

excited the jealousy of European countries, and have made them eager to take any opportunity of humiliating a successful rival. Secondly, that English conceit, manifested in an irritating assumption of superiority and an irritating habit of disregarding other people's sensibilities, has bred dislike of England in this country. "There is," says the "Speaker," "some justification for the popular American impression of our self-conceit. We ourselves know that it springs mainly from the self-absorption of a busy race. We have our own work in the world to do; and whilst we are doing it we trouble ourselves very little about the affairs, or indeed the feelings, of others. So we tread unconsciously upon the corns of many of our fellow-creatures, and we have naturally to pay the penalty for doing so." Insularity, the "Speaker" adds, is a great thing for England, but there is a penalty attached to it. "It inspires in us that traditional attitude of, we will not say contempt, but condescension towards the foreigner which has been so often satirized by writers and philosophers of our own race." This is admirable talking. It shows the instinct for truth which lies at the bottom of the character of the English-speaking races. We commend this example to our own flamboyant press.

Last week the question was raised in England why the United States should recommend arbitration in the British Venezuelan affair, when it has not yet paid the \$425,000 to Great Britain, agreed upon between the late Secretary Gresham and the British Ambassador, Sir Julian Pauncefote, as a lump sum in settlement of Behring Sea claims. The charge that we are not carrying out the terms of that arbitration is wholly unjust. By Article VIII. of the Behring Sea Treaty it was provided that

"The United States and Great Britain, having found themselves unable to agree upon a reference which shall include the question of the liability of each for the injuries alleged to have been sustained by the other, or by its citizens, in connection with the claims presented and urged by it, and being solicitous that this subordinate question should not interrupt or longer delay the submission and determination of the main questions, do agree that either may submit to the arbitrators any question of fact involved in said claims, and ask for a finding thereon; the question of the liability of either Government upon the facts found to be the subject of further negotiation."

When the questions of fact were submitted to the arbitrators, the finding was against us; but the amount of damages to be paid by us was left to be settled by further negotiation, the Paris Tribunal expressly declining to arbitrate the question of damages. The late Secretary of State and the British Ambassador decided that the best method of settlement would be through a Commission, but as differences had arisen regarding the phraseology to be used in establishing the Commission, and as the expenses of the Commission would be considerable, the Secretary and the Ambassador proposed to settle all claims without adjudication, by a compromise lump sum of \$425,000. This agreement was, of course, subject to Congressional ratification; Congress refused to ratify it, and negotiations have been resumed for the organization of a Commission. If our Government shall refuse to pay the damages awarded by this Commission, it will then be time enough to accuse us of bad faith. As many of our Representatives in Washington believe that more than half the British claim was for the expected catches of vessels warned away; that more than half the vessels for which claims were filed were wholly or in part owned by Americans; that a large number of these ships had been put down at double their value; in short, that less than one-fifth of the amount originally claimed was on an equitable basis, it is not surprising that our National Legislature decided to provide

for a proper compensation only after thorough investigation.

Last week the Volksraad of the Orange Free State adopted a resolution declaring that the State would assist the Transvaal at all times when such assistance should be required, and protested against the continued existence of the British South Africa Company as being a danger to the peace of Africa, recording its opinion that the charter of the Company should be canceled and that Mashonaland and Matabeleland should be placed either under the British Imperial Government or under the Government of Cape Colony. It is thought in England that it might be a good thing under the circumstances to cancel the charter, since, should the Company be forced into liquidation, the resulting tumult would show that many men high in station, including some members of the reigning house, have realized great amounts of money by the sale of South Africa shares at large premiums to the present unfortunate holders. The forfeiture of the charter would also relieve the Company of much of the blame which has already come to it, and some of the odium might be transferred to the Government. The directors would contend that, but for the repeal of the charter by the Government, they might have fulfilled every engagement. The Company's organizer and chief working power, Mr. Cecil Rhodes, ex-Premier of Cape Colony, has sailed for England. As to his lieutenant, Dr. Jameson, the leader of the recent filibustering raid, we have conflicting dispatches. It is announced that he and his officers are to be conveyed as prisoners to England, where they will be arraigned before proper tribunals. Again, we have news that, as the arrested men have been accused of treason and also of seeking to subvert the Government of the Transvaal, they must be tried by its High Court. As to the Americans arrested, our consular agent at Johannesburg is acting in co-operation with the British authorities in securing protection. The fact that we have accredited an agent to the South African Republic has led some to think that we have recognized the entire independence of that nation and have disregarded the species of suzerainty which Great Britain holds. The statement has been made by officers of our State Department, however, that, in view of the treaty of 1884 between Great Britain and the Transvaal, this has no bearing on the question. In the above-mentioned treaty this paragraph defines the former's authority:

"The South African Republic will conclude no treaty or engagement with any State or nation other than the Orange Free State, nor with any native tribe to the eastward or westward of the Republic, until the same has been approved by her Majesty the Queen. Such approval shall be considered to have been granted if her Majesty's Government shall not, within six months after receiving a copy of such treaty (which shall be delivered to them immediately upon its completion), have notified that the conclusion of such treaty is in conflict with the interests of Great Britain, or of any of her Majesty's possessions in South Africa."

Hence it will be seen that it was not necessary to ask Great Britain's consent to accredit an agent to the South African Republic. Its Volksraad has met at Pretoria, and, after authorizing an addition to the State artillery, and passing resolutions of thanks to the Orange Free State and also to the Cape Colony Government for their influence and support, has adjourned until the regular May session.

The return to office of some of the Ministers who had resigned from the Canadian Cabinet was entirely overshadowed in importance last week by the elections in Manitoba. Premier Greenway has increased his legislative support over that which he enjoyed in the last Manitoban

Parliament. More than thirty constituencies out of the forty have now indorsed Mr. Greenway's colleagues—a sufficient answer to the Remedial Order providing separate schools for Manitoba. It is claimed by the Roman Catholics that the Dominion could not have been formed without the compromise of separate schools, and on this account a provision was inserted in the British North America Act that “nothing in any such law shall prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools which any class of persons have by law in the province at the union.” Under this act the Roman Catholics of Manitoba had the right of support from the public fund for their separate schools; but when the province became mostly Protestant, it was seen that the Protestant schools were making better progress than were those of the Roman Catholics. In 1890, therefore, the Public Schools Act was passed. It declared that no school which did not conform to the provisions of the Act with reference to certificated teachers, authorized text-books, and teaching should be deemed a public school and entitled to any share of the school taxes or legislative grant for educational purposes. No religious exercises were to be allowed except those authorized by the Advisory Board, and no religious exercises were to contain anything opposed to the religious beliefs of any class of the people. This provision was not satisfactory to the Roman Catholics, who contended that they were entitled under the Manitoba Act to separate schools in which they might teach their own doctrines. A test case—“Barrett vs. the City of Winnipeg”—in which the constitutionality of the Public Schools Act was attacked, was carried from court to court until it reached the British Privy Council, which declared that the Public Schools Act was constitutional. Then the Roman Catholics declared that they had the right of redress from the Dominion Parliament, and accordingly they petitioned the Governor-General in Council for relief. The Dominion Cabinet (the Governor-General in Council) expressed doubts as to whether this petition could be heard, and referred the matter to the decision of the Canadian Supreme Court. As the Court was evenly divided, the question was carried to the British Privy Council, which decided that the Roman Catholics had the right to appeal to the Governor-General in Council. A statement was added, however, that the matter of relief was entirely one for the Dominion Cabinet to decide. The Cabinet issued an order directing Manitoba to restore separate schools to the Roman Catholics. Last June the Manitoba Legislature met and declined to carry out the terms of the order; upon which the Dominion Cabinet declared that if Manitoba did not carry out the terms the Dominion Government would at the present Parliamentary session institute legislation to override the Manitoba Public School Act. By the elections last week the people of Manitoba reiterated the answer of the Manitoba Legislature, and it remains to be seen what response the people of the Dominion of Canada will make at the impending Canadian elections. In the United States the laity of the Roman Catholic Church might be safely trusted to confirm the position of Manitoba in favor of non-ecclesiastical public schools.

The recall of General Campos from the command of the Spanish forces in Cuba is regarded by the friends of the insurgent movement as an open confession on the part of Spain of her total failure, so far, to make any headway in putting down the rebellion. General Campos has been universally regarded as Spain's ablest military commander. He has had far larger bodies of troops under his orders than were ever sent to Cuba in previous outbreaks; his

army has outnumbered the insurgents ten to one. Yet he has not only failed to defeat or disperse his enemies, but he has been unable to compel them to confine their operations to any one part of the island. At first we were told that the rebels had been driven into the swamps at the eastern end of the island. Then, as they appeared in large bodies in central Cuba, a line was drawn south from Havana to the southern coast, beyond which they were not to pass. As the island is narrow at this part, it seemed an easy military undertaking to hold the line inflexibly. But the insurgents, by threatening Havana, compelled Campos to draw his whole force around the capital, and have passed and re-passed his imaginary line at pleasure. Naturally, the extreme party in Havana have accused Campos of lack of vigor and of political leanings towards a compromise with the autonomists. General Garcia, the leader of a former Cuban revolt, speaks of Campos as conciliatory; all accounts agree that he has absolutely refused to adopt the cruel methods of warfare which have been employed by other Spanish generals in Cuba. His successor, General Weyler, is in experience inferior to Campos; he is spoken of as energetic and ready to adopt extreme measures. In this desultory kind of warfare it seems almost impossible to bring on a decisive engagement. The rapidity and alertness of the revolutionary leaders are remarkable. Raids and attacks upon exposed points are followed by swift retreats to inaccessible districts. A whole year has been spent by Spain in futile attempts to crush the rebellion, and it is now stronger than ever.



During the past week the newspapers which urged most strenuously that the new bond issue should have been sold to the Morgan syndicate, instead of being offered in the open market to the highest bidders, have abandoned the prediction that the method employed would fail. From the beginning it was evident that foreign capitalists could bid for the new bonds, and therefore that the syndicate could not dictate its own terms by reason of its control of so large a part of the available gold in this country. The question of greatest interest was whether individual members of the syndicate would enter into the competition for the bonds by offering separate bids. This question had been practically answered in the affirmative by the beginning of last week, certain members of the syndicate having announced that the investors they represented desired the bonds and would offer competing bids. On Wednesday this answer was given in a conclusive way by the publication of a circular-letter from Mr. Pierpont Morgan, dissolving the syndicate. This letter ought to do much to disabuse the public mind of popular prejudice against capitalists, though, unfortunately, it will not be read by nor truly interpreted to the prejudiced class of the public. It is thoroughly patriotic in tone. The syndicate, it says, was organized to offer the Government \$200,000,000 of gold coin in exchange for bonds. Within four days the entire amount had been subscribed. The subscribers belonged to four classes of about equal importance:

1. Foreign firms, prepared, if necessary, to ship gold to the amount of this subscription.
2. American banks, savings-banks, trust companies, and private individuals in possession of gold, and wishing the bonds for investment.
3. American banks in possession of gold, and wishing the bonds for future sale in the market.
4. Firms without gold, but willing to obtain it, in order to participate in the loan.

In his circular Mr. Morgan quotes a letter from himself to the President, written just prior to the announcement of the new bond issue, and presumably influential, in connection with a previous interview, in bringing that issue about,