationist, and one ardently desiring to see the unification of the great British Empire consummated, I cannot but regret that a section of the Federationist party should have adopted the scheme of differential duties, on the part of the Mother Country, as part of the Federation programme. Such action, instead of advancing the Federation movement, will certainly tend to retard it. The scheme carries with it all the fallacies of protection, and if it is formulated as one of the prerequisites to Federation that the Mother Country should adopt a system of differential duties in favour of her colonies, then it is certainly to be expected that the Mother Country will refuse to do anything of the kind, with the result that the colonies will withdraw from the negotiations feeling hurt and sore at what they will have taught themselves to consider the unreasonable and harsh conduct of the Mother Country. Let us consider what this scheme of differential duties implies. It means that England will put a duty on all the food and raw material of manufactures which she imports from other places than her own colonies. But as three-fourths of the imports are from foreign countries and only one-fourth from British possessions, it is plain that duty would be charged on by far the greater amount of her imports. In other words she would tax the food of her people and the raw material of her manufactures for the supposed benefit of her colonies. The result of this would be to raise the cost of food and the cost of the raw material of manufacture. This would increase the cost of producing goods, with the result of a decreased consumption (the market would be restricted), less employment to the British people and smaller profit to the manufacturer. England would be the poorer from the adoption of such a system. The Colonial protectionist will no doubt answer—as he has answered—that the putting of a tax on food and raw materials will not raise their price: that in a very few years the Colonial possessions would, under this beneficent system of fostering products, produce all that England could consume, and so forth; but no respectable body of people in England will be got to believe this fallacy. If the duty did not raise the price, how would the putting on of the duty benefit the colony? For if the colony got no larger price than at present for her products, the duty would have no influence in fostering or encouraging Colonial production. If on the other hand the price is raised, it can only be raised at the expense of the British workman who will have to pay more for his food. Possibly the Colonial protectionist will escape from this dilemma by propounding another protectionist fallacy, i.e., that the producer pays the duty. In other words, that if England placed a duty on food products and raw materials coming from foreign countries, the price of these articles would not be increased in England by the amount of this duty, nor in the colonies, but that foreign countries would lower their price by the amount of the duty, so that the British people might continue to get these goods at the same price as before. But though this doctrine finds much support in Canada and protectionist countries that are anxious to maintain protectionist taxes by any system of reasoning, it would not be believed by the intelligent people of England, and is another of these protectionist fallacies by which people deceive themselves into bearing burdens that would otherwise be insupportable. In protectionist countries this scheme of differential duties will easily be supported, but if it is made the pivot of a scheme of Imperial Federation, to my mind it is certain to result in the rejection of the whole scheme by the British people.

There is no doubt that British trade has been restricted and injured by the high duties charged on British products by her own colonies and by foreign countries; but these duties have at the same time injured the colonies—as witness the stagnant or retrograding population of Canada—and England would be foolish if she tried to counteract the injury that has been done her by artificially

increasing the cost of her food and raw materials. When Canada has hurt herself by building a fence around her shores, let her undo the mischief by pulling down the fence, not by persuading England to erect a similar barrier.

There is another point of view from which this matter may be considered. Canada has been acquired by England in times past by the expenditure of much blood and treasure. All the debt that was incurred in this work has been assumed and borne by England. The colony has been handed over to the colonists to manage and control without one word on the part of England about their taking any part of the debt that the Mother Country incurred on their behalf. Now, when the young country is growing to full strength, and there is some talk of joining with the Mother Country, arises the cry for more help and assistance. Not content with what has already been done, further help must be given to induce her to stand up and take her part among the nations. Surely this is a mean spirited and unmanly scheme. This land is rich in natural wealth and resources—her orators never tire of descanting on this theme—her sons are strong and capable of work, and yet when she is asked to take her part with England in the affairs of the world, must she whine and ask for more help? The workingmen of England have borne the burden of taxation manfully in acquiring the colonies and in making England what she is, and Canada should be ashamed to ask them to bear a heavier burden—even though it may be only a half-penny on the loaf—to induce her to join with them in the work of the Empire.

This scheme of differential duties savours too much of the huckster's shop. If the colonies joined the Mother Country on any such basis, there would be a constant temptation to the greedy and avaricious to have the duties increased so as to bring some special advantage to particular interests or colonies. Just as under the protective system, there is a constant clamour among the "infant industries" for more "fostering" and "protection," until the infants are developed into blood suckers that grow fat and bloated at the expense of the nation.

Imperial Federation will never be accomplished if the colonies look to be bribed by such a scheme as this into its acceptance. It would be of vast good both to the Mother Country and the colonies, but all parts of the Federation must be on terms of equality, which would be impossible under differential duties. Free trade is the only basis upon which union would be strong and lasting. It is much to be regretted, it seems to me, that this scheme should be put forward to form the rallying point for the colonies. It may attract the acquisitive instinct of certain sections of each community, but it is financially and commercially unsound. If the Federation of the Empire is ever to be accomplished it must be inspired by higher and nobler ideas than those implied by differential duties.

G. C. C.

Toronto, September 9, 1891.

OTTAWA LETTER.

THOUGH there has been an apparent lull in the proceedings of Parliament, the last week has been a busy and important one, and a long step has been made towards the close of the session. The comparative quiet in the Scandal Committees and the settling down of the House of Commons to steady work in many directions accounts for both these effects. It may be fairly assumed now that the end of next week will see this memorable session finished, or at all events with nothing but formal business to be transacted. Already members of both Houses are beginning to figure up their accounts for sessional indemnity, so as to depart with all speed. It is pretty certain that the proposed increase in the indemnity has been abandoned, the feeling being that the country would not stand this, especially at a time when politicians are at a discount and patriots at a premium. Next session, however, will undoubtedly see the subject of remuneration for parliamentary service fully discussed.

It is some consolation for all the charges made and pending to find one of the accused honourably exonerated. This has been the result of the enquiry into the allegations made respecting Lieutenant-Governor Schultz. That the representative of the Crown should be charged with a very petty kind of peculation and be forced to defend himself from baseless accusations is indeed to be regretted. There is not so much prestige about Lieutenant Governors now, as days that any risk of lowering of the office in the eyes of the people can be wisely incurred. On the other hand, at this juncture, it is perhaps a salutary proof of the determination of the Commons to carry out the work of purification, that no distinction whatever has been made between the highest and the lowest servant of the Crown.

The Committee on the Cochrane charges has made a report which exonerates the member for East Northumberland from complicity in the peddling of patronage which the Conservative Committee for the county has been found to have practised. That this view of it will be taken by both sides is impossible and Mr. Cochrane is probably destined to undergo an unpleasant scarification at the hands of the Opposition before he receives his certificate from his political friends.

The enquiry into the Printing Bureau scandals gets rather worse as it goes further. Mr. Senecal's operations are continually coming into light in new places, as the "friends" for whom he had such esteem come forward to testify as to their "testimonials." It has been made plain