

THE WEEK.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 3rd, 1890.

\$3.00 per Annum
Single Copies, 10 Cents

Seventh Year.
Vol. VII. No. 5.

THE WEEK :

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS LITERATURE SCIENCE AND ART

TERMS:—One year, \$3.00; eight months, \$2.00; four months, \$1.00
Subscriptions payable in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS, unexceptionable in character and limited in number, will be taken at \$4.00 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.

Subscribers in Great Britain and Ireland supplied, postage prepaid on terms following:—One year, 12s. 6d.; half-year, 6s. 6d. Remittances by P. O. order or draft should be made payable and addressed to the Publisher.

No advertisements charged less than five lines. Address—T. R. CLOUGHIER, Business Manager, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

TOPICS—	PAGE
The <i>Modus Vivendi</i>	67
The Reciprocity Question.....	67
The Queen's Counsel Question.....	67
The Need of Industrial Education.....	68
The Amendments to the Separate Schools Act.....	68
The Question of Extradition.....	68
The Catholic Vote Not Solid.....	68
The Mercer-Chapleau Correspondence.....	68
Electric Lighting a Failure.....	69
Constitutional History of the United States.....	69
Stray Thoughts on Christian Unity.....	69
JURIES AND GRAND JURIES.....	69
LONDON LETTER.....	Walter Powell. 70
ROBERT BROWNING DEAD? (Poem).....	Fidelis. 70
PARIS LETTER.....	Z. 70
MONTREAL LETTER.....	Ville Marie. 71
THE ABBOT (POEM).....	Frederick George Scott. 72
A STORY OF A CHRISTMAS ROSE.....	Louisa Murray. 72
THE HOUSE UPON THE CLIFF.....	A. Evelyn. 74
FROM THE CAR WINDOW (POEM).....	Annie Rothwell. 75
A CITY BY THE SEA.....	Archibald MacMechan. 75
A NATION WITHOUT A NAME.....	76
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Separate Schools Again.....	L. G. McPhillips. 76
A Motto Translated.....	A Country Parson. 77
ART NOTES.....	Templar. 77
MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.....	77
OUR LIBRARY TABLE.....	78
LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.....	78
CHESS.....	79

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

A GOOD deal of discussion, some of it not in the most amiable spirit, has been evoked by a Washington telegram from Ottawa, to the effect that the Dominion Government proposed to discontinue the *modus vivendi* at an early date, and to resume the strict enforcement of Canadian rights under the treaty of 1818. In strict accuracy the question is not one of discontinuing but of renewing the *modus vivendi*. That temporary arrangement expires by efflux of time in February, and in the absence of its renewal, or an agreement upon some other arrangement, both parties will be thrown back, of necessity, upon the old treaty. We presume, however, that the alleged determination of the Ottawa Government to resume the enforcement of its own interpretation of the ancient Treaty has about as much basis in fact as the alleged resolution of the Washington Government to adopt retaliatory measures of the most stringent character. That is to say, we do not suppose any such determination has been come to by either Government. In our opinion, it would be one of the blunders, which is said to be worse than a crime in politics, for Canada to return to a course which would be sure to arouse all the old irritations without bringing any compensating advantages. The great expense necessary to a thorough enforcement of the provisions of the Treaty of 1818 would of itself go a long way toward counterbalancing, if it did not actually overbalance, any accruing benefits of a material character. The only reasons that could justify a refusal to renew an arrangement somewhat similar to the *modus vivendi*, would be a clear intimation on the part of the Washington authorities that they were resolved to refuse absolutely to negotiate further with a view to the permanent settlement of the difficulty, and a necessity which might thereupon arise to vindicate and guard our territorial rights. In any event the previous question for Canada, before resorting to any measures having even the appearance of harshness, would be solely that of the imperative necessity, or otherwise, of such measures for the protection of those rights. Within the limits of that necessity, her course should be as conciliatory and neighbourly as possible, as a matter of principle and good feeling, and uninfluenced in either direction by any

threats of retaliation. It is quite possible, of course, that the clearest demonstration of the justice of the Canadian claims and methods might be of no avail to ward off the threatened retaliation. That would depend upon the accidental composition and mood of the American Senate at the particular moment of action. A much better safeguard than any afforded by its sense of justice or friendliness is the fact that the retaliatory measures proposed, however injurious they might prove to Canadian commerce, would inevitably inflict a severer blow upon that of the Western States and Territories, and one to which they would not be very likely to submit. Apart, however, from all such considerations, it would be an act of folly as well as cowardice for Canada to suffer herself to be turned aside from the right and honourable course by any dread of consequences of the kind indicated. The question of her right to defend her own possessions would have to be determined sooner or later, and in such a case the sooner the better. Almost any consequences of a brave and honourable course would be better than living on our neighbour's sufferance. That would be intolerable and ruinous to all national spirit.

THE discussion in the United States Congress of the Bills for Unrestricted Reciprocity and Commercial Union with Canada, which have been introduced by the Hon. Benjamin Butterworth and Congressman Hitt, respectively, if indeed these bills reach the stage of discussion, will be of considerable interest to Canadians, not only as indicating the views of the Representatives of the American people upon the trade question, but as an index of their mental attitude in relation to Canada. There can be no doubt that the agitation of the Commercial Union scheme, the articles by Mr. Wiman and others in the magazines, the inquiries of the Senate Committee, and other events of the past year have brought Canada more prominently before the minds of United States politicians, and given them a better idea of her great extent and resources, than any previous discussions or events. It will be interesting to note the effect of this increased knowledge in Congress. So far as Canada is concerned it will be time enough for her to decide upon the acceptance or rejection of any such offers as those proposed, when they have really been made, and their terms are clearly known. There can be little doubt that the movement in favour of extended commercial relations, at least with the American continent, is making considerable headway in the Republic. The Pan-American Congress is an evidence of the growing strength of this very natural and sensible sentiment. That Congress, unlikely as it seems to be that it will bear any such fruits as its conveners fondly hoped, will not be without its educational value. It will probably impress more clearly upon the American mind the fact that other countries are quite as anxious to promote their own interests as to become tributary to the growth and wealth of the great American nation, and that any trade arrangements of an international kind must be reciprocal in the benefits conferred. Though little is known of the actual proceedings of the Congress, it is shrewdly suspected that Mr. Blaine and his coadjutors have already had their eyes opened to this important discovery. It is therefore not unlikely that the Congress, in which Canada is not represented, may lead to a clearer recognition of the great and growing value of Canadian trade. If, as there is reason to hope, beside this conviction another is fixed in the American mind, to the effect that Canadians value their own institutions and mode of Government, and mean to retain them, real progress will have been made towards a better understanding and a less fettered commercial intercourse.

ON its merits the questions, whether the Dominion or the Provincial Governments have the right to appoint Queen's Counsel, whether both have that right, whether, in the latter case, the appointees of both are on a footing of equality, or, if not, which are entitled to precedence, do not strike one as being intrinsically of vast importance. One might, indeed, easily fancy that, so far as the Dominion Government and that of Ontario at least are concerned, both had resolved to minimize their difference of opinion by making the coveted title so common that it

could no longer be esteemed worth quarrelling over. Still, however obvious it may be that the sum total of an advocate's ability is neither increased nor diminished by the validity or invalidity of the document which authorizes him to write "Q.C." after his name, and to wear a gown of silk instead of some other material, it must be admitted that there is a question of some importance behind the pettiness of the dispute, and one which it may be worth while to have authoritatively settled. The important question is really that of the constitutional status of the Provincial Governments in relation to the supreme authority of the Empire. The essence of the view which denies the Provincial Governments the right to represent the Queen in such matters as the appointment of Queen's Counsel seems to be that the Provinces, as such, are, by the Act of Confederation, cut off from all direct relations to the throne and the Imperial authorities; and their Governments thus deprived of any power or right to represent the Sovereign save such as may be transmitted through the medium of the Federal Government. The question is one upon which it would be presumptuous for us to offer an opinion, but it is manifestly one in which the dignity and authority, not to say the very autonomy of the Provinces, are seriously involved.

A MOST suggestive incident is that of the six Toronto boys who tried the other day to qualify themselves, by means of a petty theft, for a place in the Reformatory, in order that they might learn a trade. A lady who visited some destitute families during the recent Christmastide, on charitable thoughts intent, returned, on each occasion, strongly impressed with the conviction that the one great need of the children growing up so plentifully in such families is industrial education. Even were it necessary to choose between a system which should teach such boys the use of their hands, by way of preparation for some useful trade, and such girls to cook and sew, and in other ways keep house in a cleanly, tidy and economical fashion, and the public school system as it at present exists, few thoughtful persons could doubt that the former training would be preferable to the latter, as much more closely related to the health, happiness, respectability and morality of the future lives of those receiving it. But, happily, there is no necessity for any such choice. The one kind of education need by no means exclude the other. The training of hands and brains may be carried on *pari passu* with mutual advantage. Every intelligent teacher must admit that in the schools, as at present constituted, there is, in spite of all excellencies of system and mode, an enormous waste of time and energy. The brains of boys and girls, even in their teens, cannot profitably be kept on the stretch for so many hours as make up the school day. A change of head work for hand work for one-third or even one-half the time would be really beneficial to study by the rest and relaxation it would afford. Moreover, the training of the hands would involve also the training of the eye, and through it of the faculties of perception, reason and judgment, and so would afford in itself an invaluable mental discipline. This is especially true where reference is constantly had to simple scientific principles within the range of a child's comprehension. Thus everything points to the necessity for a radical change in our ideas and methods of elementary education. Something is being done, through the agency of private philanthropists, to meet the crying demand for industrial training, but such efforts are necessarily limited in scope, and are apt to be more or less spasmodic and intermittent. What is needed is an industrial system on a national scale, at least for towns and cities. The tendency is now clearly in that direction, but why should the process be so slow? Who can doubt that the compulsory education, of the kind and in the directions indicated, of all the boys and girls of the city whose manual and industrial training is now being wholly neglected, would work a moral revolution in the course of a few years, and completely change, to the great advantage both of themselves and of the community, the future course of thousands who are now in training for lives of hopeless wretchedness, and in too many cases of positive vice and crime? If this is not a legitimate field for strong legislation and liberal expenditure by the State, it would be hard to find one.