

THE WEEK'S NEWS.

CANADA.

The council of the Board of Trade of Toronto will visit Sudbury. The Hamilton Home for Incurables was formally opened last week. Monday's storm wrecked a number of vessels on the Nova Scotia coast. The street railway arbitration in Toronto is costing the city over \$350 a day. There has been a great boom in Nova Scotia coal shipments the past season. The name of Sir Donald Smith is being put forward for Montreal's mayoralty. The average wheat yield of Manitoba this year was a trifle over 20 bushels to the acre. Major-Gen. Herbert, Canada's new military commander, arrived in Ottawa on Monday. Scott Act repeal is to be voted on for the third time in Charlottetown on January 8th. The Eight Hours' League of Toronto has completed organization and adopted a constitution. It is expected that the Manitoba Legislature will meet during the first week in February. Two doctors left London, Ont., on Monday for New York, on their way to Berlin to study the Koch cure. The Montreal High school building was burned to the ground last week. The loss is placed at \$100,000. Samuel McDowell, a London, Ont., workman, was crushed to death while assisting to raise an iron condenser. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company is about to erect twenty grain warehouses throughout Manitoba. Contracts for the new Victoria University building in Toronto were awarded the other day. They amount to \$180,000. Le Canada, of Ottawa, says no one need be surprised if the general elections take place in February or March next. A meeting was held in Toronto last week to consider the advisability of founding a beet sugar factory in Ontario. The Northwest Assembly has been prorogued after refusing to pass the Supply Bill. The Toronto Separate School Board has decided to replace the secular teachers in St. Helen's School by members of religious orders. Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have been visited by a furious storm, much damage being done. Dr. Thorburn, on behalf of the Toronto Medical University Society, and Dr. Winnett of Toronto, left for Berlin on Monday to study Dr. Koch's consumption cure. Judge McDougall of Toronto, stated to the grand jury at the opening of the County Court that he was opposed to the abolition grand juries. John P. Chetwynd, a prominent Halifax merchant, has been arrested on a charge of defrauding the customs by means of forged invoices. The Toronto Street Railway Committee decided by a majority of 19 to 2, to continue the rule against running street cars on Sunday. The bill for the amalgamation of the Montreal branch of Laval University with the Victoria School of Medicine has passed its final stages in the Quebec Legislature. Trains on the Calgary and Edmonton railway are now running to Red Deer, a distance of 96 miles, which is covered in three and a half hours. The Manitoba Separate school case has been appealed to the full court, and it is expected to reach the Supreme Court by February. The Customs and Inland Revenue returns at Toronto for November are largely in excess of the corresponding month last year. At a meeting of the Toronto branch of the Irish National League, it was announced that the Irish delegates would be in Canada in February. The trial of R. N. O'Brien, of Montreal, charged with libelling Prince George of Wales, has been postponed until the January sitting of the Court of Queen's Bench. A farmer named William Wright, of Ottawa county, was fleeced out of over \$700 in Montreal on Monday night. A swell looking stranger took him to see the sights of the city. At the annual meeting of the St. Andrew's Society in Montreal on Saturday night Mr. MacKenzie presented the society with a wicker trunk covered with black leather, which was in the possession of Prince Charlie at the battle of Culloden. The Northern Pacific Railway Company have made another reduction of two cents per hundred pounds in the freight on wheat from Brandon and intermediate points to Duluth. The cut will take effect on the 10th December. James Shanessy, an operative in the Kingston cotton mill, was on Monday committed for trial on a charge of stealing a watch and \$25 from Mrs. Hughes, since deceased, while praying with her and reading the Scriptures. A Windsor despatch says: The cattle-stealing fiends of Colchester South now take revenge on their enemies by poisoning horses belonging to the latter. William Parker, who is prosecuting Todd Quick, is the latest victim. The jurors who examined the samples of Canadian barley shown at the English brewers' exhibition have sent their report to Ottawa. They speak well of the higher grade of samples and consider that there will be a good market for Canadian barley of that class. The Ottawa Government has entrusted Mr. Fournier, formerly of the Canadian agency in Paris, with the mission of recruiting immigrants for the Canadian North-West in France, Belgium, Switzerland, and the Duchy of Luxembourg. In the Montreal Court of Appeals on Monday Judge Baby decided that in the case of a candidate seeking election, no one has a right to slander a public man, but it was lawful to criticize his acts and to look into his private character, provided this was not done through spite or malice. The C. P. R. Telegraph Company are arranging to lay in the spring a three-wire cable in the gulf of Georgia from Victoria, B. C., to the mainland. The cable between

Victoria and Dungeness will also be kept in repair, and other measures taken to insure transmission of messages promptly. A fourth wire is also to be put on between Donald and Winnipeg.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Gen. Booth's fund now amounts to £60,000. Lady Conemara has obtained a decree of divorce from her husband. Snow has fallen in England to such an extent as to impede railway traffic. The Prince of Wales has consented to resume command of the Honourable Artillery Company of London. Several leaders of the Liberal party had an interview on Monday with Mr. Gladstone with a view of his early retirement. Mr. Balfour introduced his Irish land purchase bill in the House of Commons on Monday. Lieut. Troup has opened a lecture tour in England. He reiterates his charges against Stanley, and defends Bartelot and Jameson. At the regular meeting of the National League in Dublin, Mr. Parnell was almost unanimously sustained, while the names of Sexton and Healy were received with groans and hisses. The wife of Major Gregg, an instructor in the Sandhurst Royal Military College in Berkshire, suddenly became insane and murdered her mother. She then took her own life. A Colonial Office committee has been gathering the views of the self-governing colonies on the subject of colonial treaty making powers. In the House of Commons leave has been granted to Mr. Gladstone to introduce his bill removing the disability preventing Catholics from becoming Lord Chancellor of England or Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. In the House of Lords, in the debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, referring to the McKinley bill, Lord Salisbury said it was lamentably true that the British colonies did not follow the Motherland in her free trade policy.

UNITED STATES.

Over 50 boats are frozen in the Erie canal. Six thousand coal miners of Alabama have gone on strike. The pension bill appropriations of the United States amount to \$135,099,785. A receiver has been appointed in New York for the property of O'Donovan Rossa. Three farmers from Hamilton, Dak., are at present in Winnipeg arranging to send 300 families into the North-West. The threshing machine men of the United States are engaged in forming a gigantic combine. Bell & Eister, bankers, of Duluth, have suspended. Liabilities \$715,000, assets \$1,200,000. The Potts Lumber & Salt Co., of Michigan have made an assignment to W. S. Waugh, one of its directors. The liabilities are estimated at \$1,500,000. The second session of the 51st Congress of the United States was opened on Monday, the chief business being the reading of the President's annual message. Martin D. Lapp, a New York wife murderer, has been sentenced to die by electrocution during the week beginning January 12. A vigilance committee on Bad River, in South Dakota, lynched a number of squaw men suspected of stealing cattle, and there is considerable excitement in the locality. Mr. Mizner, the American Minister to Guatemala, has been recalled by the President because of his action in connection with the assassination of Gen. Barrundia during the war between Salvador and Guatemala. Maria McGuire, wife of Rev. Hugh McGuire, of Christ Episcopal church in New York, has brought an action for separation from her husband on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment. Evidence was given at Washington before a Congressional sub-committee by Collector Bradshaw, of the Puget Sound district, to the effect that fifty or sixty Chinese are smuggled across the Canadian border each month. Representative Wike of Illinois, has introduced in the United States of Representatives a resolution instructing the committee on ways and means to report bills repealing the increases in duties enacted by the McKinley bill, and to place on the free list lumber, wool, salt, coal, ores, dye stuffs and other articles of raw material.

IN GENERAL.

A Ministerial crisis has occurred in Brazil. Dr. Koch intends experimenting with a view to obtaining a cure for diphtheria. Five persons have so far died in Berlin while being treated with the Koch cure. France claims the distinction of having the largest public debt in the world. The Republicans in Holland have been showing much activity since the death of the King. It is announced that the German Government intends establishing factories for the manufacture of the Koch consumption lymph. Severe frosts and heavy snowfalls are reported throughout Europe. In Paris snow has fallen to a depth of several inches. At the opening of the German Reichstag the Government war warmly congratulated upon the acquisition of the Island of Heligoland. Advice from the Congo State report that the natives are still rebellious and that fighting has occurred between them and the forces of the State. Signor Crispi, the Italian Prime Minister, has been congratulated upon his election triumph by Lord Salisbury, Chancellor of Capri, and other European statesmen. Minister Ribot of France has rejected Lord Salisbury's proposal to refer the question of the French fish bounty system to arbitration, but is willing to arbitrate on the other matters connected with the Newfoundland dispute. The German Reichstag will be asked for fifty million marks for the army, part of which is to provide new munitions and part to alter the color of the uniforms, in order to render the movements of the troops less distinct when in action.

SUNDAY READING.

But One Talent.

Ye who yourselves of larger worth esteem Than common mortals, listen to my dream, And learn the lessons of life's cozening chest, The coinage of deceit.

The angel guardian of my youth and age, Spread out before me an account-book's page, Saying: "This column marks what thou dost owe,— The gain thou hast to show."

"Spirit," I said, "I know, alas! too well How poor the tale thy record has to tell, Much received,—the little I have brought Seems by its side as naught."

"Five talents, all of Ophir's purest gold, These five fair caskets ranged before thee hold; The first can show a few poor shekels' gain, The rest unchanged remain."

"Bringing my scanty tribute, overawed, To Him who reapeeth where He hath not sown, I tremble like a culprit when I count My whole vast debt's amount."

"What will he say to one from whom were due Ten talents, when he comes with less than two? What can I do but shudder and await The slothful servant's fate?"

—As looks a mother on an erring child, The angel looked on mine, and smiled: "How couldst thou, reckoning with thyself, contrive To count thy talents five?"

"These caskets which thy flattering fancies Not all with Ophir's precious ore are filled; Thy debt is slender, for thy gift was small; One talent—that was all."

"This second casket, with its grave pretense, Is weighty with thine ignorance, dark and dense; Save for a single worm's glimmering light To mock its murky night."

"The third conceals the Dullness that was thine, How could thy mind its lack of wit divine? Let not what Heaven assigned thee bring thee blame; Thy want is not thy shame."

"The fourth, so light to lift, so fair to see, Is filled to bursting with thy vanity; The vaporous breath that kept thy hopes alive By counting one as five."

"These held but little, but the fifth held less— Only blank vacuum, naked nothingness, An idiot's portion. He who gave it knows Its claimant nothing owes."

"Thrice happy paper he whose last account Shows on the wretched side the least amount! The more thy gifts, the more thy needs must pay On life's dead reckoning day."

—Humbled, not grieving to be undeceived, I woke, from fears of hopeless debt relieved; From sparing gifts but small returns are due— Thank Heaven, I had so few!

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

Golden Thoughts for Every Day.

Monday.— Dawn purples all the east and light; Morn'g over the earth is gliding bright; Morn'g's sparkling rays their course begin; Farewell to darkness and to sin! Each evil dream of night, depart, Each thought of guilt, forsake the heart! Let ever ill that darkness brought, Be its shade, now come to naught! So that last morning, dread and great, Which we wretched trembling hope await, With blessed light for us shall glow, Who chant the song we learnt below. O Father, that we ask be done, Through Jesus Christ, Thine only Son; Who, with the Holy Ghost and Thee, Shall live and reign eternally.

Tuesday.—The way to begin a Christian life is not to study theology. Piety before theology. Right living will produce right thinking. Yet many men when their consciences are aroused, run for catechisms and commentaries and systems. They do not mean to be shallow Christians. They intend to be thorough if they enter upon the Christian life at all. Now theologians are well in their place, but repentance and love must come before all other experiences.—Henry Ward Beecher.

Wednesday.—The Roman Catholic Church of the middle ages took under its guardianship all the relations of life, all life's energies and manifestations, the whole man, physical and moral. Nor can it be denied that thereby much peaceful happiness was created, life glowed with an inner warmth, and the arts, like silently growing flowers, unfolded themselves in a splendor that is to this day our astonishment, and that we with all our hastily-acquired knowledge, cannot imitate. But the spirit has its eternal inhibitions, nor lulled to sleep by church severed the iron leading-strings that bound it to mother church. In the ecstasy of freedom it swept wildly over the whole earth, ascended the highest peaks of the mountains, shouted aloud in very wantonness, thought over old time doubts, speculated on the wonder of the day, and counted the stars of night.—Anonymous.

Thursday.—We know not yet the number of the stars; the mystery of the day is still unsolved; the old doubts have become mighty questionings in our souls—but are we happier now than heretofore? We know that this question is not easy of answer in the affirmative as regards the multitude; but we know also that the happiness for happiness, and that in certain solitary fragmentary moments of god-like intention, a higher dignity of soul, a purer happiness, is ours than in long vegetating years of blind faith.—Heinrich Heine.

Friday.— My hope, my steadfast trust, Is on thy help repose; That thou, my God, art good and just, My soul with comfort knows, What'er events betide, Thy wisdom times them all; Then, Lord, thy service safely hide From those that seek to fall. The brightness of thy face To me, O Lord, disclose; And as thy mercies still increase, Preserve me from my foes.—Anonymous.

Saturday.—Consider this point a little! We go to Scotland, or wherever it may be, in a railway train, and straightway before our eyes there flash a continual series of "scenes" from nature as the train rushes on. Are these pictures? Not a bit of it. We have no preference for one moment's view over another, unless it be that we catch our eye on some little incident of rustic or urban life—a girl standing beside her sweetheart watching the train, a boy shepherd-ward through the evening shadows. For all or any of these trivial matters will, so to speak, identify the scene with ourselves, and a quicker than electric interchange of sympathies takes place between us; and

though the express be flying along a "sixty miles an hour, our hearts have outstripped its speed, and are the richer for one more of those definite human impressions by which, all unconsciously, the fabric of our life is built.—H. Quilter.

The Hour Before the Crucifixion.

"The divine nature of Christ appeared very plainly in His declaration that all was fore-known and fore-arranged. This is your hour and the power of darkness. There are no accidents in the government of God. The horrors of these hours were robbed of half their terror when this great truth was declared. What is so striking in all this scene as the calmness of Jesus? He has accepted His Father's will. Every step is now arranged for. This is, indeed, your hour; but it is so only because God permits it. Bound firmly by its cable to pierce the vessel may be borne to and fro by the storm, but it is secure. Hold fast by this confidence and we are safe. God will let the hour and power of darkness so just as far as is needful for His own purposes, but no further. The powers of hell are strong to-day, But Christ shall reign to-morrow."

Faith

is the foundation on which all knowledge rests. Without faith, knowledge is impossible. There is no science, however exact, which does not rest ultimately on the piers of faith. "Proof implies that which is unproved, and, in the final analysis, that which cannot be proved. An argument which is based on no assumption is as useless, for all purposes of support, as a chain that is fixed to no staple. An endless chain of reasoning—that is, one that is all links with no fixed point anywhere—is an idle dream." Destroy your faith, and you destroy your knowledge. Therefore our faiths are to be prized most highly and cherished most carefully, and are not to be given up until we find other and better faiths to take their place."

Our Friendships.

"How much of that which is best in us is due to the inspiration and example of our friends! How much of that which is worst in us is a result of outliving within ourselves instead of living for others, and in the light that others shed upon our pathway! It is our best side that we like to show to others. Our worst side we want no one to know but ourselves. And when we have a friend who holds before us a lofty ideal, in example or in suggestion, we are drawn away from ourselves and toward that which is better than our native aspirations. The very trials that a true friendship brings to us are a help outward and upward; and the joys that we gain in a friendship are a foretaste of the joys of a better state than this. God gives us no earthly blessing that which he sends with our friendships."

A Prayer that is Needed.

"Keep the door of my lips" is a prayer which most people need to offer continually, if they would be free from sin in this regard. Save in the few instances when duty clearly requires one to make criticism upon the character and conduct of others, it is a good rule to talk of those who are absent in the same manner as though they were present. No doubt such a rule would look up many tongues at times when they have most to say; but this is just what many a man and woman needs who is now creating heart burnings, and even quarrels, by uncalled-for burning, unjust and slanderous gossip and criticism of others in the neighborhood around. Let all such pray God to keep the door of their lips, and determine, with the help of God, to answer their own prayers."

Salt Licks.

Such names as those of Licking River, Big Licks, and the like, in some of the Central States mark what were curious phenomena to the first settlers of the country west of the Alleghanies. They were places to which the larger game, such as deer and bison, used to resort for a supply of salt. The springs at these points were briny, and the soil about them became like a cake of salt. This the animals used to lick, just as our domestic cattle will lick the ground where salt has been sprinkled. It was from their circumstance that so many places in Ohio and Kentucky got the name of "licks." These were favorite hunting-places with the Indians and with the early white settlers. The habits of the deer or bison on their way to the springs was an easy way of securing game. The wholesome slaughter soon frightened those that escaped, so that they abandoned the springs, and the region as well.

It is said that the bison tracks led direct to these salt springs from a distance of one hundred and fifty to two hundred miles. They were followed year after year, and by generation after generation of the bison, until they were worn so deep and plain as to be traced long after the country was settled.

The practice of the animals was to drink of the salt waters, to bathe in them, to lick the soil impregnated with salt, and to roll in the mud. It was a medical treatment for disease, to which these animals were subject in the fresh pastures of prairie and marsh. After some days of salting, the bison returned in good health and spirits, well covered over with a coat of drying, cracking mud.

The "licks" had been the resort of animals from a time earlier than that of deer and bison. In the mud and mire of the springs have been found the remains of mammoth animals belonging to an earlier age of the world than ours. The Big Bone Lick took its name from the gigantic bones found buried in its mud.

A candidate for mention in bracelets is a narrow silver band with an open-work center set with pearls.

The National Liberal Federation of Britain have announced their platform. It favors free education, reform in the land laws, disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of Scotland, local option, the formation of district and parish councils and the mending or ending of the House of Lords. In the opinion of Sir Wilfrid Lawson the State Church of England, the House of Lords and the liquor laws, constitute a threefold cord with which the aristocrats have for generations enslaved the democracy. Evidently these reformers believe in thorough work; but whether they are acting wisely in attempting to promote so many radical forms at the same time may be doubted.

A Chinese Anesthetic. A curious anesthetic used by the Chinese has recently been made known. It is obtained by placing a frog in a jar of flour and irritating it by prodding it. Under these circumstances it exudes a liquid which forms a paste with the flour. "This paste, dissolved in water, has well-marked anesthetic properties. After the finger has been immersed in the liquid for a few minutes it can be cut to the bone without any pain being felt."

It would appear that the many remonstrances offered by the press of Europe and America, and the strong words of condemnation spoken by representative statesmen and leaders of public opinion against the cruel and inhuman treatment which Russia inflicts upon her political offenders, have not entirely failed of their purpose. Latest advices from St. Petersburg state that the Czar is about to promulgate a decree providing for the abolition of the corporal punishment of women who are living in banishment in Siberia. All the world has heard of the terrors of the knout, the use of which is to be prohibited hereafter by the Russian autocrat. This work of repentance, though not as radical and comprehensive as many could wish, is nevertheless good so far as it goes, and encourages the hope that the Ruler of the Russias may yet be persuaded to adopt such measures for the government of his people as will entitle him to the respect of self-respecting nations.

LADIES' JOURNAL Bible Competition!

NO. 26. The Old Reliable again to the fore. A splendid list of Rewards.

Don't Delay! Send at Once!

Competition Number Twenty Six opens now at the solicitation of thousands of the old friends and competitors in former contests. The Editor of THE LADIES' JOURNAL has nearly forty thousand testimonials as to the fairness with which these Bible Competitions have been conducted. This competition is to be short and decisive. It will remain open only till the 15th day of December inclusive. The questions are as follows:—Where in the Bible are the following words first found, 1 HEN. 2 ROBE. 3 GARMENT. To the first person sending in the correct answer to these questions will be given number one of these rewards—the Piano. To the next person, the \$100.00 in cash, and so on till all these rewards are given away.

- FIRST REWARDS. First one, an Elegant Upright Piano by celebrated Canadian Firm, \$500. Second one, One Hundred Dollars in cash. Next fifteen, each a superbly bound Teacher's Bible, \$3. Next seven, each a Gentleman's Fine Gold Open Face Watch, good movement \$60. Next eleven, each a Fine Quadruple Plate Individual Salt and Pepper Cruet. Next five, each a beautiful Quadruple Silver Plated Tea Service (4 pieces) \$40. Next one, Twenty Dollars in cash. Next five, an elegant China Dinner Service of 101 pieces. Next five, each a fine French China Tea Service of 68 pieces. Next seventeen, each a complete set of George Elliot's works, bound in cloth, 5 vols., \$15. Next seven, each a Ladies' Fine Gold Face or Hunting Case Watch, \$30.00.

- MIDDLE REWARDS. To the person sending the middle correct answer of the whole competition from first to last will be given the fifty dollars in cash. To the sender of the next correct answer following the middle will be given one of the ten dollars amounts, and so on till all the middle rewards are distributed. First, Fifty dollars in cash. Next five, each \$10 in cash. Next three, each a fine Family Sewing Machine, \$20. Next five, each a Ladies' Fine Gold Watch, \$20. Next ten, each a Triple Silver Plated Tea Set, (4 pieces) \$20. Next twenty-one, each a set of Dickson's Works, beautifully bound in Cloth, 10 vols., \$20. Next five, an elegant China Dinner Service of 401 pieces, by Powell, Bishop & Stonier, Harley, England. Next five, each a fine French China Tea Service, of 68 pieces, specially imported, \$40. Next seventeen, each a complete set of George Elliot's works bound in cloth, 5 vols., \$15. Next eleven, each a handsome Silver Plated Sugar Bowl, \$5. Next five, each a Ladies' Fine Gold Watch, \$20. Next fifty-five, each a handsome long Silver Plated Button Hook, \$5.

- CONSOLATION REWARDS. For those who are too late for any of the above rewards the following special list is offered, as far as they will go. To the sender of the last correct answer received at 12 noon, JOURNAL OFFICE postmarked 15th December or earlier, will be given number one of these consolation prizes, to the next to the last, number two, and so on till these rewards are all given away. First one, One Hundred Dollars in cash. Next fifteen, each a superbly bound Family Bible, bound, usually sold at \$15. Next seven, each a Gentleman's Fine Gold Open Face Watch, good movement \$60. Next nineteen, each a Set of a Dozen Tea Knives, heavily plated, \$10. Next five, each a Ladies' Fine Gold Watch, \$20. Next fifteen, each a Ladies' Fine Gold Gem Ring, \$7. Next forty-one, each an Imitation Steel Engraving, Rosa Bonheur's Horse Fair \$3. Next twenty-one, each a Complete Set of Dickson's Works, Handsomely Bound in Cloth, 10 vols., \$20. Next twenty-one, each a Fine Quadruple Plate Individual Salt and Pepper Cruet new design. Next five, each a beautiful Quadruple Silver Plated Tea Service (4 pieces) \$40. Next twenty-five, each a Teachers' Fine, Well Bound Bible with concordance. Each person competing must send One Dollar with their answers, for one year's subscription to THE LADIES' JOURNAL. The LADIES' JOURNAL has been greatly enlarged and improved and is in every way equal at this price to any of the publications issued for ladies on this continent. You, therefore, pay nothing at all for the privilege of competing for these prizes. The prizes will be distributed in time for Christmas Presents to friends, if you wish to use them in that way. The distribution will be in the hands of strictly in the order letters arrive at the LADIES' JOURNAL office. Over 255,000 persons have received rewards in previous competitions. Address, Editor Ladies' Journal, Toronto, Canada.