

"WHILE I have the honor to occupy a seat in the Canadian Parliament, my voice shall always be lifted to preserve peace and prosperity between the nations of the United States and Canada."—*Hon. John Macdonald, at the Boston banquet.*

THE United States Signal Service Bureau now gives notice to the more important railroad lines of the country of approaching cold waves and big snow storms, and the timely warning enables the railroad officials to make necessary preparations.

OUR respected and veracious contemporary, the *Winnipeg Commercial*, says:—"Some 300,000 tons of Oregon flour will be taken from Vancouver by the next steamer for China." The next steamer sailing for China from Vancouver must be a whopper. We hope she won't be overloaded.

"I REALLY do not know that the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce is a very important body. * * The proposition for Commercial Union, as I understand it, comes from Mr. Wiman, but he may be like the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce."—*Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, at Ottawa.*

"Is it possible that Canada would give up all control of her tariff and allow it to be fixed at Washington? If that is to be a result of Commercial Union, Canada would be giving up her independence, as the characteristic of independence is the right of self-taxation."—*Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, at Ottawa.*

WHEN Mr. Chamberlain was in New York, before going to Washington, Mr. Erastus Wiman wrote him a note saying that if he was granted an interview of an hour's duration he would fully acquaint him with the sentiments of Canada anent the Commercial Union question. Has Mr. Wiman read Mr. Chamberlain's reply from Ottawa?

THE *Globe* informs its readers that a bumblebee has been discovered in Borneo with a stinger an inch long. Commercial Union got a bumblebee in its pants the other day with a stinger several inches long when Mr. Chamberlain expressed himself on the subject in Ottawa. Mr. Wiman thinks that the Chamberlain bumblebee has a stinger a mile long.

A BANGOR, Maine, lumber company recently filled an order for a lot of hardwood flooring to go to Australia. It is probable that the timber of which this flooring was made was grown in Canada, and we mention the incident for the purpose of asking why Canadian millmen and lumbermen do not seek an outlet for this class of their products in the Australian Colonies?

"You have to take three important steps before you could carry Commercial Union through. First, you must have your plan and let other people know what it is. Second, you must prove that a majority of the people of Canada want it; and third, you must prove that a majority of the people of the United States want it."—*Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, at Ottawa.*

No English newspaper of any standing, except the *Spectator*, gives Commercial Unionists any sort of comfort.—*Toronto Mail.* Commercial Union will involve the imposition of a

common tariff against the rest of the world, quite as high as we now have, possibly a little higher.—*Halifax Chronicle.* As the boys say on 'Change, Commercial Union has a very black eye.

"WE are proud of the glory of Great Britain, and we should do nothing that would make that glory pale. As patriotic subjects of Great Britain we should do nothing that would act as an entering wedge to annexation to the United States and the severance of our political relations with Great Britain."—*Patriot John Macdonald, of Canada, at the Boston banquet.*

M. D. BABCOCK, inventor of the Babcock fire extinguishing apparatus, died in a San Francisco almshouse a few days ago, aged 70 years. At one time he was in receipt of \$10,000 a month for royalty on his machines, but after selling the patent rights his money was soon spent, and for some years he wandered about in a destitute condition. He was admitted to the almshouse about six years ago.

A REPRESENTATIVE of this paper was one of the journalists who recently interviewed Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, at Ottawa. We publish some of the *morceau* that fell from the tongue of the distinguished gentleman on that occasion. Mr. Chamberlain is a man of considerable weight, and his emphatic sitting-down on the Commercial Union fad and some of its advocates produced a sickening, dull, heavy thud.

MR. CHARLES BOECKH, senior, of Messrs. Charles Boeckh & Sons, Toronto, manufacturers of brushes, brooms, etc., has suddenly been called to his old home in Strasburg, Germany, by the death of his brother. These gentlemen have been connected with an extensive brush manufacturing establishment in Strasburg for many years, and Mr. Boeckh returns there to look after the interests of the business.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has received an invitation from the British Government to have the United States participate in the forthcoming international exhibition to be held in Melbourne, Australia, this year, to celebrate the centenary of the founding of New South Wales. Secretary Bayard recommends that the invitation be accepted, and the sum of \$50,000 be appropriated to defray the expenses of a commission to represent the United States at the exposition.

A TRAIN-LOAD of twenty-two cars of dressed turkeys was recently sent from Ottawa to Boston for shipment to England for the Christmas holiday market. The weight of the poultry was over 220 tons, and its value more than \$40,000. The shipment arrived in London in good condition and commanded the highest market prices, selling at from twenty to twenty-five cents per pound. This is probably the beginning of a new and valuable branch of trade between Canada and Britain.

THE *Philadelphia Record* says that coal sold for \$3.50 per ton in that city in 1853, while in 1887 coal from the same hills sold for \$5.75 per ton, the excess of \$2.25 per ton being levied in the interest of protection through the tariff of 75 cents a ton on coal. This is like much other free trade argu-