

THE WEEK.

Vol. X.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JULY, 21st, 1893.

No. 34.

THE WEEK:

A Canadian Journal of Politics, Literature, Science and Arts.

TERMS:—One year, \$3; eight months, \$2; four months, \$1. Subscriptions payable in advance.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

Local conditions brought it about that the series of farewell addresses in which the departing Governor-General, Lord Derby, was assured of the respect and confidence of the people among whom his lot has been cast during the last five years, should have emanated from Eastern cities, but His Excellency can have no doubt that the sentiments expressed in those addresses are cordially endorsed by the people of the West, and indeed of all parts of the Dominion. Some of the cities of Ontario had the opportunity, only a few weeks since, of voicing their regret at his departure in somewhat similar terms. It cannot be gratifying to His Excellency to know his strict regard for constitutional principle in the discharge of the duties of his high office, and the warm personal interest which he has always taken in every thing which related to the welfare of Canada and its people, have received their measure of appreciation, and that his name

will go down in Canadian history as that of one who discharged with tact and faithfulness his duties as the representative of Imperial interests in Canada, and who at the same time took the trouble to understand the Canadian people, in order that he might the better sympathize with, and promote as occasion offered, their interests and aspirations. Lord Derby took occasion, from time to time, to express his opinion that the true interests of Canada would be best served by permanent connection with the Mother Country. Whatever form the relationship may assume in the future, he may rest assured that the number of Canadians is very small who look forward to any development of Canadian nationality which will not carry with it the full sympathy, and so far as may be necessary, the co-operation of all liberal-minded and progressive British statesmen. To this end Canada has reason to be gratified that, while losing the personal presence and influence of the departing Governor, his going will add another to the increasing roll of British noblemen of ability and influence who, while filling various posts of duty and responsibility throughout the Empire, will never cease to cherish those kindly feelings and to retain that intelligent interest in her progress, which were begotten during years of residence among us.

A peculiar and perhaps unique experiment in communism is about being made in Paraguay, under the auspices of "The New Australian Coöperative Settlement Association." It is hardly surprising that the movement should have originated among our fellow-colonists at the Antipodes, for Australian soil seems specially favourable to the development of socialistic sentiment and action. It is, however, somewhat peculiar that the Association should have had to come so far to find an opportunity to put its theories to the test. Perhaps, however, the freedom to found a little state within the state which has been given by the Paraguayan authorities could not so easily have been obtained elsewhere to the full extent desired. Be that as it may, the Association has entered into a compact with the Paraguayan Government, under which, while the community as a whole is responsible to the State and bound to obey its laws, the individual members are directly responsible to the directors of the Association, who are to be elected annually. According to the account before us, "a grant of land, comprising 100 square leagues, equal to

450,000 acres, has been obtained near Villa Rica, on the Rio Tibicuarí, 110 miles from Ascunción. As an earnest of good faith the Association has deposited with the Paraguayan Government a substantial forfeit, agreeing to establish 400 families within two years from January 7, 1893, and to plant a colony of 800 families within four years from that date. There are no promoters seeking profit out of the enterprise; it is divorced from politics; the members are plain workingmen and women, who are thoroughly sincere, and who are setting out to improve their own condition—not to further socialistic reforms or to prove any original theories of government." Among the principles to be observed in the community, are the common ownership of land and equal division of expenses and profits, "without regard to sex, age, office, or physical or mental capacity," absolute equality of the sexes; maintenance of children at the expense of the community, but under the guardianship of parents, etc. "The individuality of every member in thought, religion, speech and leisure, and in all matters whatsoever whereby the individuality of others is not affected, is to be held inviolable." The history of the movement will be worth studying as a phenomenon in political and social life.

In an article on Civic Duty, in the July Forum, Mr. James Bryce makes a noteworthy distinction between two kinds of patriotism, that which concerns itself with services and sacrifices to protect one's country against external enemies, and that which regards specially whatever can promote her inner welfare. The latter, or "home side of patriotism, this sober and quiet sense of what one owes to the community into which he is born, and which he helps to govern," has been found, Mr. Bryce says, specially hard to maintain in modern times and in large countries. Commenting on this remark, the *New York Nation* admits that in regard to the large cities of the United States, and especially in regard to New York, nothing is more notable than the almost total lack of this home patriotism. "Our citizens," says the writer, "are capable of working themselves into a fury of Jingo patriotism over some trifling international incident, like that of a row among drunken sailors in the streets of Valparaiso, or like the unthinking hullabaloo over a proposal to annex Hawaii, but they bear with complete indifference the constant scandal of an ignorant and corrupt municipi-