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TEMPERATURE

as observed by Hoarn & Harrison, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

March 4th, 1883.				Corresponding week, 1882.			
Mon.	Max.	Min.	Mean.	Mon.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.	36.0	30.0	33.0	Mon.	38.0	16.0	27.0
Tues.	23.0	17.0	20.0	Tues.	42.0	24.0	33.0
Wed.	10.0	-1.0	4.5	Wed.	40.0	33.0	36.5
Thur.	20.0	5.0	12.0	Thur.	46.0	25.0	37.0
Fri.	28.0	14.0	21.0	Fri.	47.0	23.0	35.0
Sat.	34.0	21.0	27.5	Sat.	34.0	20.0	27.0
Sun.	15.0	1.0	8.0	Sun.	32.0	-5.0	13.5

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS,  
Montreal, Saturday, March 10, 1883.

THE MONTREAL MAYORALTY.

An election for Mayor is usually a matter of purely local interest, and in many instances it does not go beyond the grooves of routine. But this year the contest between Messrs. Bulmer and Beaudry was of a totally different character, involving issues of the greatest importance. It was universally understood and allowed that it was the turn of the English-speaking community to elect a Chief Magistrate. Mr. Beaudry had publicly promised last year that he would not again present himself. He privately assured Mr. Bulmer that he would not oppose him. Last year the reason, given for hostility to the late Mr. Nelson was that he could not speak the French language. Mr. Bulmer not only speaks that tongue, but is a large employer of French labor, and has had social and business relations with the French throughout his career. It was naturally supposed that there could possibly be no objection to him. But to the surprise of everybody objection was found. A couple of telling falsehoods were trumped up against him. The two sore points of nationality and creed were touched upon with treacherous finger. The French national prejudice was stirred by a story that Mr. Bulmer had ordered the Tricolor to be hauled down from the Exhibition Building in 1881. The Irish religious feeling was aroused by the imputation that Mr. Bulmer had refused to act with the other magistrates on the memorable 12th of July, four years ago. It was in vain that these two absurd charges were refuted, even by documentary evidence in the public prints. The poison had been spread and worked its way deep into the eastern and western suburbs. The consequence was that, when the day of battle came, Mr. Bulmer was defeated by an almost solid French vote, and a majority in the Irish Ward of St. Anns. The English citizens of Montreal were deprived of their just rights, without reason, in violation of existing compacts and solemn pledges. This is one view of the late election and it is by no means a pleasant one. If it were the sole view it would be profoundly discouraging, leading to the conclusion that in the city of Montreal, which they have done so much to beautify, enlarge and enrich, the English-speaking section are not allowed a voice.

But there is another view and that is that our people were far from being true to themselves in this election. They were indifferent and negligent. Hundreds never took the trouble to go to the polls. The following figures will show that if they had done their duty they might have carried the day. If the three Wards—the West, St. Antoine and St. Lawrence had polled

their full vote the result might have been quite other. The population of the West Ward is thus divided:

Irish.....	307
French.....	170
English.....	170
Scotch.....	109

There Mr. Bulmer got only 213 votes. St. Antoine Ward is distributed as follows:

French.....	11,847
English.....	6,124
Irish.....	8,027
Scotch.....	6,409

And yet in this stronghold, Mr. Bulmer scored a majority of only 1017 votes. St. Lawrence Ward is divided in this wise:

French.....	3,888
English.....	3,189
Irish.....	4,394
Scotch.....	2,045

The vote in the Ward was 477 for Bulmer and 172 for Beaudry.

We see that there is question of contesting the election on the ground of irregularity. We trust that this will not be done, first because it would be useless, and secondly because it would intensify the bad feeling which should be allowed to die out as rapidly as possible. But next year, let the lesson of this campaign produce its fruit.

THE ONTARIO ELECTIONS.

The elections for the Province of Ontario resulted in the triumph of the Government, although by a greatly reduced majority. For outsiders this was no surprise, but for the parties directly interested there must have been considerable disappointment. The *Globe*, only a few days before the end, ventured the prediction that the Liberals would sweep the Province, while the Conservatives had vague hopes of overturning the Ministry. As it is, there is no reason to complain. Mr. Mowat has proved himself a safe and prudent administrator, and on purely Provincial grounds there was no cause why he should be disturbed. Unfortunately, Federal issues were inducted into the campaign, and for this both parties are about equally responsible. The ticklish question of Disallowance entered for a great deal in the issue, with, as it seems to us, not sufficient reason. The highest tribunal in the land unanimously decided the knotty point, and it should have been allowed to rest on that authority. From a Federal point of view, the Conservatives may well congratulate themselves on a substantial victory, but from the Provincial stand point of administration, Mr. Mowat and his friends have decidedly the upper hand. As usual, accounts differ on the division of parties in the next Legislature, the *Globe* claiming a majority of fifteen, while the *Mail* reduces that preponderance to eight. By striking a balance we may set down twelve as about the right figure, and that is a good working majority in a House of 88 members. The Government will be quite strong enough to carry their own measures, while the Opposition will be sufficiently powerful to exert a marked pressure on the current of legislation. The Province will be the better managed for a numerically solid Opposition.

But there is another point in regard to these elections which deserves consideration. The *Montreal Gazette* holds that the popular vote will turn out to have been in favor of the Conservatives. Our contemporary made a like contention with respect to the previous administration, but the *Globe* strenuously disputed it. We shall soon be enlightened on the matter by the official figures, and if the *Gazette* turned out to be right it would be a singular anomaly. Mr. Blake argued correctly the other day that if the popular vote in the late Federal elections were taken into account, and the Parliamentary representation were equally based thereupon, the Ministerial majority in the House of Commons would be only about fifteen or sixteen, instead of seventy odd, as it now stands. The disproportion would be still more glaring if it were found that the Liberal majority of twelve or fifteen in the Ontario Legislature rested on no better foundation than a numerical minority in the popular vote.

Ontario has hitherto been the model Province of the Dominion. Its great resources have been

carefully husbanded and its finances so frugally handled that it has now a surplus of some five millions of dollars. This gratifying result is still more striking when placed in contrast with the situation of Quebec. Both Provinces started even at the time of Confederation. Speaking generally, Quebec is naturally as rich as Ontario, while, if we regard her wealth in the forest and mine, she may be said to have advantages of her own. And yet after sixteen years of the exercise of her own autonomy, she is head over ears in debt, while the sister Province has not only a clear balance sheet, but can boast of a round sum on the credit side. The late elections prove that the people of Ontario are satisfied with this showing and quite willing to let well enough alone. They like to see their affairs managed in a practical, business like manner, and continue their trust in the men who have been tried and not found wanting. In the past sixteen years they have had only three different governments, while Quebec has enjoyed the luxury of six. For the next four years, as the result of the elections, there will be no material change, whereas here there is no telling what new combinations will have to be made to get out of the present critical state of things. Let us only hope that Quebec will hasten to take a lesson from the Empire Province.

A PARLIAMENTARY BAR-ROOM.

Visitors to Ottawa, Toronto, or Quebec are aware that, during the session, the refreshment room is one of the institutions of potential influence in connection with legislative labours. Many an embryo caucus has been held there; many important measures have been hatched therein, while it is the very head-quarters and fountain head of the lobby. But it must not be imagined that it is peculiar to ourselves or our American cousins. It is of universal usage, although varying with the habits of different countries. In Belgium, for instance, the custom is, or rather was, to provide the representatives of the people with their grog in open session. Every day, at three o'clock sharp, ushers sallied in from right and left bearing salvers covered with little glasses of brandy, which they served out from bench to bench. The shorthand writers and the newspaper men in the gallery were also supplied. At four o'clock there was a second round, and if the sitting was prolonged to five, the "treat" came on for the third time. When a member was on his feet, making a speech, his glass was filled as fast as he emptied it, and in the case of long-winded orators the process of repletion was indefinitely renewed.

This thing went on till last summer, when the Committee of Internal Economy—as we call it at Ottawa—suppressed this promiscuous distribution of alcohol, replacing it by a bar in the Speaker's room, and circulating only sweetened water in the House. At first the members approved the change, but when they found out that they had to pay for their drinks at the bar, instead of getting them at the expense of the State, as before, they grumbled vehemently, and banded together to force a return to the old state of things. The Committee held out, however, and "free drinks" were no longer to be had. Open revolt being found unavailing, a flank movement had to be imagined, and it was soon discovered. The very next day after the irrevocable decree of the Committee was promulgated, M. Malou, the leader of the Opposition, was seen at his seat, quietly extracting from his side pocket a flask full of brandy, and out of it brewing unto himself a private tippie with the sweetened water fetched by the pages. The example set by a man of such importance found ready followers. The consequence is that, at certain given moments, the Belgian Chamber presents the appearance of a chemical laboratory where the members are busy concocting various preparations, each according to his taste or fancy. The effect is so ludicrous that the probabilities are the Committee will have to revert to the old way of periodical doses.

The use of sweetened water, quite unknown among ourselves, is general throughout Europe in deliberative assemblies and on the lecture platform. When a speaker mounts the tribune, or pulpit, directly in front, though a little below, the speaker's desk, his glass of water and sugar is brought him, and it is a page's business to replenish it as occasion requires. Here and in England an orator can order what he likes while

addressing the House, and coloured glasses are found very convenient in veiling the glare of strong waters. There are recorded instances of speakers being caught in the act of imbibing extract of juniper, vulgarly called gin, instead of the *agua pura* which it resembles, or drawing inspiration from cold tea, which suspiciously looked like brandy and water. Strenuous efforts have been made at Ottawa and elsewhere to abolish the refreshment room, but without success. It is only fair, however, to add, that these establishments are generally well conducted and that it is seldom excesses are committed. There is perhaps no place to which this remark applies better than to the French legislative buffet, which is rather a chamber of entertainment than of drinking.

THE WEEK.

OUR press does not seem to have sufficiently felt the importance of the action of the American Congress relative to the abrogation of the fisheries clauses of the Treaty of Washington.

And now the Black Hand has been raised aloft in beautiful Andalusia. That Spain, with its ignorance and poverty, should escape the influences of the Socialism rampant over the rest of Europe, was more than could reasonably be expected.

THE workshops of the Boys' Reformatory in this city are to be rebuilt at once, the Government not having entertained the project of occupying the youthful culprits on farm lands. The question is an important one, however, and should receive further consideration.

THE cession of the Rougemont Farm to the Province of Quebec for educational and training purposes is honorable alike to the donor, Mr. George Whitfield, and the Government that had the wisdom to accept it. Hon. Mr. Lynch made an admirable speech advocating the scheme.

It is too late now to prevent the building of the new Parliamentary Buildings at Quebec, as the contract for \$180,000 has been signed, but it is never too late to deplore this useless expenditure of public monies, in face of the grave financial crisis which the Province is passing through.

WE are still doing very well at Ottawa. The returns furnished the Finance Department up to the night of 28th of January, 1883, indicate a surplus of nearly five and a half millions of dollars—the exact figures being \$5,399,296.20. This is a result of which every Canadian may be justly proud.

THE French Republic has succeeded in not stultifying itself by the banishment of the dynastic princes. It is doubtless a personal hardship to deprive the military men among them of their commands, but in the present state of things, the act was perhaps necessary, and as a measure of precaution it is clearly justifiable.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND has a clear case against the Federal Government in the matter of continuous navigation to and from the mainland during the entire year. This was one of the stipulated clauses of the Union Act. There is no doubt whatever that six months' isolation is very prejudicial to the business interests of the island.

THE Royal Society of Canada is already asserting itself within a sphere that is peculiar to itself. Its Council has presented a petition to Parliament praying that scientific works and periodicals in foreign languages and all transactions of scientific bodies be admitted free of duty. There can be no two opinions on the justice of this claim.

THERE comes an indignant paragraph from Washington to the effect that Madame Patti declined an invitation from President Arthur to an evening at the White House, where a select