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Table of Contents.

	PAGE.
EDITORIAL:—	
The World.....	97
The School.....	99
The New Text-Book Policy.....	100
Moral Training in the Schools.....	100
SPECIAL ARTICLES:—	
Nagging.....	101
EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.....	102
PRACTICAL DEPARTMENT:—	
Primary Drawing.....	103
School Classification.....	104
Entrance Literature for July and December.....	104
EDUCATIONAL NOTES AND NEWS.....	105
PERSONAL.....	103
MISCELLANEOUS.....	105
QUESTION DRAWER.....	103
LITERARY REVIEW.....	103

The Canada School Journal and Weekly Review.

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and a staff of competent Provincial editors.

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—o—TERMS.—o—

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The World.

On Saturday, the 21st inst., the Washington monument which has been thirty-seven years in progress, or rather which was begun thirty-seven years ago, was dedicated at the capital of the United States. This monument is 555 feet high, the highest work of man. It would tower 100 feet above the highest of the pyramids. It is an obelisk of pure white marble, fifty-five feet square at the base, that base resting on the exact spot chosen by Washington himself for a monument to commemorate the revolutionary war.

There seems good reason so far for hoping that Mr. Cleveland will prove equal to the occasion and manfully withstand the torrent of corrupt influence that pours down from every quarter of the political heavens upon the devoted head of every president elect. His choice of a cabinet, so far as known, seems to indicate that he has chosen men of the highest character as well as ability, and his private utterances upon the burning question of the silver coinage are said to indicate that he will be sound and firm in shielding the republic from the great danger of a depreciated currency.

Lieutenant Gordon, who had charge of the corps of observation, despatched last summer to Hudson's Bay and straits, suggests that the rich fisheries of the Bay, which have been worked chiefly by the Americans for twenty years past, belong properly to Canada, and might be used with effect as a make weight in new treaty negotiations with our cousins. The *Weekly* scouts this idea, if based upon the claim that Hudson's Bay can be treated as a close sea, and thinks the riparian rights of the owners of the shore will not be recognized by other nations beyond the three mile limit, and cannot restrict their right to fish in the deep waters.

The construction of the proposed railway from Suakim on the Red Sea to Berber on the Nile, will mark an era in the history of the dark continent. Its primary object is of course purely military, but as it is to be built and worked by a company, it will, no doubt, have a commercial as well as military significance. A step of this kind once taken is seldom retracted. The immediate effect of the road will be to annihilate the toils and perils of the desert march and to bring the Nile within easy reach of the sea coast. But who can fix a limit to the far reaching results such an opening up of internal communication may have upon the destinies of the equatorial world?

Students of Geography will in these times have much to do to correct their maps so as to keep pace with the political changes that are going on in the world. The Congo conference, the Wolseley expedition, the French movement in Tonquin, the Russian advance on the borders of Afghanistan, and the colonizing operations being carried on by Germany, France and Italy will naturally modify the political face of the various sections of the eastern world in which they are taking place. On this continent the presidential negotiations came near to drawing a stripe of a new colour across the Isthmus of Panama, while even in Canada the boundary lines of the great Province of Ontario cannot yet be definitely drawn even by the lawyers.

A resolution has been offered in the Nova Scotia Legislature looking to a popular vote on the question of secession. On the suggestion of the premier it lies on the battle pending the answer of the Dominion Government to the demand for better terms. British Columbia at the other extreme has re-enacted its Anti-Chinese bill in face of the veto at Ottawa and signified its resolution to enforce it. Manitoba is talking loudly about "looking to Washington." Every true Canadian will regret the growing discontent in all the provinces. The outlook it must be confessed is cloudy. It is evident that things cannot long go on in this way and the sooner some means of re-adjusting the terms of confederation on broad principles is found the better for our future prospects. It would be a calamity were these omens all disregarded until some province has taken an irrevocable step.