

THE WEEK.

Vol. X.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST, 11th, 1893.

No. 37.

THE WEEK:

A Canadian Journal of Politics, Literature, Science and Arts.

TERMS:—One year, \$3; eight months, \$2; four months, \$1. Subscriptions payable in advance. Subscribers in Great Britain and Ireland supplied, postage prepaid, on terms following:—One £1. order or draft should be made payable and addressed to the publisher.

ADVERTISEMENTS, unexceptionable in character and limited in number, will be taken at \$4 per line per annum; \$2.50 per line for six months; \$1.50 per line for three months; 20 cents per line per insertion for a shorter period.

No advertisements charged less than five lines.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CURRENT TOPICS.....	867
IS VIOLENCE JUSTIFIABLE?.....	868
THE SPECTER FROM NOVA SCOTIA: THE HAR- BOUR LIGHTS.....	869
..... <i>Christina Ross Frim.</i>	870
OTHER PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS.....	871
..... <i>Arnold Haultain, M.A.</i>	872
THE IRISH QUESTION.....	873
..... <i>Arthur John Lockhart.</i>	873
A COMMON PHRASE.....	873
..... <i>Constance Fairbanks.</i>	874
DEER POETS (Sonnet).....	874
..... <i>Colin A. Scott.</i>	874
CORRESPONDENCE—	
SEE THE SILVER QUESTION.....	874
..... <i>William Kay, M.A.</i>	875
THE SCOTTISH TONGUE.....	876
..... <i>A.T.</i>	876
THE FUTURE OF ALUMINIUM.....	876
.....	877
THE DRAMA.....	877
.....	877
PERSONALS.....	877
.....	878
LIBRARY AND PERSONAL.....	878
.....	878
PROFESSORIAL OCCUPATIONS.....	879
.....	880
TO A MUSICALIAN.....	880
.....	880
PERISTROPIC AMERICA.....	881
.....	881
REMARKS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.....	884
.....	885
PUBLIC OPINION.....	885
.....	886
SCIENTIFIC AND SANITARY.....	886
.....	887
UNPLEASANT.....	887
.....	887

All articles, contributions, and letters on matter pertaining to the editorial department should be addressed to the Editor, and not to any person who may be supposed to be connected with the paper.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It can scarcely be doubted that the United States Congress, now assembled in special session, will promptly repeal the Sherman Act. As we write, a report is being the rounds to the effect that President Cleveland will recommend the fixing of some temporary standard or ratio of value, by which he hopes to be able to coerce Great Britain and other nations, to whose silver policy the present difficulties are attributed. It seems unlikely that Congress will be so ill-advised as, while hastening to repeal the one attempt to give a fictitious value to silver which has brought such disaster upon the nation, to enact other legislation with a view to the same end. The President himself, no doubt, sees clearly the impossibility of maintaining any fixed ratio of value between gold and silver, and it must be evident that any attempt to set up a temporary and variable standard can only have the effect of prolonging the uncertainty and retarding the restoration of confidence at home and

Pending the action of the United States Congress, now assembled in special session, it is of some interest to be able to gain a correct notion of the political strength of the States which have a direct interest in the silver question. From a paragraph in a New York weekly we learn that the silver-producing States are seven in number, viz.: Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and South Dakota. To the votes of the electors of these States may be added those of the people of North Dakota and Wyoming, whose populations are mostly in favour of the coinage of silver. The total voting strength of these nine States is 457,518, less than one twenty-sixth part of the total of more than twelve millions of voters in the Union. On a basis of population it is evident that the combined votes of all these nine States would not be very formidable. But these States, instead of electing four Senators, which would be their numerical proportion, elect eighteen, more than one-fifth of the whole number. This fact accounts for the strength of the silver interest in the Senate.

"Peace with honour" is seemingly the outcome of Lord Rosebery's firmness and Lord Dufferin's tact, in the Franco-Siamese affair. But certainly not "with honour" is the peace which the French Government has forced upon Siam. No one of the Great Powers is given to overmuch magnanimity in dealing with a weak nation, but most of them have some sense of shame, if not of fairness, which restrains them from open spoliation, without at least a plausible pretext, if not a real provocation. It has been long since the civilized world saw the Government of a "Christian" nation manifest so flagrant a disregard of justice and so undisguised a reliance upon brute force as have marked with infamy the course of France in her dealing with Siam. One of the most hopeless features of the case is the fact that the people seem to have approved the Government's course, and goaded it on in its outrageous demands. It is difficult to understand what infatuation, unless it be an insane determination to be victorious somewhere, could have impelled a people so sensitive to the opinions of others, thus to earn for itself the disapprobation, to use no stronger term, of the Christian world. Certainly a worse policy for a country in the position of France can scarcely be conceived than thus to forfeit the respect of those whose sympathies she may at any moment need. If mere greed of territory were the ruling motive it has almost surely

overleaped itself, for it is in the last degree likely that either China or Great Britain will permit her to take possession of the important region which she has forced Siam to cede, though it was not hers to give. If either a desire to make electioneering capital at home, or a violent jealousy of Great Britain's commercial success and prestige abroad, was at the bottom of the movement, both objects have probably been defeated, as it is altogether unlikely that she will be permitted to take possession of the territory in question, as it is certain that she will not be permitted to throttle British commerce in that region.

A somewhat celebrated case in the history of the creed struggles which are rife in some of the great Churches of the United States, has again entered on a critical stage, after it had been supposed to be amicably settled. We refer to the trouble with Mr. Noyes, a missionary in Japan, who has for years been seeking appointment, or for whom appointment has been sought by his friends, from the American (Congregational) Board of Foreign Missions. Mr. Noyes is the son of a devoted missionary. He is a graduate of Andover Theological Seminary, and is held in high esteem by all who know him, as a man of unblemished character, superior ability and earnest Christian spirit. The tinge of heterodoxy which has hitherto prevented his acceptance by the Board is the expression of a hope, which, he says, does not amount to a belief, that in the future state those who have not in this life received the Gospel, may have some opportunity of accepting its provisions. In short, he holds, in a hesitating manner, the doctrine of future probation, not as a dogma to be preached, but as a personal view which commends itself to his mind and heart, and for which he thinks there is some scriptural basis. On this ground he has been refused appointment by the Board. Recently, however, a committee appointed by the Board and empowered to deal with the case, having erroneously got the impression from a letter to his brother, that Mr. Noyes had given up or modified his "hope" in the matter in question, reported in favour of his appointment. Subsequently, having learned from his own frank statement, that his views on the point in question had not changed, the committee withdrew its recommendation and refused to approve his appointment as a missionary. This has given rise to much dissatisfaction in the "liberal" section of the church. It is not