

THE WEEK.

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Contents.

	PAGE.
CURRENT TOPICS	1131
LEADERS—	
Delenda est Carthago.....	1134
Chief Justice Meredith.....	1135
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES—	
Notes in My Library.....	1135
Canadian Copyright.....	1139
The Canadian Aspects of Education.....	1139
Fantasia.....	1142
Music.....	1143
Art Notes.....	1144
At Street Corners.....	1144
The Monroe Doctrine.....	1145
Montreal Affairs.....	1146
POETRY—	
A Song of the Empire.....	1135
The Legend of the Counted Footsteps.....	1141
October.....	1144
BOOKS—	
Dictionary of National Biography.....	1147
Recent Fiction.....	1148
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR—	
The Copyright Question.....	1148
Legal Ethics.....	1149

Current Topics.

"The Week" of To-day.

We present to our readers to-day an enlarged number and several articles of great interest, timeliness, and importance. Dr. Bourinot's "Notes in My Library," to which we are glad to devote more than usual space, will be found to be remarkable in many respects. He deals with matters that will awaken wide interest, and gives much information in a very entertaining form. In response to many and repeated requests we issue as a supplement the article by Colonel George T. Denison, contributed to the September Westminster Review on "Canada and her Relations to the Empire." We have already commented at length on this admirable article, and gave copious quotations from it. These comments and quotations did but whet the appetite of our readers, and many letters have been received asking for its republication in full. We have issued the article in pamphlet form, and each subscriber will receive a copy enclosed in this number of THE WEEK. Principal Grant deals briefly and effectively with the Canadian Copyright Question, which at present is attracting much attention here and in Great Britain. The Monroe Doctrine is again to the fore by reason of the dispute between England and Venezuela touching the boundary between the latter country and British Guiana. The United States Government maintains that if England is endeavouring, under colour of this dispute, to extend her possessions in America, she is acting contrary to this doctrine. Mr. Castell Hopkins' article on this subject will be read with much interest and profit. He makes several strong points against the so-called doctrine which the Americans will find difficulty in answering. Dr. Parkin's acceptance of the Head-Mastership of Upper Canada College has given a marked impetus to this old and honoured institution. The devotion to its interests manifested by so many of Canada's prominent men finds expression in the able article contributed to this number of THE WEEK by Mr. Frank Arnoldi. Whilst we sympathize with him in the strong claim he makes for the College, and are quite ready to agree that the part it plays in our educational system is of the first importance, and that its maintenance is eminently essential, nay indispensable, we yet hold that it is hardly fair to ignore, as Mr. Frank Arnoldi does, the splendid work done on the same lines as Upper Canada College by such excellent and ably conducted institutions as Trinity College School of Port Hope, Bishop Ridley College of St. Catharines, and Bishop's College School of Lennoxville.

The Blair Coalition.

The New Brunswick elections held last week resulted in the Blair Government being sustained by an increased majority. Mr. Blair's supporters now outnumber his opponents by about three to one. Several rather questionable "deals" were made, it appears, by which the expense and trouble of an election was avoided — much to the exasperation of those who desired a contest. One or two of the newspapers have been much incensed by these deals, and have withdrawn their support. But on the whole Mr. Blair deserves the success he has met with. He has proved that a coalition government can be both strong and stable, and as Mr. Ketchum pointed out in these columns recently, he has greatly promoted the interests of some of the chief industries of the Province. He has endeavoured, with some measure of success, to separate Federal from Provincial issues, and in this he is highly to be commended. Nothing can be more foolish than to complicate the difficult task of securing good local government by dragging in questions reserved for Federal control.

Dr. Guerin's Election.

The Taillon Government met with a bad defeat on Tuesday by the election of Dr. Guerin for Montreal Centre by a majority of 1,254 votes over the Ministerial candidate, Mr. McDonnell. At the general election in 1892, the Liberal candidate, the Hon. James McShane, was defeated by nearly five hundred votes. This remarkable reverse is attributed to the financial policy of the Taillon Government. The Paris loan and the business taxes, coupled with the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Curran to the Bench, have been too much for this constituency to stand. It appears that no effort was made by the Ottawa Government to help Mr. McDonnell, although the authorities were warned that it would be necessary. The three wards comprising Montreal Centre will soon have to elect a successor to Hon. Mr. Justice Curran. Present indications for a Conservative success are not very promising.

Mr. R. S. White Resigns.

The important constituency of Cardwell is without a representative in the Dominion Parliament. Mr. White has resigned his seat. Whatever the cause may have been for this decided step on the part of Mr. White, we can rest assured that it was fully sufficient, and eminently to his credit. The House of Commons can ill afford to part with him. But still more would his firm hand be missed were he to relinquish the control of the Montreal Gazette, and it is to be hoped whatever changes may be in store for him the conduct of that admirable journal may long continue under the immediate supervision of Mr. White.

The Deep Waterways.

We have received a copy of the annual address on "International Comity and Cooperation," delivered by Mr. O. A. Howland, M.P.P., the President of the International Deep Waterways Association, at the first Annual Convention held at Cleveland last month. It is an address in every way worthy of the accomplished author. We shall have something to say about it next week.