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Comments on the Cartoons.



VERY MUCII ALIKE.—Mr. George's elaborate and able work, "Progress and Poverty," was an attempt on his part to answer the important question, Why, in spite of increase in productive power, do vages tend to a minimum which will give but a bare living? That such is the tendency of wages at the present time, when the productive power of labor is greater than it ever was before, is unquestionable. Mr. George's reply is, in brief, that the laborer comes out short because the landlord gets more than his fair share, as the result of laws now in operation, which are radically wrong and unjust. We are aware that the "Anti-Poverty" movement, which seeks to rectify this wrong, is highly unpopular with many—chiefly with those who have given it no study, and are sublimely innocent of its real meaning and object, but it will hardly be denied that nowadays, in many classes of society, labor can

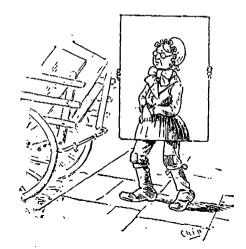
not hope to do more than secure the absolute necessaries of life—food, clothing and shelter—and this takes no account at all of the unemployed. Now, these things are what Slavery guaranteed to the Slave in exchange for his toil, and it follows therefore that, so far as the comforts and pleasures of this life are concerned, the laborer is literally in a state of bondage. It surely behooves every friend of humanity, if these facts be admitted, to listen with respect, if not enthusiasm, to the statement of any feasible plan by which, without doing real injustice to any other class, the circumstances of the poor and suffering may be greatly bettered.

FOSTERING GOOD FEELING.—We are not quite sure that the best way to foster good feeling with Uncle Sam at the present juncture is for Mr. Foster to be particularly strict in his interpretation of our fishery rights, and very vigorous in acting upon his interpretation. We do not say that our Minister of Marine has been so, but Uncle Sam thinks he has, which amounts to the same thing in this case. Sir

John's unconscious pun was, we thought, too good to let slip—hence our cartoon. The quotation in which it occurs is from one of the Premier's speeches during the session, a speech in which, by the way, he said nothing which would discourage Commercial Unionists. The passage quoted in connection with our cartoon is, on the contrary, a distinct expression in favor of that project, as Sir John must know very well that no Reciprocity short of the Unrestricted sort can be got from the United States. We commend this utterance to the Hamilton Spectator and other stupid organ-grinders who have been for some time opposing Commercial Union (not, of course, with argument—but with abuse of its advocates) under the belief that in so doing they were serving their masters at Ottawa. Those masters have not as yet officially declared themselves upon the subject, and the chieftain himself is, in his own words, in favor of "enlarged commercial relations" with our neighbors.

THE INFANT INDUSTRIES.—Some of the Canadian manufacturers are pleading the baby-act, declaring that under Commercial Union their infant industries would be crushed by the older infants of the Eastern States. The marvellous growth and present prosperity of the Western and Southern manufacturers (who, by the way, are considerably more infantile than those Canadian tender-feet) is a sufficient answer to this pleading, even aside from the consideration that the benefit of the majority, and not of a minority, must be sought. It remains with the timid ones referred to to show why Canada, with her superior resources, cannot do at least as well as the Southern and Western States under similar conditions.

THE NEW ORGAN.—A project is on foot to establish a new Conservative organ in this city—vice the Mail, reformed. Mr. Boswell is, as usual, head pusher. Big dividends are promised to shareholders, and the paper is likely to get some Government pap. It is (if duly born) to be christened The Empire.



AUNT MARTHA'S PORTRAIT GOES TO THE FAIR.

LEGAL NOTE.

Two distinguished Queen's Counsel met on Front Street the other day. While they stood talking, a dray loaded with dry-goods cases passed along the street.

"Do you observe anything legal about that team of horses?" asked one Q.C. of the other.

"I fail to note the resemblance you hint at," the other answered.

"Well," returned the first, "they are drawing a conveyance."

Just at that point one of the dry-goods cases fell from the dray, and as the driver turned to contemplate the disaster, the second Q.C. said to the other, "The expression on that man's face strangely reminds of an expression habitual to you. I suppose it is to be accounted for by the fact that he has just lost a case."

And the two lights of the bar went in opposite direc-

tions