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The Canada School Journal and Weekly Review.

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and a staff of competent Provincial editors.

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—o—T E R M S .—o—

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The World.

The Dominion Senate has been interfering with the Scott Act in a way that will not commend itself to the admiration of the friends of that Act. They have cut a hole in the prohibition wall large enough to admit the influx of beers and light wines. Few can seriously doubt that such an amendment destroys all hope of a vigorous enforcement of the Act. Whether total prohibition is wise or unwise, practicable or impracticable, partial prohibition of this kind is sure to bring it into contempt. The amendment concedes the main point by endorsing the principle of prohibition but takes away all hope of its enforcement. Probably the Commons will amend the amendment.

The rebellion on the Isthmus of Panama has been brought to an end by the unconditional surrender of the Rebel General. This issue seems to have been accelerated by the action of

the United States troops, to which we referred last week. Prohibited by his pledge to the American commander from engaging in a street fight, the commander of the insurgents had no alternative but submission. Some of the American papers point to this action, which no doubt was directed by Secretary Bayard, as a typical instance of proper interposition by a great power in the interests of civilization and for the protection of her own subjects, without seeking any ulterior advantage. The American troops were withdrawn as soon as their object had been attained, and the combatants left to settle their own difficulties.

The end of our Northwest difficulties is not yet. There is reason to fear it may still be far off. The Half-breeds have skilfully utilized their advantages and are making a determined resistance to the advance of Gen. Middleton's troops. There can be no doubt of the ultimate issue of the conflict, but unless the rebels can be starved out, their capture and dispersion will involve, there is great reason to fear, a terrible conflict and loss of life. Some are beginning to murmur at the delay but if the end can be reached without the bloodshed that must attend storming the rifle pits in which the foe is so strongly entrenched, Gen. Middleton will deserve every credit for his humane caution. The case in regard to the Indians seems still worse. Poundmaker's fierce encounter with Col. Otter's force is ominous, though we trust the horrors of a prolonged Indian war may yet be in some way averted.

The School.

We had intended to notice at some length a suggestive paper in the *Andover Review* for May, under the caption "what may justly be demanded of the Public Schools?" by S. T. Dutton. There are some good things in the essay. We give below one or two brief extracts, and may return to the paper in another number.

"The first and most just demand upon the school is that it lay the foundations of character, quicken the moral sense, and help the child to become an honorable citizen. That 'the brain is not all of the man' should be remembered and acted upon by every teacher."

So says S. T. Dutton in the *Andover Review*. The point is well taken, and there is need to have it reiterated and emphasized. Schoolmasters have almost as much to do as mothers with shaping national character. To a very important extent it is true that the nation will be what the teacher makes it.

We give in this number some extracts which were crowded out last week, from Dr. Withrow's pamphlet on the proposed federation of colleges. Since those selections were made two other papers on the same subject, but both hostile to Victoria's entering the federation, have come into our hands. One of