

lege, or even ekes out his subsistence while there by manual toil outside of study hours, is good enough to meet either in athletics or intellectual contests with any Englishman living, though the latter have a pedigree a yard long and titles and crests and that kind of thing plastered all over him.

The Cornell boys did not express themselves with sufficient firmness on this point, contenting themselves with mildly protesting for a time against the obnoxious condition. Their countrymen would have been prouder of them if they had rejected the un-American proposition altogether, even though their refusal to entertain it had resulted in the total failure of the negotiations; and they do not deserve as much of the national faith and hope for their success in the contests as would otherwise have attended them. Nevertheless, the desire on this side is universal that they may give a good account of themselves, pull long and strong together, and make the stately bosom of the Thames fairly flutter with their feathering blades. To be a representative of America is something to a man's credit, although the latter is somewhat tarnished when he affects the tendencies of a brand-new cad.

SILVER'S OUTLOOK.

The partisan press is using up a great deal of editorial space these days in explaining and justifying or condemning—as the case may be—the attitude of two or three recent political conventions with reference to the silver question. The comments thus vouchsafed are less satisfying than deceptive, less instructive than technical, less honest than ingenious. Those papers which favor the free and unlimited coinage of silver are only comforted in their distress at their own party's failure to climb upon that platform, by the fact that the opposing party has also fought shy of the glittering issue. Those which stand for what they call an "honest dollar," meaning a gold one only, are equally chagrined at, though they attempt to gloss over, what they call the equivocal expressions of their own party, though the same kind of expressions by their political opponents are branded as a cowardly and disgraceful straddle.

Out of all the talk pro and con, the charges, counter-charges and multiplied rejoinders, which profit not neither do they teach, this fact seems clear: neither of the great parties is going to allow itself to be committed to the proposed experiment in monetary policy. Perhaps it is better, even for the silver men themselves, that it is so. Opponents are tempted to relax the violence of their defense, and to study the merits of the case with more calmness. Still more important is the effect which this phase of the question exerts upon foreign countries, with whose co-operation even the gold men admit that bimetallicism can be made prudent and beneficial. The growth of the silver sentiment in Germany is sturdy and rapid; France is already profoundly committed to it; while the recent ministerial changes in England have placed men at the front whose bimetallic views are liberal to the last

degree, and at the backs of the party in power a constituency that is strongly inclined to accept the silver solution of the monetary problem.

On the whole the situation as at present defined offers much that is pleasing to the fair-minded and the conservative of all parties; it is unquestionably more favorable than it was six months or even sixty days ago. As indicating the tendency toward a broader and fairer examination of the question by an authority on the "sound money" side, we conclude with an extract from the *Financial Chronicle*, a journal which, as the *American Banker* observes, "has never been suspected of chasing after false gods:"

We believe that an arrangement for uniting the two currencies is feasible. Furthermore, we are of the opinion, with the world's workers and the world's commerce situated as they are—more than half of the entire population having a silver currency—that it is not only a feasible undertaking, but a highly desirable if not an essential union. It does not affect our confidence in the feasibility and success of the proposal because theoretically many an able economist thinks differently. There are also very many who hold the opinion we do. Besides, we have lived many years, and during that long life we never knew an important work to be undertaken that did not have full half of the ablest of the experts in its line arrayed against it, proving clearly on known facts that it was impossible. We need go back no further than the Atlantic cable enterprise for a suggestive illustration. No one has forgotten Mr. Field's struggles and success against the evidence of his insane folly furnished by so many able electricians. Indeed, the history of this country's progress is marked all the way through by a series of successes obtained in violation of plain economic truths—a series with a succession almost as frequent as the successive steps in our development have been.

POOR QUALITY OF PATRIOTISM.

The more one examines and thinks over the significance of the Fourth of July riot in east Boston, the less excusable does the outbreak appear either on the part of those who participated in or those who incited it. As will be remembered, the whole rumpus was caused by the display of the "little red schoolhouse" in the procession. If this, as its supporters claim, was merely to show honor to and emphasize the great mission and importance of the American common school, the most fiery and unreasonable of our alien population could not have found just cause for anger. But this does not seem to have been the real and sole motive in the instance referred to. There is in Boston a very considerable element ranging under the banner of the A. P. A. or the confessedly anti-Catholic organization, and these, judging from the utterances of their own particular newspaper, appear to think they are the sole protectors of the American school, and have a clear monopoly of its defense. So that in this view the display spoken of was not a symbol of free non-sectarian education at all, but of narrow bigotry and bitter intolerance. It was therefore a challenge both impolitic and impudent, and its acceptance by the Catholics and their sympathizers

was of the same character. There was mighty small patriotism in the matter on either side, added to poor judgment on the part of some of the city aldermen, whose refusal to permit the "schoolhouse" in the display magnified a feature that would otherwise have probably been almost entirely unnoticed. With intolerance on one side and ignorance on the other, both stimulated by official blundering, it is easy to understand how a conflict might ensue, and equally easy to strip it of the grave significance which certain timid critics are wont to attach to it.

PRINCE AND KAISER.

Berlin correspondents tell of a bitter war between Bismarck and the German emperor. It seems that the now feeble old man, whose last years have been rendered miserable by the enforced inactivity to which a sovereign's ambition has doomed him, received a final thrust by the studied omission of all reference to him and his work, at the Klei festivities, and in the exclamation, "The ingratitude of kings!" he concentrated the feelings of a nearly broken heart. Rumors that the prince was seriously ill were cabled throughout the world, and the German people held their breath in anxious expectation, while in court circles the feeling of satisfaction was but slightly veiled.

Bismarck had just perused the *Reichsanzeiger*, in which the official notice of the opening of the Kaiser Wilhelm canal appeared. Columns were devoted to councilors and privy councilors, city senators and provincial officials. Everybody who had laid a stone or drawn a plan was mentioned; but the name of him without whose genius and iron will the water way would never have been built was omitted; not a line, not a word in acknowledgment of his services for the Fatherland! This was too much for the man who once terrified Europe but who now is disheartened and saddened by his wife's death and loneliness in his seclusion. And the wound was made deeper by the fact that Bismarck's old antagonist, Boetticher, was honored more than justice required, as if the emperor had well studied to render his intended insult as ugly as circumstances would permit.

Bismarck, however, is not the man to surrender without fighting. He at once summoned the editors of two influential journals and revealed to them Boetticher's personal and official record. The result was an alleged expose of the vast expenditures of other people's money by that favorite of the emperor; his loans obtained at usurious rates; his methods of turning his official position to account, and his final appeal to Bismarck to save him from disgrace. The thrust thus given through the press is said to have resulted in flinging the emperor into a rage, and Boetticher was commanded to prosecute his assailants or resign his office. In years gone by this success would have given Bismarck much delight, and the intellectual giant would have played for a long while with his Lilliputian antagonist, but at present he is said to take no pleasure in this kind of sport, and the probability is, on the authority