

he has failed to win the approval of a certain class of Congressmen and Senators in this country. When nagging Senators denounce him as having no policy in regard to Mexico, and as having interfered with Mexican affairs, only to leave them worse than he found them, it is but fair to ask them the alternative. Would it have been better had the American troops overrun Mexico, and established peace by force, accompanied by a universal hatred of the invader, the perpetuation of the wrongs that led to the revolution, the certain renewal of hostilities at the earliest possible moment, and increased distrust and hatred throughout Central and South America, or to have the friendship and confidence of all these people, with gradual subsidence of Mexican disorder upon a just and equitable basis? The best service that we have rendered Europe in its hour of sore need lies in setting it a good example.

s. c.



Vindicating Democracy.

The brief course of the South African insurrection offers the highest compliment to British statesmanship. Surely there never was greater temptation to defy constituted authority. A state, alien by race and language, and enjoying practical political independence, was subjugated by force of arms. Yet so generous and humane were the terms of the conqueror that the vanquished entered into the new state, and its principal men became leaders in the new organization with such sincerity that within a few years of their defeat their sentiments underwent a complete change. For, when their conquerors had their hands tied by a great war and an uprising of the conquered seemed to have every prospect of success, the leaders of the former war, when they called upon their compatriots to rally round the flag of independence, met with little response. And they suffered the humiliation of a quick and complete defeat at the hands of one of their former generals. This is a remarkable demonstration of the virtues of political democracy. That England should have held during this war colonies of her own blood that were larger than many independent countries would have proven her colonial management; but that she should have had the support of conquered states of alien race leaves no doubt of her political efficiency.



If such slender ties should hold so fast, if the granting of political autonomy to colonies—even to the extent of permitting them to levy protective tariffs upon goods from the mother country, and to exclude citizens from other parts of the em-

pire—makes them so loyal, what would not a similar liberal policy toward the individual citizen do? England, by adopting free trade, became the richest nation in Europe; and by granting the colonies self-government she made them an integral part of the empire; but she has not yet freed the individual citizen from the economic tyranny that has persisted throughout the development of political liberty. When the lusty Englishman who stands hat in hand before a great landlord, begging permission to use a bit of British soil, sings "Britons never will be slaves," he is thinking only of the prowess of the army and navy. When he comes to think of himself, and of his fellow Britons, as he now thinks of his country, he will soon be as free economically as he now is politically. No constitutional limitations bar him from his rights. They are his for the asking. A majority vote is absolute. The solitary thing in the way is his state of mind.

s. c.



Canada Needs a Free Press.

In suppressing German papers or those friendly to the German cause, the Canadian government is putting itself on a level with the military government of Berlin which temporarily suppressed *The Vorwärts*. It is moreover giving outsiders cause to suspect that these suppressed papers published some unpalatable truth which it preferred should not become generally known. What is still more important is the fact that such proceedings are more dangerous to Canada than to Germany. Canadian liberty and Canadian institutions will be safer with an absolutely free press—even though that freedom be used to uphold the cause of the nation's enemies—than they will be under a government empowered to arbitrarily suppress publications. Canadian patriots will do Canada a real service if they insist on immediate restoration of a free press.

s. d.



A Poor Investment.

The construction of the Panama Canal by the United States has been looked upon and proclaimed the greatest engineering feat of the ages. It has cost \$353,000,000, and a great many years of labor. Yet that stupendous investment represents about ten day's cost of the present European war. The amount of wealth already expended in the war would have built fifteen or twenty canals, or their equivalents, as great as the Panama Canal. And when those canals or their equivalents had been completed the world could enjoy their use.