

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

DEATH has suddenly struck down two of our prominent public men, Senator Bourinot, and the Parliamentary Librarian, Alpheus Todd. The late librarian's name is well known in literary circles. He was a man of much knowledge in constitutional matters and parliamentary laws.

PARLIAMENTARY reports shew that the revenue of the Intercolonial Railway for the last fiscal year was \$2,365,900 and the expenditure \$2,350,400, showing a surplus of \$16,500. And that the total deposits in all the Savings Banks in 1883 amounted to \$13,893,656; the interest allowed was \$912,692, and balance remaining on deposit at the end of the year was \$36,575,000. And the following note of imports of Canada by Provinces for the past year will be found interesting. The imports of Canada by provinces for the past year were as follows:—

Ontario.....	\$ 44,600,000
Quebec.....	55,900,000
Nova Scotia.....	10,000,000
New Brunswick.....	6,000,000
Manitoba.....	9,300,000
British Columbia.....	3,900,000
P. E. Island.....	680,000
N. W. Territory.....	1,725,000

The exports were from:—

Ontario.....	\$ 37,900,000
Quebec.....	42,640,000
Nova Scotia.....	9,820,000
New Brunswick.....	7,000,000
Manitoba.....	510,000
British Columbia.....	4,380,000
P. E. Island.....	1,348,000

THERE is a good prospect of increased development of trade between Canada and Belgium. The exports from Canada to that country during the last three years amounted to over a million of dollars. During the last year the imports from Belgium to Canada reached the figure of \$503,210. As the Belgium authorities have expressed a desire to further Canadian trade, the benefit to both countries will be of great importance.

THE total value of imports into the Dominion in the year ending June 30th, 1883, was \$13,254,022, the largest in the history of the country, exceeding the import of the previous year by \$12,834,522, and that of 1874—the largest previously recorded—by \$4,040,440. The exports, on the other hand, have somewhat declined, being \$98,085,804, against \$102,137,203 in 1882, a decrease of \$4,051,399.

A DEPUTATION from the Montreal Board of Trade, accompanied by a number of gentlemen from New York, last week had an interview with the government with a view to obtaining an assurance that if Congress removed the duties on certain articles Canada would reciprocate. It is believed that before the end of Congress some measure of reciprocity will be introduced.

MEMBERS of Parliament at Ottawa cannot complain of the care taken for their comfort in Parliament. Since the last meeting of Parliament much needed changes have been made in connection with the interior of the buildings. The most noticeable alteration has been the substitution of the electric light for gas in both Senate and Commons. The Chamber has been thoroughly ventilated and the work of renovation is in every respect complete. Members will not now be able to blame the bad ventilation for the attendant ills of a protracted parliamentary session and too-oft recurring dinners and balls.

A NEW venture will be started next April. A

line of steamers is to be put on the route between New York and St. John's, Nfld., via Halifax. The capital stock is \$500,000. Newfoundland merchants are largely interested in the enterprise. The steamers are being built in England for the company, of 1400 tons each, and with accommodation for forty passengers. The new line meets a pressing mercantile want, and is another instance of the ever-growing ramifications of our Canadian trade.

MR. MACMASTER, a new member in the present Parliament, last week told the House the following interesting comparative statistics, shewing the present hopeful state of the Dominion in these particulars:—Thirty thousand immigrants arrived in 1878, 47,000 in 1881, 112,000 in 1882, and 133,000 last year. Of the last number 34,000 were from the United States, and 11,000 of these returned to Canada. 21,000 head of cattle were imported last year, as against 12,000 in 1882. In 1878 19,000 cattle and 46,000 sheep, almost entirely of American product, were exported, while in 1883, 56,000 cattle and 114,000 sheep, almost all of Canadian production, were exported. The year's surplus was \$7,060,000, apart from \$1,000,000 realized by the sale of North-West lands. If Canada can keep that kind of thing in full operation she may well be congratulated.

THE graduates and alumni of Queen's, Victoria and Albert Universities met last week and passed the following timely resolution:—"That denominational universities in Ontario have for years past been doing educational work of as high a character as the University of Toronto, and are equally deserving of recognition in the way of endowment; that in the interest of justice public moneys should not be given solely to one educational institution among several, and that any action of the Legislature in favor of the further endowment of the University of Toronto, without taking into consideration the just claims of the other universities for financial support, would be impolitic and unfair, and should be resisted by every means possible."

MATTERS are still very complicated in Egypt. It is reported that the Dervishes are summoning the people to join El Mahdi: but counter accounts say that thousands of the false prophet's followers are deserting him, now that some definite policy has been decided upon. General Gordon goes straight to Suakim via the canal. He will meet Sir Evelyn Baring, the British Consul General, at Suez, and come to an agreement in regard to the co-operation of the English authorities in Egypt, so far as may be necessary. England has committed the guidance of Egyptian affairs to the experienced hands of Sir Evelyn Baring. Chinese Gordon will probably make short work of the insurrection, for he is *facile princeps* in organizing victorious armies over this kind of warfare. When Egypt is once more quieted down, the next question will be—the important one of knowing whether England is to face periodically these fanatic insurrections, or whether she shall at once take supreme control of the country.

MR. GEORGE, the American Apostle of Agrarian Socialism, has met with marked failure in his "educational tour" in England. His great "bubble" of nationalizing the land of the whole community has been pricked, and is no more. The most outspoken of the Radical journals sums up a notice of Mr. George in this way: "Land

nationalization *minus* compensation is simply wholesale robbery *plus* cant." We should think so.

THE unemployed in the City of Paris are causing no little anxiety to the authorities. Last week 4,000 men met in the Salle Levis, Paris, and listened to violent speeches favoring an armed revolution as the only means of ending stagnation in trade. But the meeting separated quietly. The effervescent quality of French agitation soon quiets down after the first bubbles, especially if the authorities can keep cool and allow the agitators uninterruptedly to work off their surplus atrabiliousness.

A COMMITTEE of the American Congress has become peculiarly vindictive by empowering the President to prohibit the import of any articles which he may deem injurious to health from those countries which act in this manner towards any of the products of the United States. This proposal is avowedly not to save the lives of Americans, but to punish the French and Germans for prohibiting the import of American Pork. There is a great chance for a temperance President to prohibit the import of that which does more than anything else to injure the health and prosperity of the Americans.

THE effort to promote the higher education of women in connection with the University of Cambridge continues to be attended with the greatest success, and it has been found advisable to commence the addition of another wing to the North Hall, which portion of the college is under the care of Miss Helen Gladstone, daughter of the Premier. During the term which has just ended there have been in the South Hall, which was erected in 1875, forty students resident in the college, and four out students living with their friends; and in the North Hall thirty-six resident students, and four out students, under Miss Gladstone.

AN enormous amount of money is taken yearly from the pockets of shareholders for the purpose of pushing bills through Parliament. An English parliamentary return has just been made of the expenses incurred by each railway, gas, and water company in the United Kingdom in promoting and opposing Bills before Parliament from 1872 to 1882 inclusive. The total amount expended in promoting railway companies' Bills was \$12,512,785, and in opposing such bills \$4,035,340—a total of \$19,623,560.

THE wreck of the steamer City of Columbus at Gay's Head starts the New Year's list of casualties with a terrible record. Nearly 100 lives are ascertained to be lost and there are unpleasant rumours that the disaster was caused by carelessness.

DR. BRACHELLI, who has for years past paid great attention to religious statistics has just published his figures for the year 1883. According to the Doctor twenty-six States make up the division of Europe. They show a population of 329,876,320. Of these ninety-six per cent. is classed as Christian and only three per cent. as non Christians.

THE Prince of Wales had a very narrow escape last week, when on a visit to the Rothschilds at Hatton. Shortly before the special train started five packages of dynamite were found in a tunnel through which the train passed.