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When an answer is required, stamp for return postage must be enclosed.

**NOTICE.**

To prevent mistakes we may inform our readers that if they desire indexes of the two preceding volumes they will receive them on making application at this office.

**TEMPERATURE,**

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

**THE WEEK ENDING**

February 29th, 1880.			Corresponding week, 1879.		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.. 35°	21°	28°	Mon.. 26°	10°	18°
Tues.. 30°	— 1°	14° 5'	Tues.. 19°	— 11°	4°
Wed.. 35°	4°	19° 5'	Wed.. 13°	— 5°	9°
Thur.. 45°	34°	39° 5'	Thur.. 35°	13°	24°
Fri.. 42°	31°	36°	Fri.. 11°	— 3°	4°
Sat.. 39°	28°	33° 5'	Sat.. 5°	— 14°	4° 5'
Sun.. 42°	33°	37° 5'	Sun.. 26°	— 3°	11° 5'

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**CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.**

Montreal, Saturday, March 6, 1880.

The electric light is not making such progress as was at first imagined. There is a mysterious silence about the further discoveries of Edison, and in Paris the JABLOCHKOFF electric burners have been replaced by gas. The fact is that while the electric light will do for special occasions, its use for domestic purposes or for reading is not as yet what it should be.

We sincerely trust that the Printing Committee of Parliament will take energetic action in regard to what has been appropriately termed the Printing Scandal. A searching ventilation of this singular business would be in accordance with public opinion, and if the result should be the cancellation of the contract, we should all feel that we are breathing a purer atmosphere.

The Sabbath-breaking question is going to be decided in Toronto, as it must some day or other in every one of our large cities. For the past two Sundays there have been sacred concerts at the Royal Opera House, and the lessee and manager have in consequence been summoned to appear before the Police Magistrate to answer the charge of keeping a disorderly house. It is one sign of the times that, on both evenings, the house was crowded.

That there is grievous distress among the workmen of Ottawa is undeniable, but it is puerile to hold Government as a whole responsible for the misfortune, whatever individual politicians may have promised in election times. Mayor MACKINTOSH is doing his duty like a man in endeavouring to place the most of the unemployed in the hands of contractors on the different public works. He has already definite promises of work for about 150 heads of families.

Divide et impera is the maxim on which Britain seems determined to act in the case of Afghanistan. The country is going to be dismembered. Southern Afghanistan, with Candahar as capital, is

to be a dependency under British protection; Eastern Afghanistan the same, with Cabul as capital. These two dependencies are to be garrisoned by native troops under English officers, *more Indico*. Herat will go to Persia, or rather Persia to Herat, and Merv will probably be formed into a state under Anglo-Persian guarantee.

AFTER all the noise that has been made it would appear that the opposition to M. DE LESSEPS' ship canal will vanish into thin air. That gentleman has been extremely well received at New York, where, in the breezy and emphatic way of great men, he laughed at the idea of any political complications arising out of a merely private enterprise. He further intends going to Washington, as a private citizen of France, and assuring the President of the correct relations both between the American Republic and the progress of the Inter-oceanic Canal.

MR. TODD has just published a new work on Parliamentary Government in the Colonies. Much space is devoted therein to the thorny LETELLIER case, and the distinguished author holds that while a Lieutenant-Governor is directly responsible to the Governor-General-in-Council, a restraint had been put by the British North America Act on the prerogative right of dismissing a Lieutenant-Governor. It follows, of course, from the premises that Mr. TODD regards the removal of M. LETELLIER as at variance with constitutional law and precedent, as well as contrary to the spirit and intent of the British North America Act.

It will be remembered that in his remarkable Midlothian campaign, Mr. GLADSTONE spoke rather equivocally on the crucial question of Irish Home Rule. He has since seen fit to define his position more clearly. Hence we have him at Marylebone, on last Saturday, disclaiming any friendship for Home Rule, and declaring that the unity of the Empire and the authority of Parliament must be maintained independently of every other consideration. He, however, deprecated all angry judgments against the Irish, not forgetting—to use his own words—"the abominable conduct the country had been guilty of toward Ireland for many generations."

**MORE WONDERS.**

This is the age of marvels and there seems to be no end of them. Referring only to the past two or three years, we have had the Phonograph, Telephone and Audiphone, with their various improvements and multitudinous capabilities, and now we are confronted by the Diaphote and the Telopticon. The former is the invention of Dr. LICKS of Pennsylvania, and the latter that of Messrs. CONNOLLY and MCTIGHE of Pittsburg. Both inventors claim to transmit the picture of the speaker over the wires along with the voice. The Diaphote consists of a receiving mirror, the transmitting wires (of which there are several), a common galvanic battery and reproducing speculum. It is claimed that with this instrument and the Telephone friends might not only speak with, but also see each other across the expanse of ocean. Railway men might see hundreds of miles of railway track at once, and by the aid of photo-lithography the great English dailies might appear in New York several hours before their publication in London. The Telopticon requires only one wire, which is an advantage. It claims to transmit the physical wave-force of light electrically, and that instantaneously, thus reproducing from one point to another any written or printed document, even the entire side of a newspaper. The reproduction of images is said to be the result of chemical changes well-known to all photographers. The image of the object is sent in diminutive size and magnified at the receiving point to the size required. Both the Diaphote and the Telopticon are as yet only in their

infancy, but it requires no great stretch of the imagination to picture the day when, as the Post-office will be superseded by the Telegraph, the ordinary Telegraph itself will be displaced by the Telephone and its numerous scientific corollaries.

**THE SALVATION ARMY.**

We are used to hearing the life of man called a warfare upon earth and comparing the church to an army in battle array. Indeed, the military idea dominates all our relations with the spiritual and the unseen; but it was reserved for an enthusiastic Englishman of our day to take up the idea in a practical spirit and carry it out literally. This is the Army of Salvation and its express purpose is to march against the Devil. As a contemporary informs us, its organization was begun fourteen years ago by a man named Booth. Two or three years ago it worked its way into public notice and is now recognized as one of the many Evangelical forces of England. It seems to have its share of toils and tribulations. Its commanding officer and his captains and lieutenants have been arrested and punished for blocking up the highways, and causing public commotion inconsistent with the peace and dignity of the British nation. Persecution, however, as we are further told, has only increased the following of Booth and his followers, as is indeed always the case. There are one hundred and twenty-five army corps in the Army of Salvation, distributed into as many stations, and one hundred and eighty officers. The army is divided into "Gospel Cavaliers" and "Hallelujah Lassies." Booth is the commander-in-chief and issues all the orders. His standing orders and regulations are said to be printed in a book of one hundred pages, and it is the general guide at all the posts and stations. He also issues occasionally an official gazette called *The War Cry* which gives the army news and incidents, and the progress of the march. We may not smile at all this for Booth is honest and sincere. He respects all Christian sects and preaches the Bible pure and simple. He holds fast to the ancient books and will not hear of modern theology. His chief strength is in the factories and collieries, and his influence is great among the working classes generally. He troubles no one, interferes with nobody, and does his best to do good.

**THE PROGRESS OF PARLIAMENT.**

Parliament has entered upon the third week of the session and must be congratulated on the progress it has made. No time to speak of has been lost in useless debate so far, and the Ministers have shown a commendable readiness in bringing down their measures. All, or nearly all, the Departmental Blue Books have been laid upon the table. Three or four important measures have already advanced a stage or two, while an unusual number of questions put to members of the Government have been answered one way or the other. A disposition was manifested from the first to rush through the bill for the Repeal of the Insolvency Act, on the plea that the sooner the obnoxious measure was done away with the better. It has been found out, however, that the commercial world is not quite unanimous in favour of repeal and in consequence it has been judged wise to proceed with a little more caution. It is evident that Government cannot control the will of the House, which is classed in a large majority for repeal, but they may so guide the proceedings as to allow all parties to be heard. The bill tending to legalize marriage with a deceased wife's sister, or with a brother's widow, is dealing with a delicate subject, but one that had sooner or later to be squarely met. There was a nice point made by both Messrs. BLAKE and ABBOTT as to how far the Dominion Parliament is authorized to adjudicate in the premises, the forms and appurtenances of the marriage rite being clearly within Provincial jurisdiction. To prevent mistakes Parliament will, therefore, probably

confine itself to declaring the validity of such marriages. For fuller particulars on this and other points of Parliamentary proceedings we beg to refer the reader to our very able and reliable correspondence from the seat of Government.

There is relatively little difference in the composition of the House between this year and last, but the accessions are such as to increase the prestige of that body for talent. Mr. BLAKE is a great man, whose return to the scene of his labours and triumphs was hailed by the plaudits of both sides, led by the Right Honourable Premier himself; and since he took his seat he has mixed actively in all discussions, his speech on the Supreme Court being in his old manner of massiveness and grandeur. Hon. Mr. ABBOTT is also a notable acquisition, being second to none in legal learning, while his literary culture and parliamentary experience place him in the front rank of our public men. We are glad that the Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE has not been disturbed in the leadership of the Opposition. Of course, we have no business to meddle with the internal tactics of any party; but we may be allowed to say that Mr. MACKENZIE has deserved the gratitude of his followers by bearing the burdens of office and the brunt of defeat in their name, and it seems only gracious that he should be allowed to retain his position. The Conservatives gave a lesson which ought to be remembered, when, in the darkest hour of their fall, and when he himself requested it, they unanimously refused to allow Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD to retire from the leadership.

**THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.**

RELIEF FOR IRELAND—MR. MACDONNELL'S APOLOGY—INSOLVENCY CRIMINAL LAW—RAILWAY COMMIS-ONERS—KAMINISTQUIA HARBOUR—IMMIGRATION—ELECTION LAW—PRINTING CONTRACT SYSTEM—SUPREME COURT, &c., &c.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Feb. 28.—On Wednesday, Sir John Macdonald proposed an address, which was unanimously voted, for a grant of \$100,000 to be placed at the disposition of the Government for a contribution from Canada to the Irish Relief Fund. Although the vote was passed unanimously, there were some remarks made. Mr. Mackenzie expressed a hope that this Canadian grant should not be used as an instrument to disfranchise poor Irish voters, as he understood that these poor people in Ireland who received Imperial aid were deprived of their votes. Sir John Macdonald explained that under the provisions of the Imperial Poor Law, persons who received aid as paupers could not vote, but that, of course, a contribution from Canada could have no relation to this any more than any other gift from abroad.

Immediately after the Irish vote, Mr. Macdonnell's case came up, and a somewhat curiously worded written apology was made by him at the Bar of the House. The apology was ample, in so far as it related to the House of Commons itself; but in so far as related to Mr. Huntington, the words used, as I apprehended them, were not only not an apology, but an aggravation of the original offence, and this also appeared to have been the understanding of some of the members, who contended that it ought not to be received; but the great majority of the members thought it ought, and so this view was carried without division. Almost nothing else could have been expected from the House as at present constituted, and the fact proved, what I intimated in a previous letter, that it was a matter of very doubtful prudence to bring this question up at all. It is always so easy to make an avoidance on any desired point, when you have a large party majority.

There appeared to be no opposition in the House to the principle of Mr. Colby's Insolvency Repeal Bill; at any rate it passed through its early stages and went into Committee without being opposed. The only question which arose had relation to the estates which would be excluded by the bill. At a subsequent sitting of the House the Bill was passed through Committee, and its precise effect is to repeal the present Insolvent Law and all the laws which that Act repeals, save and except only in the cases of such estates as have already passed into the hands of an assignee. All such cases are to be completed under the present law.

Two important measures were introduced on Tuesday—one by Mr. Blake, for more summary dealing with certain hardened criminals, in order better to prevent crime; and the other, by Mr. McCarthy, for the appointment of a Court of Railway Commissioners for Canada, who shall have power to deal with all railway questions other than those relating to the simple management of the lines by their respective boards or