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CURRENT TOPICS.

THE will of the late Mr. George Sharp, contractor, of Hamilton, shows an estate valued at \$91,000.

SIR ADOLPHE CARON, who has been in London for some time, is prevented returning to Canada by an attack of illness, which confines him to his bed.

THE Bisley shooting competition will open on July 10. Canada will be well represented, and doubtless Scotland will give a good account of her sharpshooters as usual.

THERE is reason to believe that Prof. J. Clark Murray, who holds the chair of philosophy in McGill University, will shortly resign to accept a chair in Vassar College.

THE stove factory of Schliehauf Bros., in the village of West Lorne, Ont., was destroyed by fire on Tuesday morning. Twenty men have been thrown out of employment in consequence.

WHEN the Behring Sea tribunal resumed its sittings on Tuesday a series of regulations were submitted by the British counsel for the governing of seal-fishing in the Behring Sea.

THE manuscript of Sir Walter Scott's "Life of Dean Swift," which was reserved by the publishers, comes to auction in London this week in the sale of the Middle Hall collection.

MR. JOHN MORROUGH, anti-Parnellite member for South-East Cork county, has decided to retire from Parliament owing to the attitude of Mr. Sexton and the *Freeman's Journal*, toward the Parnellite faction.

THE Government cattle inspectors at Montreal have received a communication from the Department of Marine and Fisheries, informing them that the cattle dues are increased from two to three cents per head.

SEVERAL Anti-Parnellite members of the House of Commons have received complaints from their constituents for not opposing the Government concessions to the Unionists in the debate on the Home Rule bill.

MOST people will agree with the suggestion of the Montreal *Witness* that a public testimonial should be presented to Sir William Dawson in recognition of his distinguished services in connection with McGill University.

IT is reported that the Italian Government has abandoned the idea of creating a petroleum monopoly, and instead will likely create a monopoly in the life and fire insurance business, which will have a very serious effect on foreign companies.

DR. E. P. LACHAPPELLE, chairman of the Provincial Board of Health, speaking of the charges made by Dr. Playter, of Ottawa, against the Grosse Isle quarantine, said that he considered the charges as absolutely without foundation.

THE German Government has hopes now of a small majority in favor of the Army bill, due, it is said, to the fact that while the populous districts have by overwhelming majorities elected candidates opposed to the bill, the smaller constituencies have in many instances by small majorities returned candidates favoring the bill.

COMMANDANT BOOTH, of the Salvation Army, in the course of a lecture which he gave in Winnipeg on Monday night, stated that his father was maturing a scheme for carrying on a war against the liquor traffic all over the world.

IT is reported that the English Government has sent telegrams to the Sultan of Turkey and to the Turkish Grand Vizier imploring that clemency be shown to the 17 Armenians who were a few days ago sentenced to death for their share in the seditious rioting at Cesarea.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* says it is the intention of the British Government to abandon the financial clauses of the Home Rule bill and substitute new clauses empowering the Irish Legislature to frame its own budget to the amount of five million pounds.

THE Under-Secretary of Agriculture of Queensland has forwarded to Canada four cases of oranges, one case of pine apples, and five cases of arrowroot, for the purpose of seeing if a trade in such commodities can be established with Canada, now that there is a fast service between the two countries.

THE convention of the Dominion Women's Temperance Union, in session at Winnipeg, have re-elected the board of directors. During a discussion of the subject of dress reform, the wearing of sleeveless and low-cut gowns was severely condemned.

MR. RENTON, the secretary of the Grand Trunk railway in London, says the shareholders are not likely to object to Messrs. Gould, McIntyre, and others buying a controlling interest in Grand Trunk stock, but he knows nothing personally as to the truth of the rumors.

THE *Yorkshire Post*, commenting on Mr. Edward Blake's speech at South Leeds on Saturday last says that Mr. Blake should speak of what he knows, and it is quite clear that he knows nothing of English opinion on Home Rule. It will be inferred from this that the speech was an effective one and injurious to the *Post's* anti-Home Rule cause.

THE Comte d'Haussoville, leader of the Monarchist party in France, at a banquet in Paris on Sunday, called upon all Conservative factions to unite in the general elections in support of a programme of public honesty, social defence, and religious liberty.

THE death is announced of Mr. W. Reid, of Wick, and latterly of Nairn, whose contributions to the natural history of the north of Scotland are well known. Mr. Reid was a personal friend of the late Frank Buckland, and a valued correspondent of naturalists in all parts of the United Kingdom. It was a characteristic of the deceased gentleman that he placed at the disposal of every naturalist who sought him out all the stores of his information. His one desire was to further the interests of science. He was regarded as one of the best authorities on all questions relating to bird life and the habits of fishes in the country. He made numerous descriptive contributions to the newspapers on such topics, and regret is expressed that he never could be prevailed upon to put his observations into a permanent form. Mr. Reid had entered on his eightieth year.

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