

It is quite understandable that we should not want in our country residents who do not reach a certain standard of intelligence, a certain standard of physical perfection and a certain standard of equipment for citizenship. The Dominion law admits that there must be reasonable mental and physical qualifications to entitle one to come into the country as a settler. Our fellow-subjects of the Mother Country, even, must satisfy reasonable demands in those respects. And surely it is quite as requisite that those reaching our country should be able to speak our language. Without that equipment they are not only handicapped, but they are, for a long time at least, practically useless and next thing to a burden upon the community. Now, that reasonable knowledge of our language is practically all that the Natal Act requires, and it is what no would-be immigrant should be unable to satisfy. It lies with every alien who desires entry into British Columbia to qualify himself to meet the tests, the reasonable tests, which the provincial law, were it in operation, would demand.

These seventy-eight Hindus, if they are deported, as it is not unlikely because the Dominion Government appears to be in a state of such uncertainty as to what to do, and is not unwilling evidently to sacrifice the whole Indian empire, if it can only crowd its friends, the Japanese, into this country, will go back to the land of their birth and tell their fellow-countrymen that they, who had fought the battles of the Empire, were refused admission into a British colony, for no reason whatever, except that they had been unavoidably detained at a British port on their way; and accordingly the unrest in India will be increased. On the other hand, had they been rejected as a result of the operation of the Natal Act, they would have explained, when they returned home, that the law of this country required all immigrants to speak the language and that as they were unable to speak the language they could not be accepted.

But these Hindus, as matters now stand, cannot be rejected. If Dr. Munro, on orders received from the Federal Government, attempts to deport them, all that they have to do is to retain competent counsel to take their case into court, and the law will give them the justice which the Government denies them. But no surprise, of course, will be felt if the federal authorities attempt to send these people back whence they came. And should such an attempt be made, and the Hindus appeal to the legal tribunal, perhaps the Government at Ottawa may even show fight. We should then have the picturesque spectacle of a British country, fresh from its triumphs, in court, in defence of the unrestricted entry into British Columbia of coolie labor from Japan, struggling to reject and deport our fellow-subjects from India, who by their loyalty and courage, have been largely instrumental in making Britain's Empire in Asia.

We do not want the Hindus in Can-

many of the questions which come before the board for determination, but that, because this is so, the two chief positions on it should be reserved for lawyers should not necessarily follow. It is not too much to say that the people of Canada would often have been more pleased if questions at dispute between them and corporations had been settled with more regard for equity and less for law; if regard for plain, practical common-sense—and recognition of public rights had governed decisions rather than a slavish respect for the letter of enactments and for precedent. Judges and lawyers, more perhaps than any other element of the community, seem unable to arouse themselves to a realization of the fact that what are called private rights, which here of course mean corporation rights, are often public wrongs. Their whole training inculcates respect, often servile respect, for precedent, and Canadian precedents in disputes between corporations and the public may fairly be said to be, in a multitude of cases, more honored in the breach than the observance.

Of course it is desirable that one of the members of the board should be a sound and capable lawyer, but it is difficult to see why the chairman, and the commissioner next in importance to him, should be members of the legal profession. We should say rather that a thoroughly experienced and capable railwayman, who could judge fairly between the railways and the public, would be more likely to decide intelligently and wisely than a lawyer. It was with this idea in view that we suggested the name of Mr. William Whyte of the C. P. R. of some man of similar knowledge and capacity. Of course to secure the services of such an one the salary would have to be increased, but when the importance of the duties are considered the Government should not hesitate at a few thousand dollars in the matter of salary.

It has been suggested that if the salary of the chief commissioner were increased to \$15,000 per year and those of the other members of the board proportionately, it would be easier for the Government to fill the positions with men acceptable to the country, and, if so, there is little, if any, fear that the public would object.

It is a pleasing custom in the French Senate to have the oldest member preside at the opening of the annual session. The senator now entitled to that honor is M. Porrique, ninety-two years old and paralyzed. He was recently equal to the occasion, for he had himself carried in a chair to the Senate and to the platform, where he presided acceptably.

Among the sixty Americans recently granted an audience by the Pope was the Rev. P. J. Kavanagh of Lexington. Father Kavanagh unofficially confirms the rumor that two more American cardinals are about to be created, and that his choice has fallen upon Archbishop O'Connell and Farley.

The little girl came home glee, and the mother asked about the luncheon. "Were you polite little girl? And did you try to do all I told you at it asked the proud mamma.

"Oh, yes; I was polite," said girl, "but the Queen wasn't." "The Queen wasn't?" said the mother. "Why, what did she do?" "She took her chicken bone fingers, and I just shook my her, like you did at me, and a xy, piggy, piggy!"—Philadelph American.

His Masterpiece.
(The young artist at St. Pe who recently caricatured the nihilist journal is now doing years' hard labor at Siberia.)

It doubled the sale of the paper. It made his old editor glad. A nice turn of wit was displayed. Of the almost too talented. The ribs of each moujik are a. The drawing's so quaint and it set the whole capital shak. That caricature of the Czar.

No. He isn't a bit swollen-headed. The size of his hat is the size as it was ere the boost which when he looked. Off that portrait and shot in. He knows he's achieved his v. In Art he's a recognized star. And they've made him the guest of a nation.

The artist who hit off the Czar.

Pointed Paragraphs.

Talent is one thing; tact is another thing.

The girl who looks good isn't usually good-looking.

How eloquent the silent in silver dollar is!

Some people make a specialty of being impossible.

Once in a while an actress is good for her press agent.

If men were less stupid, women have to be a lot more clever.

Women have no respect for their husbands; they listen to everything they say.

When misery is at hand the much pleasure in recalling former times.

All the chivalry in a man's evaporates when he meets a shrewed woman.

As a rule there's nothing in a man's name but sometimes everything a man is in his wife's name.

Happy is the bride's father who is in the act of shifting a large social obligation to a young man.

More dollars than sense.

Song Dubbles.

A wise son toucheth a glad father. Train a child up and away he goes.

It's a long worm that has no tail. If you would hew your way to the top, use a climb-ax.

By taking a quill into his hand a man has made a "goose" of himself. Men who make a cloak of it may wear smoking jackets in the world.

It's consoling to think that if it in the manger stays there long enough he will starve to death.