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CONTENTS


Knacklunaneous-Foreign Art-Nows of the Week-

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Arrition
Column.

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS

Montreal, Saturday, Oct. 15th, 1881.

## THE WEEK.

Tee various rumours which had been in the air relative to the result of this year's harvest have been abundantly disproved hy the authentic reports of its general condition now received, and which have probably never been more satisfactory. Prepared as many of us have been for bad gratifying. The crop of 1881 has seldom if ever been surpassed in quality or quantity. The harvest has been most abundant throughout the whole Dominion. Oats are most extensively sown, and for the third yeer in succession the crop of this cereal has given the greatest yield. Barley is also much sown; indeed in the Bay of Quinte district it is the staple product. This year the yield of barley has been much larger than for some years. In 1880 the crop of Spring wheat was a failure, and on that account there was not so much sown this year. What there is of it, however, is of good quality, and has been well got in. Fall wheat has been found to be more profitable for the farmer than Spring wheat, and has been much substitu ted for it during the last two yeare. Out of 86 reports regarding Winter wheat only 11 report under the average, while fully a half report above it. Maize is not much grown in the Dominion, so that a failure of that cereal is not of much moment Neither the crop of maize nor of peas have quite come up to the average this year Hay too has been light, owing to the drought, and excessive rain following each other at such unfortunate periods. Maize, peas and hay, along with fruit (which has been a great failure) form the entire drawback in the Canadian harves of this year.

The international copyright question is now under serious consideration, not only in the United States, but in almost every civilized country. It will form the most pressing topic at the Printers' Congress in Vienna of the International Li terary Association, and at the second Congress at Milan of the Italian Printers and Publishers Association, both taking place this month. The King of Portugal, who took a personal interest in the Congress, has conferred marks of distinction upon several of the leading members, amongst whom is Mr. BlaNchard JERroLd, an hosorary vice-president, who has just
received the Cross of a Knight of the Order of Christ. We have befure called attention to this interesting subject as likely to be definitely dealt with in the next few years. Authors are beginning to realize that the denial of copyright protection to foreigners is a greater injury even to home productions than to the foreigners themselves. If English writers suffer a small loss by the reproduction of their works here in cheap form and without any benefit to themselves, it is their American brothers who have the most reason to complain of a system which cheapens their own work and encourages a compe tition at starvation prices. Once this is States, and the solution of the question is near at hand. If America will not pro tect foreign interests on broad principles, she has at least the reputation of looking after her own, ana the hearty coöperation of the States is all th it is needed to bring about a fair and impartial settlement of the question.

A writer in the St. James Gazette talks in a liberal strain of spelling reform He is by no means sure that uniformity of spelling under our present conditions is an inestimable boon. He would ap prove a pupil or candidate who wrote iland rime, soverin, and he would not pluck
him if he chose to write complection The best chance of improving our spelling appears to him to lie in increased freedom of competition, and he would let people use any spelling for which they could produce either respectable authority, say within the century, or a rational motive As a matter of fact, we can hardly go on
indefinitely in our present state. The indefinitely in our present state. The inconvenient; and the number of pro posals for systematic change, some of which come from persons who have made as thorough a historical study of the English language as any of those who protes against change on historical grounds proves, at any rate, that grave dissatisfac tion exists. The Spaniards and the Dutch have r formed their spelling within pretty recent times (though they suffered more from superfluity than from positive ano malies), and the Germans are doing th .
The question of spelling reform is no doubt an exceedingly grave one, and as such is provoking constant discussion, but so far the majority of debaters on the sub ject are carried away by the feelings of the moment, and in many instances do not stop to consider the logical reasons fo ish of our present spelling. The Eng ish language owes its present vocabulary to a multitude of sources, which may
however in the main be divided into the two great streams which flow the one fron the language of our Saxon forefathers, the other from the embellishments which modern or comparatively modern scholar ship has drawn from the inspiration of the so-called "classics." With regard to the Saxon derivatives they are in a sense our own, and we have no doubt the right immemorial with Englishmen of doing what we like with our own property. But it is otherwise with those words which we owe in common with many other modern languages to the literatures of Greece and Rome. . It seams to us absolutely desirable to proserve in these cases such a mode of spelling as shall leave no doubt as to their origin, and shall at the same time preserve a uniformity with those languages which have borrowed the same words. The derivation for example of "philosopher" is patent, and the word readily understood by a Greek scholar o whatever nationality. Spell it "filosofer" and we are plunged in doubt. A "threadcarrier" would by all accounts be the nearest which any logical process of derivation would bring as to the probable meaning of the word, unless we came reluctantly to the conclusion with which Arry concluded his study of the French language, that "foreigners always spel better than they prongunce,"

The last recalcitrant in the religious world is a Mrs. Cooper, a bible class teacher, and late mistress of the Kindergarten Schools in Philadelphia. The lady has been holding her own in the paper controversy which has been carried upon the discovery of her somewhat pronounced opinions, being indoed as pugnacious as she is pious, and evidently seeing a real meaning in the term "Church militant." As to the question of the absence of any religious teaching in her Kindergarten achools, the value of a theological course for children under five is perhaps slightly problematical, and as the schools have been since the commencement of the trouble relegated to the city authorities, whose influence we may suppose to be on the secular side, the principle supported by Mrs. Cooper has so far been endorsed But the point of the difficulty is con tained in the following extract from an interview between Mrs. Cooper and a re porter :
"What have you to say in reference to the reference you expressed to live in hell with heaven with such men as James H. Roberts?
"I did tell him this. There is no doubt of it. He sat where you are now sitting, and after eproaching me for my great fondness of rank infidels, he cast a scornful look of contemp upon that portrait yonder (pointing to a
life-size portrait of Colonel Ingesoll.) 1 was very angry at this, and said: 'That man is as hell is made up of such men as he, and heaven is made up of such men as you, which I do not believe, I will ge to hell every time.' And then Iadded, 'That man will yet be reaching over the parapets of heaven to pull you in. He is
grand and good enough to do it, and it would take a very good man to do that. I meant just hat I said.
Yet this warm admirer of a pronounced atheist still teaches a biole class in a Christian Church. Surely there is no better instance to show the religious chaos of our time

A great orator must needs be spe specially gifted. Amongst masters of the art of public speaking, M. Gambetta is by no means the least favoured by nature Risen himself from the ranks, he has, by the sole power of his talents, raised himself to the position which he now occu
pies. Thus for the study of corpuluence in pies. Thus for the study of corpuluence in all its phases and characters, M. GAMarma is a "precious subject." The priis his action. He has a powerful physiognomy, a massive person, a voice of profound depth suited to his influence. His motions though not without a certain finesse,-a souvenir of his Italian bloodare rough and even a little coarse. Cor rectness is not his aim or object, he cares little for it. He wishes to be a " torrent," and he ip. Action, in a speech, is power ful as it is as intangible. The voice, the tone, the accent, the fire, cannot be
written down. One must "entendre rugir le monstre" to have an idea of it It is to give one some idea of what can be expressed, the motions that accompany the changes in the discourse, to endeavour to transcribe on paper the spirit as it were Pa the speech itself that M. Renouard, the Parisian artist, has placed upon record the clever sketches which we reproduce in another place. These curious studies were made at Neuburg and Honfleur and

## FOREIGN ART.

A historical painting of great general interest
has just been placed in the City Hall of Berlin. has just been placed in the City Hall of Berlin.
The artist is Anton von Weruer, who occupie at present the foremost rank as a historical painter among German arists and whose ram bis great picture representing the coronation of King William of Prussia as Emperor of Germa ny, in Versailles, on the 18th of January, 1871 The new picture repres nts the statesmen wh. met at Berlin in 1878, after the Russo-Turkish war, to settle, ns they said lut nobody believed the "Eastern Question" for all times. Th painting is of very large dimensions, represent was permitted to of the Congrise be present at several sitling scene, the signing of the treaty, which is the Thing moment represented in this work.
Prince Bismark in the well-known, simple, un-
dress uniform of his Magdeburg Cuirassier regiment. He holds in his hand the gold-mounted eagle quill which the city of Hamburg presented
to him when he signed the treaty of to him when he signed the treaty of peace at
Frankfort at the conclusion of the war with Franke. To his right is Count Schavaloff, in the uniform of a Russian General ; to his left Count Andrassy, in the picturesque costume of a Hungarian Honved officer, which would create a sensation in Colville's Michael Strojoff. The second group is, both from an artistic and historical point of view, the most interesting. It represents the two champions of the great fight, Gortschakoff and Disraeli. The veteran
Russian diplomatist is sented in a vast armchair. His cunning light blue eyes smile from behind his gold-rimmed spectacles at his great antagonist, the wily English statesman. Disraeli is standing, leaning with both hands on a stout walking-stick, and, though more than eight years the junior of the Russian diploma tist, seems more weighed down under the burden of age and infirmity than his antagonist. The Marquis of Salisbury, the Austrians, Karoli and Haymerle; the Italian Plenipotentiary, do wiunay, and the French Minister, Waddington, gorgeous uurepublican court uniform, complet this interesting group. The centre of the third group is Lord Odo Russell, for many years Eng ish Ambassador at Berlin. He is surrounded by the Turkish Ambassador and the two specia envoys of his Government, Karatheodori Pasha Greek, and Mehemed Ali, one of the braves of the Turkish army in the heroic struggle gainst the overwhelming Russian forces. Me hemed Ali was a native of Germany. After he returned to the capital city of his country as he first representative of a great foreign power and a few weeks afterwards his strange life came to a close. He was cruelly murdered by insur gent troops in the desolate wilds of the Albanian mountains. In the left corner, Bismark's im mediate staff form a striking group. Baron vo Biilow, the permanent secretary of the Foreig Office, is surrounded by Lothar Bucher, wh rew up the articles of the treaty of Frankfor Moritz Busch so many te "Prince Bismart and his People". Count Holstein, Count Herber Bismark, Rudolph Lindau, and other attaches of the department. A last group is composed of the Russian Ambassador, Oubril, who is talkin with Count Radowitz, German Ambassador in Constantinople ; the Italian, Corti, and the Frenchmen, St. Vallier, Count Mouy, and Des prez, First Secretary of the Foreign Office The picture, which is full of spirit, has a me lancholy interest attached to it. Many of the leading characters of ill-hreath or pame dead grace, have retired from public life. Not one single important article of the treaty which was completed with so much solemnity and pom has been carried into effect.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

FULL rates will be demanded by the South
Western Railwhy pool. Western Railway pool
The Governor-Generalships of Odessa and Eighteen hostiles have surrendered to th United States troops of San Carlos
Fourtern hundred persons were present at
the banquet given to Mr. Gladstone at Leeds.

A Paris despatch says the Cabinet is to re | mign at once and Gambetta is to take the $\operatorname{Pr}$ |
| :--- | Bankers and money dealers in Paris giv The discovery of the headquarters of th Nihilists at 3t. Petersburg has led to the arrest f sixty of their number

The New York Republican State Committe contains twenty Half-breeds and thirteen Stal warts.
Sir Henry Fitzhardinge Berkeley Mauxe, the new Governor of Newfoundland, has arrive there.
GoL
Gold mining seems to beffourishing in th Tangier
The war vessels Druid and Contest have left St. John's, N.F., to look after the disturbance caused by the French high.handed proceed ings.
The English Farmers' Alliance has had unde final conside
TUCBON, Arizona, despatches show that th Indians are inurdering right and left. A genera eatened.
The German ship Hugo has been burned i the Sonth Pacific. The captain and eight of th rew made land on the Chilian coast.
United States detectives have discovere that the shippers of the infernal machines from and one Foye, of Philadelphia.
It is now said that Mr. Girouard, M.P., has aceepted the vacant Montreal judgeship, leavin his constituen
The train from Council Bluffs to St. Paul with the Governor-General's car attached, wa upset on Thursday night by running
cattle, Fortunately no one was hurt

