

THE WEEK.

Vol. XII.

Toronto, Friday, October 4th, 1895.

No. 45.

Contents.

	PAGE.
CURRENT TOPICS	1059
LEADERS —	
The Death of M. Pasteur.....	1061
Copyright.....	1061
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES —	
The Late Professor Williamson.....	J. Jones Bell. 1063
The Financial Condition of the United States.....	1064
Pew and Pulpit in Toronto.—XVII.....	J. R. N. 1065
Parisian Affairs.....	Z. 1067
Montreal Affairs.....	1068
Music.....	W. O. Forsyth. 1073
Art Notes.....	E. Wylie Griener. 1073
POETRY —	
Bigger's Cut.....	James Barr. 1066
Love's Emphasis.....	Arthur John Lockhart. 1070
BOOKS —	
Some Medical Books.....	1069
Novels Old and New.....	1069
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR —	
Gladstonian Inaccuracies.....	H. B. Callarine. 1070
Cobden.....	Fairplay Radical. 1070
The Canadian Flag.....	E. M. Chadwick. 1071
Educational Appointments.....	Sandford Fleming, LL.D. 1071
	Audi Alteram Partem. 1072

Subscribers will confer a favour by at once notifying The Week Publishing Company if THE WEEK is not regularly and promptly delivered. Toronto subscribers should receive the paper on Friday—the day of publication. Subscribers in other parts of the Dominion should receive the paper on the day the Friday morning mail of Toronto arrives.

Current Topics.

The Deep Waterways Convention.

There is something expansive and uplifting in a great enterprise as in a great thought. We shall not undertake to decide whether the scheme of a deep waterway from the great lakes to the ocean is a grand possibility or the grand dream of enthusiasts. But as long as no one can authoritatively pronounce it the latter, rather than the former, it is well that thoughtful and practical men, competent to speak concerning the great material issues involved, should get together and discuss the project seriously, in all its aspects. The conception of such a way, covered with the ships of all nations, engaged in transporting the products of the farms, forests, and mines of the heart of this great Continent to the seaports of all nations and bringing in exchange the products of all nations and climes, is a magnificent one. Who shall say that it shall not be realized, if not in this generation, then in the next. Can we not easily point to many a project, long since become an accomplished and familiar fact, which, when first projected, seemed to the many every whit as visionary as the forgoing. But we are not sure that another aspect of the great scheme which was so well discussed at the Cleveland Convention last week is not even more worthy of attention than the commercial one. We refer to the idea of international co-operation which it involves. What a grand advance upon the state of things which has existed in the past and the present, were the two kindred peoples to unite their forces for the construction of such a canal as the world has never seen, to be the joint property and under the joint control of both, and free to the commerce of the world. It is at any rate a noble task for large-minded men of the two countries to be amicably consulting and working together for the consummation of such a project. Nothing could be better adapted to lift the two peoples out of the atmosphere of petty dislikes and jealousies in which they have been altogether too much accustomed to dwell, and to bring them together in the true spirit of international friendship. We do

not know whether or to what extent the Cleveland Convention has brought the great scheme which it was designed to promote nearer to realization, or attempted realization. We should be glad of the opinion of some one who was present at the Convention on that point. But we feel sure that the lofty and noble sentiments which informed some of the addresses delivered, will be conducive to good of a higher order than any mere commercial results, grand and desirable as the latter may be.

The Boundary of British Columbia.

If certain statements, said to have been made by Hon. J. H. Turner, Premier of British Columbia, who has just returned

from England, are correctly reported it is highly desirable that immediate action should be taken by Canada and the United States to bring about an authoritative survey and final settlement of the boundary between British Columbia and Alaska. Mr. Turner is reported to have said that American maps have been issued in which a large block of territory, which belongs to British North America by treaty stipulation with Russia in 1825, is set down as a part of Alaska. If such a question really exists, or if such a claim is really being made, the sooner an investigation takes place the better. Delays are dangerous in such matters. We know nothing of the character of the territory in question, but it would be unwise to assume that it is unfit for settlement, and should it become, in the meantime, settled by American citizens believing it to be American Territory, the situation might soon become difficult and complicated to a dangerous degree.

The New Supreme Court Judge.

Whatever may have been the lapses of successive Canadian Governments in other respects, the country is to be congratulated

on the fact that they have almost invariably followed the best British traditions in the matter of appointments to the judiciary. Men of the highest character and ability have almost uniformly been chosen for appointment to the vacancies occurring from time to time. We are glad to believe that no exception has been made in the latest appointment, that of Mr. B. Girouard, late member of Parliament for Jacques Cartier, to a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court. It is pleasing to note that not only the public but politicians of both parties, are generally agreed that the choice is a good one, and that Mr. Justice Girouard will be a credit to the Supreme Court. Apropos of this appointment, if the Montreal correspondent of the Toronto World may be relied on, there is evident need of a better understanding between Sir Mackenzie Bowell and some of his colleagues as to the exact location of the appointing power. This correspondent makes the remarkable statement that the position of judge of the Supreme Court was offered to Mr. Girouard by Sir A. P. Caron, Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, and the Honourable J. A. Ouimet; that the same position was almost simultaneously offered by the Premier himself to Hon. Mr. Angers, the late Minister of Agriculture; and that the accident of Mr. Angers' having declined the honour alone saved the Cabinet from being placed in a most embarrassing position. Had the story appeared in an Opposition paper, one would be disposed to discount its accuracy, but, coming from a friendly source, it would seem to indicate that Sir Mackenzie Bowell has need to keep his colleagues better in hand, and to insist that his prerogatives shall not be thus coolly usurped. Otherwise the current impression that the hand at the helm is less strong than the well-being of the country requires may seem to gain confirmation.