

# THE WEEK.

Vol. I., No. 7.

Toronto, Thursday, January 17th, 1884.

\$3.00 per Annum.  
Single Copies, 7 cents.

## CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

	PAGE.
TOPICS OF THE WEEK .....	97
An Oracle on Manitoba.—Lord Lorne on Imperial Federation.—The Manitoban Premier-ship.—Calm in Quebec.—The Khedive and the Soudan.—The French in Tonquin.	
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES .....	97
Current Events and Opinions .....	<i>A Bystander.</i>
Official Reporting in Parliament .....	<i>J. M. Oxley.</i>
On the Late Remarkable Sunsets .....	<i>Andrew R. Gordon.</i>
Mother-in-Law .....	<i>J. W. Longley.</i>
CORRESPONDENCE .....	102
New York Letter .....	<i>Pendleton King.</i>
LITERATURE .....	102
Three Flower Petals .....	<i>A. Lampman.</i>
The Adventures of a Widow .....	<i>Edgar Fawcett.</i>
EVENINGS AT HOME .....	104
THE PERIODICALS .....	105
BOOK NOTICES .....	107
Caine's "Rossetti."—Mrs. Clarke's "The New Song and Other Poems."—Minor notices.	
MUSIC AND THE DRAMA .....	108
Theodore Thomas' Orchestra Concert.	
LITERARY GOSSIP .....	109
CHRONICLE OF THE WEEK .....	110

## The Week,

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF LITERATURE, POLITICS, AND CRITICISM.

Edited by CHARLES G. D. ROBERTS.

TERMS:—One year, \$3.00; eight months, \$2.00; four months, \$1.00. Subscriptions payable in advance.

Subscribers in Great Britain and Ireland supplied, postage prepaid, on terms following:—One year, 12s. stg.; half-year, 6s. stg. Remittances by P. O. order or draft should be made payable and addressed to the Publisher.

ADVERTISEMENTS, unexceptional in character and limited in number, will be taken at \$4 per line per annum; \$2.50 per line for six months; \$1.50 per line for three months; 20 cents per line per insertion for a shorter period.

All advertisements will be set up in such style as to insure THE WEEK's tasteful typographical appearance, and enhance the value of the advertising in its columns. No advertisement charged less than FIVE lines. Address—T. R. CLOUGHER, Business Manager, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

### NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

All contributions should be addressed to the Editor, and should be accompanied by stamp to insure notification in case the manuscripts are rejected. Upon payment of postage, the Editor will endeavour to return all manuscripts not proving available, but cannot be responsible in the case of loss of any but accepted articles. Contributions will be paid for when they are made use of.

### TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

ONE of our American contemporaries devotes a brief paragraph to the state of feeling in Manitoba. The paragraphist makes one point worth bearing in mind, which is, that the Farmers' convention demanded of the Dominion more than an American State can ask under the Constitution. But this gleam of intelligent criticism is accompanied by evidence of such marvellous ignorance concerning the Canadian North-West, that we can hardly credit it with its real importance. With oracular stupidity our contemporary declares that the worst mistake in the management by the Dominion of the affairs of Manitoba seems to have been "the failure to create something like a Territorial Legislature." It is gravely stated that "in the absence of a regular channel for the ventilation of local grievances, there is sure to be recourse to extemporized conventions of this kind." *The American* is speaking of Manitoba, not of the North-West Territory, but is evidently unaware of the difference between them; and unaware, at the same time, that a Province, as it expressly calls Manitoba, is abundantly supplied with legislative machinery under the constitution of the Dominion. Rather maliciously, the agitation is declared to have been resorted to by the Manitobans, for the purpose of relieving "the monotony of their eight months of winter." To have said six months would have been too near an approach to the truth for epigrammatic effect.

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE, in his late address before the Colonial Institute, spoke of a scheme of Imperial Federation to be expressed, not by a "central and unwieldy Parliament," but by a "Council of Envoys," who should work together for each part and "consummate treaties and enforce agreements." His Lordship does not seem, however, to pin his faith very firmly even to this modification of the scheme, and has himself called attention more than one of its attendant difficulties. We fail to perceive that the project in this form becomes in any way less chimerical than it appeared before. Surely the British would consider the independence and integrity of their policy hopelessly compromised if their transactions with foreign

powers were to be made dependent upon the consent of colonial representatives or envoys. And this, or nothing, must Imperial Federation mean.

IF it be true, as the rumours state, that Mr. Norquay is to enter the Dominion Cabinet as Minister of the Interior, it is because the Manitoban Premier sees trouble not far off in his province, and is anxious to be in shelter before the tempest comes. It is said that Mr. Miller is likely to succeed to the leadership. Looking at the brood of discontents in Manitoba, in many cases natural and inevitable, his position for some time to come will not be an enviable one. As Mr. Norquay predicts, the prairie province seems on the verge of a crisis that will call for the wisdom and the moderation of all men who love their province. It is from the west now that comes the most serious menace to Sir Leonard Tilley's national policy.

AS was very easy all along to predict, the crisis in Quebec has been safely passed, Mr. Mousseau retiring to the calm and dignity of the bench, and Hon. Dr. Ross coming to the leadership of the new Ministry. Sir Hector Langevin and Mr. Chapleau are velvety politicians, and they accomplish their ends without jar or mishap; and it will not improbably turn out that in the Ross administration will be found a union of the political family, whose late domestic brawl has filled the Reform press with so many false hopes.

THE KHEDIVE has succeeded in inducing Nubar Pasha to form a Cabinet; has renounced his intentions, if he ever had any, of abdicating the throne; and, under pressure from England, has consented to adopt the course, more prudent than honourable, of abandoning the Soudan to the False Prophet. England thinks seriously of establishing a five years' protectorate over Egypt, through the agency of English Under-Secretaries, appointed to the Egyptian Ministers. The abandonment of the Soudan, upon which England insists, may be for the interests of both England and Egypt, but unless the Egyptians be themselves desirous of it, to require a protected country to dismember itself, even to the most limited extent, for the convenience of the self-installed protector, is hardly what we would expect of British fairness. By consenting thus to give way before the rebel prophet, the unhappy Khedive would be utterly ruining his prestige, but for the fact that he has no prestige to ruin.

THE success of the French at Sontay has been doubly effective in rendering a peaceful settlement with China improbable. It has made the French more exacting in their demands, more hopeful of easily-won success; and it has strengthened the hands of the war party in China, fixing the Chinese in a resolve to accept no mediation. Recruits are called for by the Government at Peking, which has ordered a blockade of the Canton River between the Bogue and Canton forts. The French discover now that several additional points on Red River, and an island in the Gulf of Tonquin, are necessary to them for the purpose of securing their position. Some French journals even demand that an indemnity be exacted of China for the resistance she is making to the French claims, in spite of this resistance having been hitherto mainly diplomatic. Further complications will arise if it prove true that Japan is desirous of making an alliance with France. It is said the feeling in Japan is very bitter against the Chinese Government, which has acted with the utmost arrogance and falsehood toward Japan in the matter of Formosa and the Liu-Tchiu Islands,

### CURRENT EVENTS AND OPINIONS.

OUR new Governor-General has appeared with success on the Toronto stage. He is not like his immediate predecessor, a Child of Song, nor like some others among his predecessors, is he under the pressing necessity of cultivating popularity with a view to the improvement of his own position. In his address to the Toronto Club he kept as strictly within the bounds of sense and truth as is possible in an after-dinner speech. Conscious that his appointment did not confer infallibility, that his acquaintance with the country had only just begun, and that the flattery of ignorance is worse than worthless, he was sparing of compliment and preferred the graceful