

TEMPERATURE

May 7th, 1882.			Corresponding week, 1881		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.. 58°	38°	48°	Mon.. 70°	41°	57° 5'
Tues.. 49°	33°	42°	Tues.. 63°	40°	51° 5'
Wed.. 56°	32°	44°	Wed.. 60°	45°	52° 5'
Thur.. 56°	44°	50°	Thur.. 63°	39°	51°
Fri.. 50°	31°	40°	Fri.. 64°	45°	54°
Sat.. 54°	34°	44°	Sat.. 62°	46°	54°
Sun.. 56°	34°	45°	Sun.. 50°	34°	42°

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, May 13, 1882.

THE WEEK.

MR. TENNYSON'S new song has been much criticized on account of its supposed anti-temperance teachings, but no one seems to have noticed an absurdity which is latent in the proposal itself to join hands and drink. Somebody once described one of TENNYSON'S poems as "prose in an awful tangle," and a correspondent, *apropos* of the National Song, points out that the protest on the part of the Good Templars was perfectly unnecessary. "How," he asks, "can men drink anything holding hands all round? Even the cannie Scotch keep 'Auld Lang Syne' till the last, when, as a rule, every drop of liquor has been consumed!"

It is reported by a correspondent of the *Lanterne*, from Avignon, that at the gate of a cemetery near that town the parents of a child certified to have died of croup insisted on having the coffin opened to have a last look. The child was found breathing, and is expected to be saved. The story is probably not in the least true, but that is of small consequence to any one except the child and its relatives. The general and deep-seated horror which exists on this ghastly subject can feed itself as well on fictions as on facts. That such a thing as premature burial is possible even in the remotest degree is enough, and any scrap of wild evidence which seems to confirm the possibility is grasped at as eagerly as a testimony to immortality might be. It is vain to assure the alarmists that their instructions as to the disposal of their mortal remains will be attended to, so as to ensure extinction of life. That is the very root and substance of their doubt. If they could attend to the matter themselves their minds would be easy, but the everyday injunction, "if you want a thing done, do it yourself," casts hideous uncertainty over the promises of soothing friends. It is not in the power of every one to attach heavy pecuniary penalties to disregard of his wishes, or rewards to their performance; and besides there exist public rules which must not be outraged. The by no means unfrequent occurrence of cataleptic fits, in which people are conscious but absolutely incapable of giving sign of life, keeps up the dreadful apprehension of waking in the confinement of a narrow coffin to die again the most agonising of deaths. That this is a thing practically impossible, owing to the deficiency of the air necessary to life, is a detail. The horror of the thought swallows up the improbability of it. The plan of certain savages who bury their dead in hollow trees assumes to persons afflicted with these nervous apprehensions an aspect almost agreeable. It invests death with a sort of sylvan charm. The basket coffins, which were exhibited some years ago in the grounds of a ducal town-house, were cheering and pretty objects; but they were not so poetic as the hollow tree.

THE NEWS FROM IRELAND.

On Sunday last the world was startled with the news that the new Secretary for Ireland, Lord FREDERICK CAVENDISH, and Mr. BURKE, the Under Secretary, had been murdered in Phoenix Park within sight of the Vice-Royal Lodge, and it is even reported under the very eyes of the Viceroy himself. Just as the new programme of the Government had been announced, and all parties as it were had sat down to await the trial of a policy of conciliation instead of force, the temporary peace was rudely broken in upon by this terrible news.

So terrible it is at once in its aspect as a brutal act of murder, or considered as we must consider it in relation to the future of the Irish question. With the prick of the assassin's dagger the bubble of the conciliatory programme has burst. The hopes of Ireland have been thrown back full twenty years by the brutal interference of her enemies—for worse enemies she has none than those, whoever they may be, by whom the blow was struck. That the Home Rule party recognize this is clear at once. It would seem even as though the deed were purposely committed to destroy the *rapprochement* which Mr. GLADSTONE'S new policy was about to create. Were it in truth the act of professional agitators, frightened at the idea of a speedy settlement of the difficulties between England and Ireland, and determined to keep up the ill blood at whatever cost, it could not have been more directly planned to suit that end.

With all their faults the present Government have been earnestly and honestly struggling with the so-called Irish Question. The withdrawal of FORSTER, whose real cause of failure was that he had made himself unpopular and that it was felt that Ireland must be governed in future by a popular leader; the mention of Lord DUFFERIN'S name as a possible Viceroy, and the appointment of an amiable nobody as Secretary, in order to leave the real government in the hands of the Viceroy; all these things pointed to a new and most friendly policy, a policy from which the National party had everything to hope, little to fear.

And now the chance is gone. What good could ever have been hoped from the murder of Mr. BURKE, still less of Lord CAVENDISH, who however we fancy had no part in the original scheme of murder, it is impossible to conceive from even a fanatic's point of view. As an act of personal vengeance it was singularly ill-timed; as a move in the game of rebellion it was the falsest move ever made on any board. By those alone can it be viewed with satisfaction who like vultures fatten on the corpses of the slain, and who have their place alone where evil deeds and foul rebellion are hatched. They and the Evil Spirit who is their master, may well gloat over the destruction of Ireland's future, and the revival of the buried hatred that must spring up afresh.

As to the immediate effect of the murder, it will probably, in Ireland at all events, strengthen the hands of the Government. They have tried a generous course and they have been met with foul ingratitude. For the moment the reaction will doubtless be in favor of a return to the coercion policy, nay more of an energetic attempt to stamp out the lawless spirit which makes such deeds possible, and to provide adequate machinery for the instant execution of the law's vengeance on those who do such things. Well will it be for Ireland if her wrongs be not forgotten amidst the outcry of indignation which must arise. Well will it be if a Government be found strong enough and wise enough to say, "Murder and outrage shall be stamped out, but Ireland's future must be settled independently of the deeds of her children."

LORD CARLINGFORD temporarily takes the Presidency of the Council in the Imperial Cabinet.

STRENGTH OF CHARACTER.

Of all the powers which men and women need for their permanent well-being there is, perhaps, no one more universally essential than that which enables them to do what is for any reason unpleasant. In the natural reaction against Puritanical sternness of discipline and condemnation of pleasure there is some danger of overlooking this necessity. While it is true that happiness is the best soil for virtue, it is also true that the virtue which can flourish in no other soil is unworthy of its name. Indeed, even a true idea of the highest happiness itself always implies the frequent sweeping away of present gratification that interferes with nobler aims. Those who cannot do this firmly, willingly, and continuously, will never be of much value either to themselves or to others. We often make rough divisions of men into the educated and the ignorant, the rich and the poor, the young and the old, the famous and the unknown, but a division more marked than any other might be made between the strong and the weak in this respect. We meet them both in every walk of life. Their birth or education, or general surroundings may be the same, but a sharp line divides those who govern their inclinations from those whose inclinations govern them. On the one side we see strength, accomplishment and value; on the other, weakness, spasmodic and ill-directed effort, and inefficiency. Two youths, for instance, may have equal intellectual ability and advantages; one makes the most of them one by one, putting forth his energy alike on the studies that he prefers and on those that are distasteful; the other devotes his time mainly to such branches as please his taste. Now the difference between them as they enter life will not be chiefly in the kind or amount of their knowledge, or even the degree of their mental power, but in the strength of will and character they have laid up. The one has learned the lesson of patient effort, the other has not; the one is able to put forth whatever of his powers are needed, the other can only put forth such as are in coincidence with his inclination; the one will be felt as a living force in the community, the other will fail to leave an impression. Two children are alike lymphatic in their dispositions, but one is taught by wise parents to arouse himself, is trained to labor and study and play actively and at proper seasons, however disagreeable the effort may be; the other is allowed to indulge his love of ease until exertion of any kind becomes well nigh impossible. The future lives of these children will in all probability show, on the one hand, the development of strength and value; on the other, a gradual enfeeblement of natural power. This difference is seen in all life's occupations, and reveals the secret of much of the success or the failure that attends them. In every case the thoroughly successful man, that is, he whose labor is of real value to the community, has formed the habit of doing what is before him, unhesitatingly and manfully, quite independently of whether he likes it or not. He has chosen his work, and takes it just as it comes; if it chance to be agreeable, so much the better; but if not, his energies do not swerve. His question is, not "how much shall I enjoy doing this piece of work, or carrying out this new plan in my business?" but "is this work necessary?" "is this plan wise?" If so, no question of like or dislike comes in to interfere. But he who suffers his personal predilection to govern his plans, and postpones or shrinks from such parts of his labor as involve self-denial lacks the main element of success. So in home and social life, we all need the power of doing promptly and energetically hard and disagreeable things—things that interfere with our ease and comfort, that baulk our desires, that trouble our sensibilities, that are hostile to our tastes. That such things are often needful, wise and best, is admitted by all, but the strength of character that can do them quietly but firmly is not so universal. The intellectual power to *discover* the best path or the right course is far more commonly possessed than the practical power to *follow* it. Yet no man or woman ever rose to full moral stature without it. It has often been noted with surprise how many of our eminent men have risen from a youth of the most limited intellectual advantages. As a general thing, however, their lives, when studied closely, will reveal that in some way, from their youth up, this power of hearty, energetic effort, apart from any consideration of pleasures, has been exercised. It may have been in the hard labor and restraints which poverty has enforced, or in the strict discipline and wise guidance of honorable parents, or in the early responsibilities which circumstances placed upon them. Whatever be its source, they have thoroughly learned to control their wishes, to conquer their passions, to put their heart and soul into whatever comes to them as the best thing, without pausing to consider whether it would yield them pleasure or pain. In this lies one grand secret of their present eminence. It is a key which unlocks many doors. How then shall we acquire this invaluable power, and how shall we cultivate it in the young? Like all other faculties it grows with exercise. Each time we actually perform what is disagreeable because it is the wise or the right thing to do, we are a little stronger to do the same again. Yet it does not follow that there is anything specially meritorious in choosing what is disagreeable for its own sake, still less in compelling the young to do so. Asceticism is as far removed from right principle as weak indulgence. There is no need for seeking difficulties or making artificial occasions for self-sacrifice. Enough

if we take hold of those that life itself presents, one by one as they occur, and dispose of each as our intelligence and moral sense suggest. Thus may we, without any harsh or unnatural means, accumulate this power, which lies at the very foundation of our value to society and our own highest welfare.

WHAT A LIBEL TO SAY SO!

"The Cambridge Examiners report that the ladies do not manifest much exactitude of information, but are inclined to be discursive upon a question instead of exhaustive."

Examiner: State, in round numbers, the population of London.

Lady: O, millions.

Examiner: A little more precisely.

Lady: Well, one can't say precisely, because I don't know what you call London. Some persons would estimate only the civilized parts of it, the West End, you know, and others would throw in that horrid city, where I never go without being frightened out of my life of being run over by those dreadful vans, which ought to be put down, or at least made to go in the night, or when no respectable people are about. It is quite dreadful the way they crush against a brougham, as mamma and I found when we were going down to the Crystal Palace the other day, and we thought that we would go through the city that we might get some turtle at Birch's for papa, who has got it into his head that none is good except what comes from there, though we had some from Gunter's that quite satisfied our guests last Christmas-day, and indeed Colonel Capsicum, who has been in the East Indies, and ought to know what turtles are—of course I know they come from the West Indies, but anybody who has travelled understands these things, especially military men, who are obliged to make such good use of their eyes, and I have heard that some of the cleverest sketches in the *Illustrated News* are sent home by officers, which is a great credit to them, and Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Cardwell ought to be ashamed of themselves for imputing any want of information to the officers of our army, which may not be so large as that of France and Prussia, because we do not care to pay so much taxes, and goodness knows papa makes fuss enough about what he has to pay, and declares that we shall have a revolution, which would be the most shocking thing in the world, for though the dear Queen is not well enough to be about much, and the Prince of Wales, who is a gentleman, may not care to put himself forward in a prominent manner, we are none of us Republicans, and a pretty state of things Republicanism has brought France to, and they had much better have kept to the dear old Emperor, who might have had his faults, but who knew how to keep the French people in order, though of all the restless, monkeyish—

Examiner: I regret to be unable to connect all these details with the question I had the honor to propose.

Lady: Oh, you are a bother! [PASSES.]

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

PRINCESS MARIE of Wurtemberg, is dead.

A FATAL colliery explosion is reported near Leeds.

FIVE suspects have been set free unconditionally from Naas jail.

A DESTRUCTIVE gale visited the English coast on Saturday.

A FIRE at Aberdeen, Scotland, on Saturday, did £100,000 worth of damage. Three lives were lost.

THE cost of the proposed inland sea to the South of Algeria and Tunis is calculated at \$15,000,000.

PARNELL does not intend to visit America. He says there is no thought of reviving the Land League.

SUSPECTS in Naas jail burned an effigy of Mr. Forster in spite of the Governor's threat to call in the military.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN has accepted the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland.

THREE Tralee Lady Land Leaguers have been sent down for six months in default of bail.

THE Jewish exodus from Russia is causing great confusion in the foreign corn trade there, they having it almost entirely in their hands.

EARL SPENCER'S appointment as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland is said to be provisional only, pending the arrival of Lord Dufferin.

THE ex-Empress Eugenie was robbed on the way from her hotel to the railway station at Lyons.

PARNELL, Dillon and O'Kelly have been released from Kilmainham jail. They are to be in London on Friday.

EIGHTEEN persons have been arrested in connection with the discovery of a mine under the Royal Pavilion in Moscow.

THE steamship *Alaska* has arrived at Queens-town, making the passage in 6 days, 21 hours, said to be the fastest on record.

THIRTEEN persons have been discovered by the authorities in a crowded tenement in New York, suffering from typhus, typhoid and spotted fevers.

A DESPATCH from Engineer Melville received at Washington, dated from the *Lena Delta*, March 24th, says De Long and party were found dead.