

atmosphere he has entered highly congenial, for though a hard fighter, and, when provoked, a hard hitter in the political arena, he was singularly urbane in his personal demeanour to opponents. Sir Oliver's severity was as dangerous to his foes as it was a source of strength to his comrades. Although without the fascinating manners of the late Sir John A. Macdonald, which made the dead chieftain so generally popular with all parties, Sir Oliver has his own quiet way of winning the affection and the confidence of those with whom he is brought into contact. This charm of personality was a helpful factor in securing him the support of a large body of electors, who, in Dominion politics, habitually voted against his party. They liked Sir Oliver, so they trusted him, and kept him in power longer than the term of any Premier in either Canada or the old country. Sir Oliver enters the office of Lt.-Governor of Ontario with all that Macbeth said should "accompany old age," "as honor, love, obedience, troops of friends." We trust the rest will lengthen his days, which would probably have been shortened by continuance in the conflicts and worries of a Cabinet Minister and the duties of leader of the Senate.

**Teller's Mistakes and Salaries** The desirability of paying bank clerks a salary sufficient to enable them to maintain an appearance appropriate to their calling, without getting into debt, needs no argument. But that cutting a figure in society is necessarily appropriate to their calling cannot be sustained by any argument. The work of a bank officer requires concentrated attention, which is so monotonous as to be trying to the constitution, so much so as to be almost intolerable to those of a mercurial disposition. Such work demands a cool, clear head, a head undisturbed by outside affairs. Late hours, absorbment in social engagements or sports, however innocent, are very apt to prevent the head being cool and clear in business hours. The plea that a bank Teller ought to be paid an extra salary because he is liable to lose money by making mistakes in handling money, as he has to make "shortages" good, is not reasonable. A Teller may make a mistake, but any such officer who makes mistakes so often as to appreciably affect his income has mistaken his calling. The Teller who never made a mistake would deserve a higher salary than one who blunders. The plea that a bank clerk ought to be paid an extra salary, on the presumption that he is not competent for his duties, is a peculiar one. We could understand a sum being set aside to cover losses by Tellers' mistakes. But this plan, after trial, was abandoned by a number of bankers, in some cases because it was not needed, and in others because it was regarded as a temptation to laxity. The oldest, and one of the ablest bank managers, now living in England, once paid a cheque for £100 twice over. He paid it at once on presentation, then he

sentor, and at its close repaid the cheque, both parties having forgotten the first payment in the excitement of a talk. He had to make good the £100, which he thinks served him right, and he tells this story as a warning to clerks against gossiping in business hours. A bank Teller deserves a good salary, not to cover mistakes, but to remunerate him for anxious and exhausting work, which requires the closest attention, some knowledge of banking law, and an expert facility in handling money and figures, and the honorable fulfillment of responsible duties.

**The Americans and Canada in 1837-38.** Mr. T. Saint-Pierre has published a pamphlet, containing copies of authentic documents relating to the Americans and Canada in the stormy days of 1837-38. The work is dedicated to "His Worship R. Wilson-Smith, Esq., Mayor of Montreal, as a slight token of appreciation of his worth as a public servant and citizen." The compiler considers the documents he has published to be proof of the rising in Canada in 1837 having excited no sympathy in the States, except amongst "a certain class of jingoes," as "the people, as well as the authorities, were averse to provoking a serious conflict with Great Britain." The *New York Evening Star*, of Nov. 22nd, 1837, said:

"Canadians have no cause of complaint against the Government. The causes of separation and revolt must not be set down to the acts of the mother country. Let Canadians, if they see fit, endeavor to be their own masters. That is their lookout, but do not let us of this country sympathize in their struggles on the ground of harsh treatment. We, the poor people of the United States, are now suffering more from the despotism of our own Government than the Canadians are from their own."

The *New York American*, of Nov. 30th, 1837, also declared that the civil war in Canada was not justified by any oppression they were under. The *New York Albion* declared the English were the oppressed party and the French Canadians their oppressors. The *Toronto Patriot* said of the rebellion of 1837 "The die is cast which must decide whether the Province (of Upper Canada) shall henceforth be British or French—that is the only question." In December, '37, the *American Press* was urging strict neutrality. The *Commercial Advertiser* declared "the French engaged in this rebellion are little removed from the aborigines, by whom they are surrounded," and are unfit for self-government. The *Buffalo Journal* ridiculed McKenzie's attempt to excite American sympathy; at the same time small sums of money were being raised in Detroit, Rochester and other American cities to help the rebels. In Jan., 1838, the Governors of Vermont and Michigan and President Van Buren issued proclamations, calling on United States citizens to keep strictly neutral. At a later date, President Tyler issued a proclamation to the same effect. Mr. Saint-Pierre's pamphlet proves completely that the American authorities and the American people behaved with becoming dignity and