

Now the Pall Mall Blunders. We had to call the "Daily News" of London, to task recently for its lack of information about Canada. The "Pall Mall Gazette" is now overhauled by the "Canadian Gazette" for its blunders over Canadian history. The "Pall Mall" says:—"Nova Scotia was brought into Confederation against her will." Nova Scotia could not have been forced into Confederation against her will without war against that province. The Province of Nova Scotia kicked hard against certain terms of union, but she came into the federal fold at last as quietly as the other provinces. In the same article the "Pall Mall" says:—"Newfoundland for forty-five years has been looking with covetous eyes on St. Pierre and Miguelon, the two vexatious French islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence." This is mere imagination. Those islands are a nuisance to Newfoundland as they are used openly for smuggling purposes, as the "Gazette" justly says: "in defiance of treaties and to the detriment of honest commerce."

Sydney and the American Octopus. If the report that the property of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company has been acquired by the so-called Morgan syndicate proves to be reliable, it would be interesting to obtain an expression of disinterested public opinion of the deal. Without knowing something of the terms of sale and purchase, all criticism should be withheld. Yet we cannot refrain from expressing regret at the bare possibility of our wealthy neighbours having obtained control of the newest and greatest bounty-fed Canadian industry. When the Dominion Coal Company was in treaty with the Government of Nova Scotia for certain concessions, fear was expressed that the Americans were bent upon absorbing that splendid province. May we assume that the process of swallowing its mineral wealth has begun? In any event, we hope the growth and development of Cape Breton will continue.

The Trading Successors of Ananias. One of the most famous of liars once exclaimed, "Lord, Lord, how this world is given to lying!" A contemporary has a facetious article of which the above phrase would serve as a motto. He regards the besetting sin of the day to be lying, which, he says, can be done "systematically, scientifically, and even benevolently." We presume the "benevolent" form is the oyster soup at charity bazaars, which has an awful reputation for deceitfulness. Among the "scientific," we should class meteorological reports, which tell us that a certain month has had an average temperature, which everybody knows to be very wide of the truth. As to the "systematic" variety, there is a famous example in a lofty column in London, England, of which it was said, "it lifts its head and lies," the inscription on it being regarded as stating a falsehood. Our contemporary's shafts are aimed at the trade Ananias in whose flaring advertisements of goods to be sold "at

less than cost" the lie sticks right out, as it did when Falstaff was swaggering over his combat with foot-pads. Such advertisements being mendacious in intention, are, therefore, lies, but they deceive no one but such as those who prefer falsehood to truth. To deceive customers is to destroy their respect and confidence, which are the surest foundations of a prosperous business. Our contemporary regards trade lying as peculiar to this age. It is more in evidence certainly, because advertising is now so general and so extensive as compared to even one generation ago. But the satirists of all ages have sent their barbed arrows flying at trader's falsehoods. We have a specimen, indeed, of the class in the Old Testament in the buyer who lied about the value of what he wished to purchase. A trader of any rank or class whose word is untrustworthy is conspiring against himself, for he is undermining his credit, and rotting the very top root of honour and prosperity.

As Others See Us.

A people who are so taken up with their own domestic affairs as to have no outlook upon or interest in the life and the judgments of other nations are in the path of retrogression. Outside example either teaches or cautions. Even the semi-civilized have some features from which the more advanced countries may learn. The criticisms of outsiders is usually worthy of attention, it is so independent, so original, so suggestive. An eminent London journal has recently published some observations on England and Britishers by a distinguished Chinese writer, probably an attache of the Embassy of that Empire in London. He writes excellent English, which language, indeed, the Chinese Ambassador at Washington considers to be the most likely to be the universal tongue. The critic of Great Britain's position and people, and business ways, writes:—

"Economically, your society is so constituted that it is constantly on the verge of starvation. You cannot produce what you need to consume, nor consume what you need to produce. It is matter of life and death to you to find markets in which you may dispose of your manufactures, and from which you may derive your food and raw material." All of which is true enough, so far as it goes, but England could raise all the food she needs from her own soil, if necessity arose. The opening of the markets of China is declared to have been "the motive, thinly disguised, of all your dealings with us in recent years." The motive never was disguised, thinly or trickily, England always said plainly, we desire free ports in China and freedom to trade with the Chinese. Such a desire had no shame nor glory, it was simply business enterprise. The Chinese, the writer says, do not understand business enterprise. "We are accustomed, before adopting any grave measure of policy, to estimate its effects, not merely on the sum total of