

competition with American manufactures. This is precisely what Canadian manufacturers would desire; for there is nothing they dread so much as this competition. The manufacturers of the United States, it would seem, have the same fear of Central and South America that our manufacturers have of them. So long as the manufacturers of any country are afraid to meet competition abroad, so long must they be content with the home market, unless they can get access to foreign markets by means of commercial treaties. For this reason the Washington authorities seek to force their manufactures into neighbouring countries by means of international agreements. They also desire, as far as practicable, to exclude competing products from the free list. Canada would desire to minimize the exclusion of raw products as much as possible; and on this ground the battle of negotiation would chiefly have to be fought. Starting from these premises, the successful negotiation of a treaty affecting the trade of Canada and the United States ought not to be impossible. To a model silver coin, which the Washington Government wishes to invest with the magical virtue of a universal currency, the objections which lie against substituting tokens for standard coin, to a large extent apply. Of such a token the Americans are themselves unanimous in confining the circulation to a limited amount; and an experiment which has failed at home would not be successful in Canada, where, in fact, it would unhesitatingly be refused a trial. But if a commercial treaty could not work miracles, it does not follow that it would be valueless: far from valueless experience shows it might be made.

As Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec M. Masson, the happy recipient of the office, will probably do as well as any one else. It is fortunate for him that there are no serious duties attached to the position; for the bad state of his health compelled him to resign his portfolio as Minister of Militia in the first days of 1880, and the Presidency of the Council at a later date in the same year. Two years ago he was appointed to the ornamental branch of the Legislature of Quebec; and now he succeeds to an office of which the chief duties are assumed to be social. The Lieutenant-Governorship of Quebec has, within a few years, been treated as a coveted prize; but the duties of the occupant, such as they are, have been variously performed under different governors. A Lieutenant-Governor, if he finds himself under the necessity of spreading his gold in thin layers, gives a political dinner at the opening of the session, and a ball of somewhat portentous dimensions every winter. On New Year's Day he joins his wife, if he happens to be married, in receiving visitors. These three acts comprehend all his social duties when the necessity of checking expenditure compels him to minimize on the social side. It has become usual to rest the chief utility of the Government House of each Province on the functions it performs as a social centre. Its character being official, the hospitality dispensed there may aim at impartiality, but strict impartiality it can never attain. It may be a gratification to some to fancy that they are admitted to a charmed circle from which others of their acquaintance are excluded; but it must often happen that mortal affront is given to individuals who find themselves on the border of the wrong side of the line of exclusion. As a social centre, the Provincial Government House creates more heart-burnings than it cures. The salary is large enough to remunerate the occupant for any serious duties he has to perform; but it is not large enough to enable him to fulfil all the social duties which an exacting public chooses to associate with the office. When the occupant happens to be rich, he sometimes spends, in entertainments in various forms, twice the amount of his official income. If he thinks, as he naturally will, that this sacrifice entitles him to exercise some choice in the selection of the guests, his discrimination will scarcely escape censure. Among those whom the invitations do not reach, there will be some in whose breasts the exclusion will create bitter feelings at the failure to secure recognition of their merits. So long as the social welcome accorded at the Provincial Government Houses is accompanied, as it always must be, by social exclusions the justice of which the excluded fail to recognize, the utility of the office as a social centre must be open to grave doubt.

BETWEEN assisted European emigration and voluntary Chinese emigration there is a wide difference, which labour organizations are not always willing to recognize. The Trades and Labour Council of Toronto equally objects to both. Artisans who find the market full of the kind of labour which they have to sell have a right to object to being taxed to bring out more emigrants to push them to the wall. But against voluntary emigration, be it Chinese or European, they have no ground of complaint. Many of them were emigrants themselves, and a Chinaman has precisely the same right to come here in search of employment that they for themselves claimed and exercised. The objection that the morals of the Chinese immigrants are bad is not the real motive that calls for the prohibition of

Chinese emigration to Canada; the true secret is that these immigrants are willing to work for wages which fall below the current rate. But they are not the only immigrants who are willing to do so on their first arrival, and no doubt they would be quite ready, if opportunity offered, to insist on the highest current rate of remuneration. Any immigrant who finds himself without money will, if he be a man of sense, take what he can get at the start, and the Chinaman only does in this respect what necessity not infrequently compels others to do. That immorality exists in an exceptional degree in the Chinese quarters of large American cities to which the emigrants have gone is undeniable, but this is largely owing to the fact that the emigrants consist mainly of one sex: the men who quit their native country leave the women behind. Few of these who, for sinister purposes, dwell upon and magnify the vices of Chinese immigrants, show a disposition to give them credit for their virtues. Their settled habits of industry cause offence to some with whose labour they come into competition, and, under false pretences, their very virtues are turned against them, while the weak side of their character is presented to public opprobrium. The Hoodlums of California, who have themselves no love of labour, shouted so lustily against the alleged vices of Chinese immigrants that Congress was induced to close the ports against them. Before Canada copies this act of arbitrary exclusion, which had no sufficient ground of justification, she had better pause. The economical effect of exclusion has proved a serious injury to industrial enterprise in California, where the greatest want of the hour is the proffered labour which Congress, acting on Hoodlum initiative, drove away. How to secure immigration is the problem which public meetings and conventions, in different parts of the State, are trying to solve. The Hoodlums do not supply the want which Chinese labour, if left alone, would have met. There are niches in the industrial hive which these immigrants are well suited to fill, and there is nothing in the condition of Canada to justify the Federal Legislature in copying a precedent of arbitrary exclusion which in the State most interested has, after a short trial, caused the deepest regret.

COMPLAINT of French outrage on the coast of Newfoundland comes by way of New York, where it had been sent by telegraph from Ottawa. The story, which requires confirmation, is that the commander of a French vessel of war caused the anchors of two small British vessels in port to be raised during a storm, to the imminent danger of their destruction. The announcement was recently made that an international commission had settled the respective claims of the French and English on what is called the French shore of Newfoundland; but if so, the convention does not appear to have gone into operation. There can be no doubt that by the Treaty of Utrecht the whole of Newfoundland was ceded to the English, and the privilege which the French secured of drying fish on one part of the coast was not intended to convey any territorial rights. Of late the French have been claiming exclusive occupation, which would amount to a right to the soil. During the whole of the negotiations of the Treaty of Utrecht, one point from which the British Government never swerved was to insist on the recognition of the right of Great Britain to the whole Island of Newfoundland, and this point the French finally conceded. A convention to settle the disputed claims which had sprung up was agreed upon by the two Governments over twenty years ago; but the Newfoundland Legislature, being allowed to confirm or reject, declined to give its consent. A new convention may be in danger of sharing the same fate. But whether the story of the new outrage be true or not, the longer a settlement is delayed the more difficult it will be to obtain. The rumour recently started that Great Britain was to buy off the French pretensions on the coast of Newfoundland by a cession of the Windward Islands was a pure *canard*. At that time the international convention was understood to have concluded its labours without any reference to such an exchange. A continued acquiescence in the unfounded claims of the French there has not been; these claims have always been disputed, but not always practically disallowed; and if a reasonable convention has been agreed upon for their settlement, Newfoundland would not be wise to do anything to prevent its going into effect.

BOWLES, the poet, was in the habit of daily riding through a country turnpike gate, and one day, says Mr. S. C. Hall, he presented as usual his twopence to the gatekeeper. "What is that for?" he asked. "For my horse, of course." "But, sir, you have no horse." "Dear me," exclaimed the astonished poet; "am I walking?" Mrs. Moore told Mr. Hall the anecdote. She also told him that Bowles on one occasion gave her a Bible as a birthday present. She asked him to write her name in it. He did so, inscribing the sacred volume to her as a gift "From the Author."