

TEMPERATURE
as observed by HEARN & HARRISON, Thermometer and
Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING
April 10th, 1881.

April 10th, 1881.			Corresponding week, 1880		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.. 58°	12°	30°	Mon.. 61°	44°	52°
Tues.. 52°	12°	30°	Tues.. 54°	42°	48°
Wed.. 31°	11°	21°	Wed.. 39°	23°	32°
Thur.. 44°	34°	34°	Thur.. 38°	29°	33°
Fri.. 46°	31°	39°	Fri.. 38°	30°	34°
Sat.. 45°	30°	37°	Sat.. 47°	25°	36°
Sun.. 53°	33°	43°	Sun.. 45°	35°	40°

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, April 16, 1881.

THE WEEK

MR. GLADSTONE'S Land Bill is the most comprehensive attempt which has yet been made to deal with the difficulties of land tenure in Ireland. As we have before avowed, the ownership of land in Ireland has had its origin in peculiar circumstances which seem to warrant in some degree that interference with the ordinary rights of property which is usually so strongly to be deprecated. The present bill in effect destroys the absolute ownership of land. As however the ownership is not transferred from one party to another but distributed in a curious way between landlord, tenant and Government, it is difficult to see how such a divided proprietorship can fail to lead to fresh trouble at no very distant date. The chief feature noticeable seems to be the incapacity of landlord and tenant to contract for farms of less value than £200 per annum. The tenant of a holding of this value is presumably able to make his own terms and may be safely left to abide by the bargain, but smaller tenants are to have their rents fixed by the new land court. This provides for the first of the F's; the other two are conceded under about like restrictions. The sale of unexhausted improvements is permitted to all tenants whatever; and fixity of tenure may be obtained from the court for a period of fifteen years, during which the rent cannot be raised nor the tenant evicted save for non-payment of rent or breach of ordinary contracts. It may be taken that this is as far as any Government can possibly go in the matter, and if the introduction of the measure is to secure tranquillity we may be content to sacrifice individual interests, which in point of fact must suffer in any case. The present landlords are suffering for the sins of their predecessors, but that is only after all in accordance with the law of Nature.

THE POPE is said to be placed in a somewhat difficult position with reference to the slight difference, to use no stronger term, between the Archbishops of Dublin and Cashel. If it be a hard matter to decide when doctors disagree, the difference of two church magnifices should be a harder task yet to reconcile, and between them both the patient may be the one to suffer. In the autumn of last year there was much sending of missions and counter-missions to headquarters. Archbishop Croke was the first to secure the ear of the Holy Father, and backed by a liberal offering, succeeded in partially persuading him to interfere in behalf of oppressed Ireland. Thereupon comes Archbishop McCabe upon the other side to undo the work of his confrère and the result is "Dublin first and the rest nowhere." All this may give an additional force to the "elsewhere," where according to the Archbishop of Cashel his rival's recent letter is to be taken notice of. Meanwhile the Pope is said to be seriously

embarrassed by the absence of an official, albeit informal, representation of England at the Vatican. "The Archbishop of Dublin," he complains, "comes and tells me one thing; and the Archbishop of Cashel tells me the opposite." Of course an ambassador at the Papal court would be out of the question, since the temporal power of the Papacy has passed away, but similar functions to those exercised by Lord Lyons and Lord Odo Russell might in effect be discharged by such of their successors as could be trusted in sporting language to give his Holiness "the straight tip" in matters of this kind.

MR. JUSTICE HAWKINS has somewhat peculiar notions as to what does and what does not constitute decent behaviour in a court of law. Moreover Mr. Justice HAWKINS though he may "come in like a lamb," is apt to "go out like a lion," and is generally a somewhat awkward person to offend. Such at least is the experience of the gentleman who recently commented upon one of his lordship's decisions. "That's a rum thing too," said he, his mouth speaking possibly out of the fullness of his heart, on hearing a successful plaintiff deprived of costs. The noble judge apparently did not see the matter in the same light and the remark cost the incautious commentator fifty dollars. This we may presume was a "rummer thing still" in his opinion, but we may hope that he wisely refrained from giving utterance to his feelings any further, and contented himself, like Mr. Leech's cabman by "thinking a doose of a deal." The London Daily News, which tells the story, reminds us of the distinguished foreigner who listened to Sir Charles Wetherall pleading a case before Lord Brougham. After sitting for awhile absorbed in following the impassioned eloquence of the advocate, he turned towards the bench to observe the effect of his oratory upon the Lord Chancellor. Thereafter there arose upon the air the audible exclamation, wrung out of the depths of his honest amazement "Mon dieu, il dort." But so far as we know, this person, who, obviously, did not understand the decencies of court behaviour, as laid down by Mr. Justice HAWKINS, escaped without the penalty which so dire an offence against the canons of judicial criticism demanded.

A CURIOUS instance of the irony of fate comes to us in the train of the Transvaal war. Three or four weeks since Major Bromhead, the defender of Rorke's drift, presented to her Majesty the colors of the 24th regiment recovered from Isandula. On the following day another gallant defender of the Drift, named Cassidy, received from the Brighton magistrates—six weeks for petty larceny! We may presume that Cassidy's ideas on the subject of property had become somewhat mixed in his recent experience amongst the Boers, and he may have looked upon the Brighton provision dealer in the light of an enemy to his country upon whose premises "foraging" was in order. Six weeks of retirement will probably render him a sadder but a wiser man, and impress him with the idea that a Boer is easier to tackle than a Brighton tradesman, while if he be of a philosophical turn he may perhaps console himself with the reflection that he is only in much the same boat as the Government under whom he served. Both tried to possess themselves of another's property (or that which the "other" so considered) and both have had to pay dearly for the attempt. Indeed in some respects Cassidy would seem the better off, since he had at least the satisfaction of making a meal off his capture, while the Government have had to give their's back again.

AMONGST our illustrations this week will be found drawings of two remarkable objects in natural history. The Wolf-fish (*Anarrichus lupus*) is occasionally met with in the fish markets of London, but so far as we know, the present is the first specimen seen in Canada. It belongs to the family of the gobies. This strange repul-

sive fish has an elongated body covered with small scales, a long dorsal fin extends down the whole of the back. There are no ventral fins, and the pectorals are comparatively small, the head short and rounded, and the markings of it together with the position of the glaring eye and the long, sharp curved front teeth give it a fierce cat-like expression. The back teeth and those of the palate are specially adapted for crushing shell-fish, being close together and tubercular or rounded. In our engraving a view of the inside of the mouth is given to show the teeth. The present specimen measures three feet three inches, but the Wolf fish attains occasionally to the length of eight feet or more. It is a native of the Northern seas, not uncommon on the shores of Greenland and Iceland, and occasionally appears on the North coast of Scotland and amongst the Orkneys. The Wolf-fish is really as ferocious as it looks, and often shews fight when imprisoned in a net, in a manner which renders its despatch exceedingly difficult. The general color is brownish gray with darker vertical bands on the back and intermediate spots, a whitish belly, and a triangular mark upon the top of the skull.

The other specimen alluded to is described in a letter from the Rev. V. CLEMENTI of Peterborough, as follows:

FELIS LYNX.—This lynx, whose spoor, very different from that of the Canadian lynx, had been noticed for the last five or six years, was trapped in the middle of March, about 12 or 13 miles from the town of Peterborough. It is small, fully seven or eight years old, and of the following dimensions: Length from ear to insertion of tail, 30 inches; height to shoulder, 20 inches; length of tail, 6½ inches. Color, reddish fawn, with indistinct blotches of brown; the inside of the legs lighter in color, with black stripes; a black stripe along the back; white spots at the back of either ear and under the chin and throat. The animal was very fat and weighed 30 lbs. It is known in the North-West as the "European Lynx."

VINCENT CLEMENTI, B.A.
Peterboro, March 29, 1881.

CARLYLE'S REMINISCENCES.

It is a trite remark that the gossip of great men about their contemporaries, is often most interesting for the glimpses which they give us incidentally of themselves; but it is a remark which applies with such unusual point to the book before us, that it must needs be made *de novo*. Throughout CARLYLE himself is the principal personage in these recollections of his friends or acquaintances, and his estimate of them seems for the most part based upon the position which they held in his life, and their attitude towards his life work. The sketches were apparently written at odd times, and without any more definite object in view than is suggested by their title, viz., that of preserving such records of the impression made upon him by the several persons named as seemed worthy of being preserved from oblivion. That CARLYLE contemplated at least the possibility of their being given to the world we are told in his own words, yet such a possibility seems to have influenced him little in their composition. In this we are in a measure the gainers, since the very nature of such a work has redeemed it from those excrescences of style which in all their picture-queeness are at once the charm and the defect of many of his more studied productions. Charming from their originality and rugged force, but yet in many cases tending, as it seems to me, to interfere with the outcropping of the truth which underlies them. That such garniture is not necessarily an essential of CARLYLE'S style these jottings seem to prove. Original and forcible as always in his modes of expression there is here little or none of the prevalent exaggeration and redundancy of metaphor to be found in his more laboured productions.

"Reminiscences" by Thomas Carlyle, edited by J. A. Froude. 1881. New York: Harper Bros. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

I have said that the study of CARLYLE'S own personality is the most attractive feature of the book. It is curious in this connection to note that his weaknesses and shortcomings were not unknown to himself. Speaking of his father he says:

"The fault was that he exaggerated (which tendency I also inherit) yet only in description and for the sake of humorous effect."

which also was the manner in which his son used the dangerous weapon, often it is to be feared with less apprehension of its misuse than the father, who we are told again

"was a man of rigid, even scrupulous veracity. I have often heard him turn back when he thought his strong words even misleading and correct them into mensurative accuracy."

Probably the most interesting of the sketches to admirers of the author will be those of his father and his wife, whose figures stand out necessarily in their relation to him. A wonderfully graphic picture that of the Ecclefechan mason

"a man healthy in body and mind, fearing God, and diligently working on God's earth with contentment, hope and unwearied resolution; stern and hard of comprehension, whose children "durst not freely love him," but who yet had a genuine pride and delight in his son, and loved to listen to his descriptions of notable men and places.

Of Mrs. CARLYLE much was said in a recent article in this paper, and those who know the estimate in which her husband held her, and the perpetual sorrow with which he mourned her loss, will not be surprised that her presence is dwelt upon throughout the Reminiscences, and not alone in those pages consecrated to her memory. The notes of her early history are chiefly communicated by her friend Miss CAROLINE JEWESBURY, with comments by her husband.

But for a sketch of CARLYLE'S literary experiences, of his introduction to the *Edinburgh Review*, of his visit to London with "Sartor Resartus" in his pocket; its rejection by publisher after publisher, and final bringing out in "Fraser," we must turn to the article on "Francis Jeffrey," (if article it can be called). Wonderfully crowded is this with descriptions and reflections which elaborated would form the material for a respectable volume, but which read all the fresher and more striking in their nakedness. The graphic description of the "Outer House," of the articles sent to Jeffrey in fear and trembling, and which the great editor never acknowledged, of their final introduction and growing friendship, their visits and walks together, all this and more of the kind in a perfect plethora of jottings, none of which can lack interest even to the ordinary reader. Here again Mrs. CARLYLE is a central figure, and her husband describes the way in which Jeffrey in his courtly fashion became "her openly declared friend and quasi lover."

Of the other sketches I have only space to say a few words. The close intimacy of Irving with the family of Mrs. CARLYLE and afterwards with her husband render the pages devoted to him more detailed and more directly biographical (if I may use the expression) than the unconsidered jottings concerning the other characters which have seemingly less definite purpose. For this reason, if reviewed in full, it would require a different treatment and one of opposite tendency to the present. The appendix to the work contains a few anecdotal accounts of meetings with Wordsworth and Southey, for the former of whom CARLYLE had all the lack of appreciation (to use no stronger term) which might have been expected from the contrast between their natures.

Many animadversions have been made upon the freedom taken with the names of persons who, though dead, are not so far out of remembrance as to be indifferent through friends and relatives to unkindly criticism. For this in the first place CARLYLE cannot be blamed, from the very manner in which these jottings were originally made; and published as they are now, perhaps wisely, without mutilation or revision, they stand but as the private views of one who in such matters