

Personal.

Dr. J. Clarence Webster, of Edinburgh University, was in Montreal last week the guest of Principal Petersen, of McGill College. Dr. Webster is Canadian by birth, belonging to Shediac, N.B. He has had a very distinguished career, carrying off many honours. He is now connected with the University of Edinburgh, succeeding the late Sir J. Y. Simpson.

Lieutenant Peary has reached St. John's, Nfld., in safety. The second twelve months of his stay in the Arctic do not appear to have been as profitable as the first. The acclimatizing of the first year did not make the men stronger for the trials of the second, and sickness among the members prevented the accomplishment of the leader's plans. Lieut. Peary, however, has done enough in the way of northern exploration to stand the comparative failure of one part of his venturesome work, and will merit the rest he is likely to take.

After a stay of several days in Winnipeg, Henry M. Stanley, the African explorer, left last Saturday for the Canadian Rockies. Mr. Stanley will spend a couple of days in the mountains, hunting and fishing with a party of gentlemen who have arranged to join him. His travelling companion west is Hon. Charles Mackintosh, governor of the North-West Territories. It is understood that Mr. Stanley has been commissioned by the King of the Belgians to report on the Canadian North-West country as a field for Belgian immigration.

Rev. Mr. Herridge and Mrs. Herridge returned to Ottawa, recently, from an extended trip abroad. While away Mr. Herridge visited Bermuda and the West India Islands before sailing for England. He thinks a good trade could be worked up between Canada and the West Indies, as the people there are very friendly toward the Canadians. In the West India Islands he met many Canadians. While in England and Scotland, Mr. Herridge visited Haddo House, the home of Lord Aberdeen, and also St. Andrew's University, one of the great historic centres of Scotland.

Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry, and the London Lyceum Company, arrived in Toronto on Sunday morning last, and on Monday evening began a week's engagement at the Grand Opera House, opening with "Faust." The reception accorded the distinguished Knight and the ever-charming Miss Terry was most enthusiastic. "Faust" was repeated on Tuesday. "The Merchant of Venice" was produced on Wednesday, and "King Arthur" on Thursday—which is to be repeated to-night—and to-morrow "The Merchant of Venice" will be put on for the matinee, and in the evening "A Story of Waterloo" (by Conan Doyle) and "The Bells."

Through the acceptance by Professor Fletcher of the Latin Chair in University College his work in Queen's was left vacant at the beginning of the session. Queen's appoints to chairs very deliberately and no time was allowed the trustees to advertise for candidates and make a regular appointment; but as the Principal has large administrative power in connection with interim and emergency cases he offered the position to Professor Dale for the ensuing session, on the understanding that the trustees at their annual meeting next spring would not be committed but would advertise in the usual way for candidates and select a Professor next summer. Professor Dale has accepted the Principal's offer. The classes in Queen's will thus be cared for and the work proceed without disturbance. The University is to be congratulated on having secured so thoroughly competent a man for the work of the session.

Mr. E. L. Newcombe, Deputy Minister of Justice, was a passenger on board the Labrador, which arrived in Montreal on Saturday. He went over to England early in June to argue on behalf of the Dominion Government in the Ontario prohibition appeal before the Privy Council. Judgment in the case has not yet been rendered by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. He was also authorized by the Department of Justice to resume the negotiations which the late Sir John Thomp-

son was carrying on at the time of his death relative to the acceptance of the Copyright Act passed a couple of sessions ago by the Dominion Parliament, and which has not yet been accepted by the British Government. The publishers and authors of Great Britain objected to some of the terms of the act, and it was for this reason that the acceptance was withheld. It is understood that Mr. Newcombe has brought back with him a draft copy of an amended Copyright Act, which is agreeable to the British publishers and authors, and that he will submit it to the Minister of Justice, and that, if it is acceptable, it will be brought before the next session of Parliament.

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