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Comments on the Cartoons.



THE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY, VERY!—The interests of Canada being primarily involved, we sincerely hope that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain may prove a prudent, able, and successful diplomat when he sits down with the American Fishery Commissioners. It must be confessed, however, that prudence has not very highly characterized his preliminary actions. Had it not been for a suggestion from the level-headed Viceroy of India, Mr. Chamberlain would have gone to Washington direct, transacted his business, and returned to England, without having set foot on the soil of the country chiefly concerned in the negotiations. He apparently never thought that the good will of the Canadian people was worth taking with him to the American capital, until Dufferin intimated it to him. He will now call at Canada on his way, but, in his present frame of mind, it will be a mere matter of form. He is evidently laboring under the impression that Commercial Union (which may come up for discussion in the Commission) is something which is being agitated by a mere handful of Canadians, and he has pretty plainly intimated that in his opinion it is a "fad" with which he does not sympathize. Something ought to be done to make it perfectly clear to this extraordinary person that Commercial Union is, in the estimation of a majority of our people, the only measure that will solve the present difficulties of Confederation and preserve British connection. With Mr. Chamberlain's views on the Irish question we have nothing to do, and we can only hope that his utterances on that subject on the eve of his departure for America may not in any manner jeopardize our interests.

OUR OWN "DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE."—We would fain regard Sir C. Tupper's late expressions in favor of Temperance Reform as sincere, but we cannot deny that the cantankerous critics who are pointing with derision at the extensive wine cellar of the London mansion, with its high-toned and high-priced appliances for beer, brandy, and wine-drinking, have made a good point. In all fairness to the new recruit we would wait and hear what he is going to do about this private bar, which certainly isn't a good thing for a Prohibitionist to have about his house. In the meantime Sir Charles appears to be playing the popular dual character of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."



ADDING INSULT TO INJURY.

THE poor Canadian son of toil,
Beneath his load of taxes,
Turns to his old-time friend Sir John,
And for relief he axes;
Quoth he: "I'm nearly done to death;
This struggle's simply ruin'
And I can see no other cure
Except Commercial Union."

"No," cries Sir John, "free interchange
A suicidal course is,
'Twould be *disloyal* to sell the Yanks
More cattle, sheep, and horses;
Behold this noble Union Jack,
I wave it, like a fairy,
And if you gaze at it, your load
Will grow quite light and airy!"

"O, do not take me for a fool,"
Responds the angry voter,
"I tell you 'neath this burden I
Refuse to longer totter—
Talk gammon to the *Morning World*,
Who'll swallow it like winking,
But understand that lately I
Have done a little *thinking!*"

MR. SPURGEON has left the Baptist Union because that body has become tinctured with unorthodox views. The great preacher has so little sympathy with novelties of doctrine that it is a wonder he submits to having his church longer called *Newington Tabernacle*.