

The Canada School Journal.

AND WEEKLY REVIEW.

VOL. X.

TORONTO, MARCH 19, 1885.

No 11.

Table of Contents.

EDITORIAL :—	PAGE
The World.....	121
The School.....	122
The New School Legislation.....	123
SPECIAL ARTICLES :—	
Literature in the High Schools.....	123
The Old Reading Class.....	124
EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.....	
125	
PRACTICAL DEPARTMENT :—	
Entrance Literature for July and December.....	129
School Government.....	127
Spelling by Sound.....	123
Primary Drawing.....	123
Exercise in Enunciation.....	129
EDUCATIONAL NOTES AND NEWS.....	129
PERSONAL.....	130
CORRESPONDENCE.....	130
LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.....	130
MISCELLANEOUS.....	131
QUESTION DRAWER.....	131
TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS.....	132
LITERARY REVIEW.....	132

The Canada School Journal and Weekly Review.

Edited by J. E. WELLS, M.A.
and a staff of competent Provincial editors.

An Educational Journal devoted to the advancement of Literature, Science, and the teaching profession in Canada.

—TERMS.—

THE SUBSCRIPTION price for THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL is \$2.0 per annum, strictly in advance.

DISCONTINUANCES—THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL will not be sent to any person after the expiration of the time for which payment has been made.

RENEWALS of subscriptions should be made promptly.

ALL BUSINESS communications should be addressed to the business manager. Articles intended for publication should be addressed to the editor.

ADVERTISEMENTS of a suitable nature will be inserted at reasonable terms. See schedule of rates in another column.

CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL PUB. CO. (Limited)

Publishers.

J. L. ROBERTSON,
Secretary-Treasurer.

JACOB M. KENNEDY,
Business Manager.

The World.

The Independents, or Civil Service Reformers of the United States are well pleased with the constitution of Cleveland's Cabinet. Some of its members are without political experience, but most or all have what is better, recognized ability and untarnished records. Mr. Bayard, Secretary of State, has an unblemished reputation, and, to his honour be it said, the chief opposition to his confirmation was on account of an anti-dynamite resolution he introduced in the Senate of Virginia; Mr. Whitney, Secretary of the Navy, took a leading part in the prosecution of the Tweed ring; Mr. Lamar, Secretary of the Interior, is one of the foremost advocates of justice to the Indian; Mr. Vilas, Postmaster-General, was recommended by the Independents as one of the best men to carry out the Civil Service Reform, and so on. Unless the present promise greatly fails, a new and purer political era has dawned in the United States.

The world heaves a sigh of relief that even a temporary arrangement of the Afghan question has been reached by England and Russia. The nature of the understanding has not been made public. Indeed it is doubtful if it means anything more than a promise on the part of Russia not to encroach further on Afghan territory until time and opportunity have been afforded for conference upon matters in dispute. How the British Government in the face of its so-called ultimatum can call a halt until the Russian troops have been withdrawn from the Tulfikar Pass, and other points on what is claimed as Afghan ground, remains to be seen. The Jingoism will make a fierce onslaught if any concession or wavering is apparent. But it is not always the most blustering individual or government that proves firmest when the crisis comes. The fact that the Gladstone administration abhors the barbarous and absurd arbitrament of the rifle in settling international disputes and is patient and conciliatory to a degree, by no means proves that the honour and integrity of the empire is not safe in its keeping. Both Ministry and nation are thrice armed when they have their quarrel just, and a clear conscience, fortified with a conviction of right, is a better guarantee of firmness than any which the impetuosity of arrogance or passion can possibly give.

Some of our readers may not have followed the course of the Russian movements in Asia and may consequently be a little puzzled to know what all the present excitement is about. The situation is briefly this. The Russian conquest of Merv, an oasis in the Turkoman desert, two years ago, brought her troops to the borders of Afghanistan and made the territory of that independent state the only neutral soil between the Russian possessions in Asia and those of England in India. Herat, which is only 150 miles from the conquered Turkoman territory, is a place of great strategic importance, and is regarded as the key of India. The boundary line between Afghanistan and the Turkoman possessions has never been defined. At England's suggestion a joint commission representing England, Russia and Afghanistan was organized some time since to determine this boundary, but though the English and Afghan commissioners have been on the ground and ready for work for nearly a year, the Russian commissioner has, on one pretext or another, failed to put in an appearance. Meanwhile the vanguard of the Russian army has steadily advanced from point to point until it is within 50 miles of Herat, and 150 south of what is regarded as the Afghan boundary. Hence the determination of the Afghan Ameer, with England at his back, to put a preemptory stop to further encroachment.

If we work upon marble, it will perish, if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with principles, with the just fear of God, with love of our fellow-men, we engrave on the tablets something which will brighten to all eternity.—Selected.