

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

Sir Donald Smith will leave for England immediately after the session.

The Duke of Connaught and suite left Bombay for Canada on Thursday.

Influenza is raging severely among the Stoney Indians in the North-west.

One hundred years ago last Sunday the first Methodist church was opened in Kingston.

Kingston penitentiary will soon be lighted by eleven hundred incandescent electric lights.

The farmers of North Plympton are organizing a joint stock company to run a gristing mill.

Calgary promises the Duke of Connaught a "round up" if he will stop off there on his visit to Canada.

Vancouver, B. C., has passed a by-law donating a site for a sugar refinery, which is to be in operation in eight months.

A letter in The Fort McLeod Gazette declares that polygamy is not practised in the Mormon settlement in the Northwest.

Cyrille Desjardins got into a dispute with three companions over cards at Ste. Rose, Quebec, and was beaten until he may die.

Mr. Mowat was presented with an oil painting of himself last week by his supporters in the Ontario Legislative Assembly.

A mother and her seven children were burned to death in their home on a farm about seven miles from Montreal last Saturday night.

Mr. Geo. B. Borrodale, who has charge of the crofter settlement, strongly denies the reports of destitution among the crofters in the North-West.

A man named McDuff, charged with the murder of a man in Kent county, Ont., who was arrested at Carberry on Wednesday, is now in Portage gaol.

St. Thomas and Hamilton Boards of Trade have petitioned the Dominion Government in favour of a uniform penny postage for the whole British Empire.

James Armstrong, a Canadian farmer of 48 years, was arrested Tuesday night in Buffalo while intoxicated. He claims to have been held up by crooks and robbed of \$1,600.

Captain Warren, of Victoria, B. C., has been summoned to Washington to give evidence in reference to the claims of the owners of vessels seized in Behring's sea by U. S. revenue cutters.

Sir John Thompson brought a bill down in Parliament last week ceding to the provinces the ownership of the foreshores and beds of the various rivers and lakes in the different provinces of the Dominion.

Captain William Zealand, of Hamilton, died on Friday, while under the influence of chloroform, which had been administered by his physician to enable him to undergo a surgical operation for an abscess in the jaw.

A bill for the construction of the Sault Ste. Marie railway, from Sault Ste. Marie to the coast of Labrador, which was before the Railway Committee in Parliament last week, was designated a wild cat scheme, and was thrown out on a vote of 26 to 17.

The Dominion Government has issued a circular to the various labour organizations asking their opinion on Mr. Chapleau's proposed bill making it a misdemeanor for working men to require their fellow-workmen to join union or for employers to insist that their employes shall not belong to unions.

Mrs. Labelle, deputy commissioner of agriculture for the province of Quebec, and acting as an immigration commissioner for that province, addressed a large and enthusiastic audience at Lille, France, the other night. He spoke in glowing terms of the France beyond the ocean, where resided so many sons of the fatherland in prosperity. He told of the great regions of the North-west, ready to welcome the sons of old France to its hospitable soil. Mrs. Labelle was heartily applauded. He will shortly proceed to Germany.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Sir Peter Coates, of the well-known thread making firm of J. & P. Coates, is dead.

The imperial naval estimates amount to £14,000,000, an increase of £100,000 over last year.

Elizabeth Vincent, who shot her seducer, L. H. Isaacs, M. P. for Walworth, has been acquitted.

East end workmen in London are said to have entered upon a boycotting crusade against Hebrew laborers.

Brown & Wingrove, malters and refiners and dealers in bullion, of London, have failed. Liabilities £300,000.

Mr. Parnell has decided to prosecute the Exeter Gazette for publishing the Times articles on "Parnellism and Crime."

Arthur Orton, alias Tichborne, was nominated as a candidate for Stoke-on-Trent, but failed to put in the necessary deposit.

Master Abraham Lincoln, son of the United States Minister to Great Britain, died in London on the morning of the 5th.

Canon Baynes has been found guilty of stealing a trunk at Bristol railway station and has been sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

Portugal is determined to exclude England from Mozambique, and the latter country is resolved to have compensation for the outrages committed.

Mr. Gladstone's amendment, calling upon the House of Commons to reprobate the charges made against the Parnellites, was voted down by a majority of 71 in a House of 607 members.

An election in the Stamford division of Lincolnshire on Saturday resulted in the return of Mr. Crust, Conservative, by a majority of 282. At the last election the Conservative was returned unopposed.

The correspondence, just published, relating to the Berlin labor conference between Germany and Great Britain shows that Lord Salisbury declined to commit himself to any measure limiting the hours of labor.

The Duchess of Fife, in receiving a deputation from the women of the United Kingdom, said that her mother, her sisters and herself did their utmost to promote Irish industries by wearing Irish linen, Irish lace, and Irish poplins.

Dispatches from Stornoway, on the Island of Lewes, state that the crofters are in a desperate condition. They have resolved to

repossess the Park Deer forest, of which they were dispossessed, and to portion out the lands in crofts, which they mean to cultivate without delay. They are organized and provided with tents and baggage for a long campaign. Serious trouble is anticipated.

UNITED STATES.

Matilda Ruby has just died at Raywick, Ky., aged 123 years.

Gold has been discovered in a gravel pit just east of Sioux Falls, S. D.

A meeting of citizens has been held at San Francisco to devise means for aiding unemployed workmen.

Two thousand shirtmakers, many of them women, are on strike in New York for a uniform rate in all the shops.

A disastrous collision took place on the Lake Shore road near Buffalo on the 6th inst. Six persons were killed and seventeen injured.

Daniel D. Blake, of Fall River, Mass., says he has received word that he is heir to a \$200,000 estate in England. Blake is a poor man.

The duty on wools agreed upon by the sub-committee of the republican members of the United States Ways and Means Committee, of both the first and second classes, is eleven cents per pound.

Sir Thomas Esmonde has arrived at New Orleans en route from Australia to London. He said he had been away from home nearly eighteen months and had collected \$150,000 in the colonies for the Irish cause.

John A. Hodgson, a young Cleveland, O., man of position, married Addie May Bishop on Friday, and immediately on reaching the Bishops' residence after the ceremony he blew out his brains without assigning any cause.

The Government printing office at Washington is now engaged in filling one of the largest orders in its history. This is for 18,000,000 blanks for the use of the 40,000 enumerators of the eleventh census, who will begin work in May. It will take 15,000 rooms of paper, and twenty presses will have to be worked twenty-two hours each day for six weeks.

Vice-President Morton, who is visiting the South, says its resources are being developed with marvellous rapidity. The cotton crop now averages 7,000,000 bales. The number of cotton mills in the South ten years ago was 160, with 14,000 looms. To-day there are 14,000 mills and 215,000 looms. The mileage of railways in the South, which ten years ago was less than 20,000, is now more than 40,000.

IN GENERAL.

The Russian navy is to be reorganized and strengthened.

The death is announced at Constantinople of ex-Sultan Murad.

In some parts of Austria last week the thermometer registered from 12 to 20 degrees below zero.

It is stated that Prince Bismarck will retire gradually from his various posts, retaining only the Foreign Office.

The trial at Wadowice, Austria, of persons accused of emigrant swindling, resulted in the conviction of 31 of the 60 prisoners.

Herr Von Tisza, Hungarian prime minister, has resigned owing to disagreement with his cabinet over the naturalization of Louis Kosuth.

Sunday was the second anniversary of the death of the Emperor William I. The Imperial mausoleum at Charlottenburg was consecrated.

A Sister of Charity in Moscow was murdered and chopped in pieces. A medical student was arrested for the butchery, and immediately suicided.

The customs committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has voted to impose a duty of three francs on foreign corn and five on corn flour.

Emperor William has conferred the order of the Black Eagle on Herr von Boetticher, Minister of the Interior, who is regarded as Prince Bismarck's probable successor in the chancellorship.

Canada and the United States.

We cannot help thinking that a good deal of the belief as to annexation being bound to come has arisen from assuming it as certain that if there were reciprocity or a customs union between the Dominion and the States, absorption must take place. We do not see the necessity. England does not absorb the countries with which she has free trade, nor would America, even if the free trade was restricted to one Power. Countries have often been strictly united in spite of internal customs lines; while again, States have had free commercial intercourse without amalgamation. It is quite conceivable that England, Canada, and America might politically remain to each other in the positions they occupy to-day, although Canada and America admitted each other's goods free, and had a tariff against those of England. No doubt the arrangement would be a very foolish one for Canada; but to speak of reciprocity as necessarily involving absorption, is not so realistic as essentially logical national sentiment often is. Canada might quite well think she would be injured, both by wearing English cloth and by adopting American institutions. In any case, a customs union is further off than American free trade, and, meantime, we need not be afraid of bills introduced into Congress for absorbing Canada. That is a game too can play at, and the Dominion Parliament is, we believe, occasionally invited to pass measures for admitting the New England States to the federation of British North America.—London Spectator.

The Removal of Moles.

In a recent number of The Practitioner, Dr. Jamison writes on the use of sodium ethylate in removing hairy moles on the face. He operated in this way: The hairs were cut off as closely as possible with a very fine pair of scissors, and the mole was then painted over with sodium ethylate, a fine glass rod being used. When the mole had a varnished look the ethylate was gently rubbed in with the glass rod, to make it penetrate more deeply into the hair follicles. The mole had quite a black look when the operation was over. A hard crust formed over it, which was nearly three weeks in becoming detached. When it came off the hairs were seen to be destroyed, and the surface of the mole had a smooth, somewhat cicatricial appearance, of a much lighter color than before; and this favorable condition continued until the mark was scarcely noticeable.

Gambling in Wheat.

For hard, practical common sense, pertinent to the actual needs of the times, commend us to the comments of ex-Governor Pillsbury, of Minneapolis, upon the effect of gambling in wheat is having upon the wheat interest. He contends that the farmers and millers have the same interest, and that the depreciating influence of short sales based on wind is detrimental to the interest of both the producer and the manufacturer. He thinks that the millers, for the most part, have lost money. They pay more for their stock than they can really afford to, and yet pay only starvation prices for the raw material of their flour. "I never knew the milling interest to be profitable on low prices of wheat," he says. This statement, which rests in a broad principle of political economy, was called out by the action of the Chicago Board of Trade in trying to destroy the bucket-shops. These do incalculable harm. They are the wheat raiser's "dearest foe," an enemy so fatal that unless destroyed, farmers are liable to be whelmed in one vast ruin. But the fault is not all theirs. So far as the Chicago, Toronto, and Montreal boards are themselves and practice gambling they are to be better than the bucket-shops. The fictitious sale of wheat, or the sale of fictitious wheat, whichever way one chooses to put it, is the greatest evil our country has, and it is the greatest evil against any other farmers have to contend with. The actual production has not increased throughout the world during the last five or ten years, but the market is depressed by the enormous quantity of gambling sales made. It is as if the actual increase had been great as the fictitious. This is the centre point of the statement as a whole. "The way the market is now running," Mr. Pillsbury says, "a man selling a million bushels of wheat which he does not own has just as much effect, or even more effect, than a man selling a similar amount of what which he does own, for the reason that these big bears have been so successful in their selling that their very prestige draws a big amount of followers. This evil has grown to be so tremendous that it will tend to depopulate the farming communities unless it is stopped, and vigorous methods will have to be taken to stop it. Clearly this is an evil too stupendous to be overlooked or neglected. If the farmers would better themselves to stop this king's evil of the period they would be able to force some relief.

A New Bible for Germany.

Germany is to have a new Bible. For twenty-five years a committee has been sitting in revision of the famous work of Martin Luther. The last meeting of this revisory body was held on the 10th of January. The work has now gone to the printers, and it will soon be made public. Of the original commission of distinguished scholars who began the revision twenty-five years ago, nearly all have passed away. One by one their places have been filled with new men. It need not be said that the commission has been composed of men of brilliant and arduous scholarship. The appearance of their work seems, however, to be awaited with no considerable popular interest in Germany—certainly with no such interest as was shown in the appearance of the English revised version issued from the Jerusalem chamber of Westminster a few years ago, and telegraphed in large part across the Atlantic. It is said that the German translators have preserved many popular phrases and readings of the Luther Bible, although confessedly not strictly accurate. Such leniency toward the existing version would hardly seem compatible with the purpose for which the revisory body has been sitting. Nevertheless, undoubtedly many important changes have been made, great care being taken to preserve so far as possible the diction of Luther's famous work. What the King James translation has been to the English language and literature Luther's Bible has been to the language and literature of Germany. It will probably require some pressure upon the part of the ecclesiastical authorities to secure any general use of the new version. Theologians and scholars will find it interesting to compare the critical work of the German committee with that of the English and American committees. A strong effort has recently been made in Germany to procure the publication of an expurgated and abridged edition of the Bible for use in schools; but the movement has been discouraged, and nothing is likely to come of it. It is feared in theological quarters that to take such liberties with the sacred volume would tend to destroy faith in its authority.

Australia's Wheat Show.

Recent agricultural returns show that South Australia has a great future before it as a wheat growing country, and is likely to become one of the world's chief sources of supply. The population of the whole province is not more than that of many English towns, yet it has produced wheat to the value of nearly three millions sterling in a single year. This gives an average of 295 per head for each of the 30,000 persons engaged in agriculture, or nearly 40 bushels per head for the whole population. When this is contrasted with the figures of the other great grain-producing countries of the world, the prosperity of this thriving little colony is at once apparent. India grows one bushel for each of its inhabitants, Russia about two bushels, and North America (including Canada) seven bushels per head. The cost of production is also surprisingly small. In Great Britain each acre of wheat costs about £8 10s., and in America about £2, but South Australia farmers can raise the grain for 25s. per acre. It thus appears that each family engaged in agriculture has an average income derived from wheat of £205 10s., besides what is derived from other crops, cattle rearing, and dairying. In a good year this has risen to £285, but, taking good and bad together, the handsome average stated is the result. In the year 1887-8 wheat of the value of two millions and a half was exported, leaving a balance worth £200,000 for home consumption, showing that for every person engaged in agriculture £84 worth of grain was sent abroad. These figures are believed to be without a parallel in any country in the world; and as there is abundance of land yet uncultivated, a largely-increased supply may be looked for in the future. It is also to be noted that the return per acre reaped is only about £1, so that more thorough cultivation will probably result in a still further augmented production.

The large London firm of Brown Brothers has bought for \$200,000 a controlling interest in the large creamery business of Minnesota.

Smokeless Powder in Battle.

Smokeless powder will perhaps be hailed as a blessing by the sportsman, who will be enabled instantaneously to see the effect of his shot, but to the poor soldier in battle what will it be? With the perfection and general adoption of smokeless powder the shock of battle will no more. All the agony, all the horror, will be brought before the eyes of the combatants, and will act most powerfully upon troops drawn up in support of those actually engaged. "Experience has proved," says a United States general, "that many men who fight steadily in battle turn faint and sick in a field hospital; how will it be when the two experiences are to a certain extent combined?" Heretofore the struggles in the arena have been hidden from the supports by the clouds of smoke. With smokeless gunpowder in use, every individual struggle will be plain to spectators whose nerves have been worked up to a high tension by the mere presence of battle. Again, the smokeless powder gives no indication of the presence of a concealed enemy. A column on the march might have its first intimation of the neighborhood of an enemy when it was cut in two by a volley of musketry almost inaudible. Whence comes the attack might be also difficult to determine, for there are many magazine rifles in Europe that fire a shot a second with sufficient velocity to pierce an inch and a half of steel at short range, and are terribly effective at fifteen hundred yards. Troops may be moved down by the fire of an enemy they cannot see, and who after his blow is struck gives no visible sign of his whereabouts. What a terrible test it will be of the nerves of men, to see their comrades levelled in heaps by a silent blast of death! The liability to such an experience is sufficient to effect the nervous sensibility of nations. Another agency of death as soul-shaking as smokeless and almost noiseless gun powder is the high explosive, whether dynamite or gun cotton. So long as it was supposed that special weapons were necessary for the use of high explosives in warfare, and that they would be necessarily almost as dangerous to those who served them as to those who faced them, the employment of these tremendous agencies was limited. Italy and Germany have demonstrated that charges of wet gun cotton can be fired with safety from ordinary service guns. Both powers have adopted wet gun cotton for bursting-charges for shells, after trials that demonstrated that forty-eight pounds of this tremendous explosive could be fired with safety to a distance of thirty-three hundred yards. The French have gone even farther than this, firing a seventy-three pound charge of melinite from a siege gun to as great a distance. All these horrors ought to frighten the world into peace, but will they? When gun-powder came into use, there were men who thought that the days of war would go out with the bow and arrow.

France in Africa.

While the English, Germans and Portuguese have been racing one another in their efforts to extend their respective possessions in South Africa, France has directed her attention to the western part of the dark continent. During the past five years the French possessions in Senegambia have been gradually extended, by conquest or treaties with the native chiefs, and now include the whole of the upper Niger country as far east as Timbuctoo. The trade of Senegambia amounts to some ten million dollars per annum and is controlled almost exclusively by the French. A railroad from St. Louis on the coast to the Niger river has been projected and partially constructed. This line will be extended to Timbuctoo and thence in a straight course across the desert of Sahara to Algiers on the Mediterranean coast. In the Guinea country the French have been equally active and successful in adding to their possessions. French Congo and adjacent colonies now comprise an area of 240,000 square miles, while nearly as much more territory lying back of these possessions is conceded to be within the sphere of French influence. The new king of Dahomey, jealous of the rapid progress of the French on all sides of his savage kingdom, and anxious to make a record as a valiant warrior, has marched his Amazon regiments against the invaders, and several bloody encounters have taken place, in which the chivalrous French were ungalantly defeated the forces of savage black beauties opposed to them. However, in view of the fact that the Amazons of Dahomey regard their vanquished enemies as the choicest of gastronomic delicacies and invariably celebrate a victory with a feast of raw human flesh upon the battlefield, the French will be excused for rude treatment of their ferocious female opponents. Dahomey is one of the blackest spots on the map of Africa. Cannibalism is generally practiced among the inhabitants. The country is rich in natural resources, and if England and Germany should not object too strenuously France will doubtless annex it, or at least bring it within the sphere of her influence. France already has grabbed one-sixteenth part of the entire area of Africa, and the larger portion of these extended possessions has been acquired in the course of the last few years.

English Gold Again.

Hardly a day passes but the arrival of English capital in some new American channel of trade is reported. Making all allowance for the exaggeration and sheer romancing incidental to the reports of this invasion of alien capitalists, it cannot be doubted that there is a genuine movement of English money toward investment in the northern half of this continent.

Following upon the heels of the authorized announcement of the organization of a gigantic British-American syndicate to operate in a multitude of ways, involving a capital of many millions, comes the news that a number of cotton manufacturers from London, Edinburgh and Birmingham, England, are going to erect there a large number of cotton mills, and a small town out of hand for the operatives. The outward sign of this great transaction at present is confined to the obtaining of a number of options upon several farms, including a thousand acres or more, by an Englishman who says he is empowered to buy the land for the site of the proposed mills and town. The English cotton factors are said to be bent on this transfer of their capital and enterprise for the sake of avoiding the duties which keep their manufactures out of American markets.

Chicago and the Fair.

The developments in connection with the proposed World's Fair in Chicago are not very assuring, and create a doubt whether the monster exhibition will materialize at all. It would seem that the money necessary for carrying out the project successfully has not been raised by the winning candidate, the so-called guarantee fund amounting almost to nothing. In view of this fact it is now proposed that Congress shall devote \$10,000,000 or \$15,000,000 of the surplus for this purpose. Quite naturally New York, which has practically raised \$15,000,000, all of which would have been available in a very short time, objects to such a proposal. Says the Saturday Globe: "If this argument shall find adoption in Congress, it will be little less than disgraceful. If, after months of lobbying, if, after having made representations of the most positive character, Chicago is not able to raise its own resources, it had better be left alone to hold simply a State or inter-State Fair, in which the rest of the country will have only the slightest interest." The Sun, with greater warmth and in terms decidedly vigorous, reminds the legislators of a day of reckoning. "If," it says, "you make a grant of money to Chicago for the purpose of holding the proposed Fair, that fact will become a very important issue in future elections; and the Republican party will be held to a responsibility which no set of politicians will find any reason to rejoice in. Give to Chicago for the purpose just what New York would have asked for, namely, the limited sum which may be necessary for a Government exhibit; make to Chicago, if you think proper and find the security satisfactory, such a loan as was made to Philadelphia in 1876; but beyond this not one cent under penalty of hearing from it very decidedly and impressively in the canvass of 1892." It will be a pity if the jealousy and agrarian of the greater city should place any obstruction in the way of carrying out the enterprise, which, while likely to result in a local advantage, can hardly fail to confer a national benefit. But whether Chicago has over-estimated her ability or under-estimated the magnitude of the undertaking remains to be seen.

The snub given by Lord Salisbury to the Brazilian Minister at the Court of St. James, is about to bring forth fruit in an unlooked-for manner. Taken with the circumstances that the authorities at Washington have recognized the new republic and have entered into fraternal relations with the Brazilian government, it has led to the formation of leagues at Rio Janeiro, Bahia, Para, Santos, and Pernambuco, the members of which pledge themselves to boycott British in favor of American goods. Of course Lord Salisbury will feel awfully sorry and will forthwith bring his knees to mother earth and fill his eyes with tears that he may persuade those whom he has so grossly offended to turn from their heartless purpose. For do they not see that the withdrawal of their patronage would prove the death blow to British enterprise and prosperity. Joking aside, we have here an instance of people cutting off their nose to spite their face.

In his report to the government, Commander Gordon, in charge of the protective cruisers, draws attention to the fact that the only seizure of an American vessel during the season was that of the Mattie Winslip of Gloucester, held and fined \$2000 for fishing in territorial waters of Canada. The United States mackerel fleet which visited Canadian waters last year consisted of 62 vessels, their catch being recorded as 6775 barrels, an average of 106 barrels, as against 126 barrels the preceding year. Commander Gordon strongly urges the advisability of endeavoring to make an arrangement with the government of the United States for the preservation of the mackerel fishery. The absolute prohibition of the use of the purse seine for the whole, in place of part, of the 12 months would go far toward accomplishing this end. The total number of men employed in the sea-going fisheries of the maritime provinces is 8159, and in the shore fishing, in boats, 34,167.

It is just possible that Major Serpa Pinto the impetuous young officer who precipitated the east African trouble, may yet involve his government in greater difficulties. Fearing that his presence at home might inflame the patriots who have been seeking to embitter the public mind against England and everything English, the authorities at Lisbon gave him orders not to return at present. These orders he is about to disobey, and purposes to leave Cape Town at once, on board the Portuguese mail steamer with the intention of taking part in the debates in the Cortes on the situation in Africa and his treatment of the natives. In an interview at Durban Serpa Pinto blamed the Protestant missionaries and the agents of the African Company as the prime movers in the quarrel between Portuguese and the natives. He asserted that the Portuguese massacred the natives only when they were compelled to do so in self-defence. There is a considerable party in Lisbon who will support him in whatever story he chooses to tell, and there may be trouble on his arrival.

The combined cities of New York and Brooklyn take the palm and lead the world in the matter of large petitions. The monster was presented to the New York Assembly one day last week. It contains 51,144 signatures from New York city and over 16,000 from Brooklyn, and is bound in book form. The book is twenty-six inches wide, thirty-two inches long, eight feet thick, and weighs half a ton. It was carried into the Assembly Chamber on the shoulders of eight men, and was laid, not on the table, but on the floor of the House. This unrivalled petition is in favor of the Saxton Ballot Reform bill. Evidently the political machine is not giving good satisfaction in this great centre.

If matters go on much longer at the present rate it is likely that Detroit will experience some difficulty in keeping up the number of her police force. As a rule, men do not covet being made a target for desperadoes and cut throats. And this is how it has ended on several occasions in that city. The latest victim of the armed burglar is Patrolman Edward Schumaker, who, finding the rear door of a certain grocery store open the other night, entered and saw three burglars working on the safe. The burglars fled, followed by the patrolman, who fired a shot. The three scoundrels returned the fire, and Schumaker was wounded in the abdomen. He has since died. A number of arrests were made. This is the fourth patrolman shot while on duty in Detroit in eight years.