

Jameson to forbid his raid at the time it took place. Dr. Jameson's solicitor, not unreasonably, asks for a stay of controversy pending the inquiry into the whole affair by a Parliamentary Committee, but, if Mr. Hammond's statement is true, it will only go to demonstrate more clearly the utter wickedness of the raid and the magnitude of the danger which Great Britain has fortunately, so far, escaped. Meanwhile, there are discomfiting rumours of the continued arming of Transvaal forces, with the apparent intention of asserting, sooner or later, the complete independence of the Republic. For such action Dr. Jameson's raid unfortunately furnished an excuse.

Crowding the Profession.

Among the many good things said by Lord Chief Justice Russell in the course of his Canadian sojourn, none was more needed or more appropriate than his warning to young Canadians not to make their education a mere means of finding their way into the so-called "learned professions." These are so entirely overcrowded that disappointment is sure to follow in the great majority of cases. Of course, Lord Russell's own phenomenal career will do much to counteract his sensible advice, for if a young Irish Catholic boy may successfully pass, by his own exertions, from the village school of Killowen to the highest judicial position in the British Empire, it is hard to set limits to the possibilities in any other career. In all probability, however, he had in mind the long struggle through which he had to pass, the many discouragements he had to overcome, and the many competitors who fell out by the way, or at least behind in the race. His words of warning were, we may be sure, earnestly given, and they should not fall unheeded.

A New Parliamen- tary Rule.

Mr. Balfour, leader of the British House of Commons, has gained, as well as lost, prestige during the session just closed. He is credited with the invention of an ingenious plan of handling the estimates which secures more uniform attention to all classes of appropriations. In past years comparatively unimportant items of expenditure have frequently monopolized the time available for discussion, and, in consequence, vast sums have been voted without an opportunity for adequate scrutiny. This has been remedied by a sessional resolution, but the system has given such general satisfaction that it is likely to be made a standing rule.

Gladstone on Forestry.

Among the many peculiarities of Mr. Gladstone, one that has always attracted the public is his fondness for trees. The other day he took great delight in showing a group of foreign visitors over Hawarden, and, in the course of conversation with them, he said many interesting and some very sensible things about forestry. He made a charge against his own countrymen, that while they have done much to utilize trees for purposes of ornament, they have done little in the way of cultivating them for economic purposes. Mr. Gladstone is himself an adept in the use of the axe, owing to his persistent habit of personally regulating the growth of his own forest.

British Conservatism.

The Board of Visitors of the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, England, has repeatedly recommended that the cadets should be taught French and German throughout their course. The military authorities have endorsed the proposal by offering premiums on French and German at the entrance examination. Nothing stands in the way of carrying the

Visitors' recommendations into effect except the parsimony of Parliament, which has not yet granted the \$5,000 or \$6,000 a year necessary for the teaching of these languages. This is a curious example of the unreasoning conservatism which has too often hampered the introduction of useful reforms in Britain. Surely it is more than reasonable that every British officer should be familiar with French and German, when every French and German officer knows English.

The Gold Democratic Campaign.

The convention of "Gold" Democrats at Chicago has nominated candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the United States, Senator Palmer of Illinois for the former, and Mr. Buckner of Kentucky for the latter. As there does not appear to be the slightest chance of securing election, these gentlemen must be accorded the credit of self-sacrifice in accepting the nominations. Neither of them has ever been sufficiently prominent to have a place in the "running" under ordinary circumstances, but the circumstances are just now so extraordinary that this nomination may have very important results. The convention issued a platform made up of the old-fashioned Democratic planks—tariff reform, sound money, anti-monopoly in trade, and the usual patriotic resolutions on foreign affairs. The effect of this complication of the issue will, during the next few weeks, be watched with deep interest all over the civilized world.

The Health of Girls.

The late Dr. Hammond, of Belleville Hospital, New York, was a shrewd observer and a plain speaker, as well as a scientific physician. Among his most valuable sayings are the following aphorisms respecting the physical training of girls, who, in his opinion, need health even more than boys do: "Calisthenics may be very genteel, and romping very ungenteel, but one is the shadow, the other the substance, of healthful exercise. Girls can only obtain health as boys do, by running, tumbling—by all sorts of innocent vagrancy. At least once a day girls should have their halters taken off, the bars let down, and be turned loose like young colts." This hit at the modern tendency towards systematic physical culture is not undeserved, though the latter is valuable in its way. The great lacks of most educational establishments for young girls are good playgrounds and suitable games. No gymnasium, however well equipped with apparatus, will compensate for the former, and not even the bicycle is an adequate substitute for the latter.

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Song of the Troubadour.

A Troubadour sang in the olden days
Within the castle gate;
He sang to the lords and ladies fair,
And all of high estate:

Oh saw ye not my lady fair,
The fairest in the land?
A glory shone o'er her flowing hair
Like the waves on the sunlit sand.
Like the sunlit waves on the crystal sand,
Oh saw ye not my lady fair?
Like crystal sunlit waves, her hair
Shone with a glory everywhere,
In the wide, wide land.

Toronto, Sept. 7th, 1896.

W. A. SHERWOOD.

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One of the most eccentric church spires is that of the parish church of Chesterfield, England, with its curious spire 228 feet high, and sixty-four feet off the perpendicular. Whichever way the observer looks at this curious spire it appears to bulge out in that direction.