

Prominent Topics.

The Next Governor-General.

Nothing would give the people of Canada more pleasure than the selection of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught to succeed Lord Grey. The difficulties, however, in the way of such an appointment under existing conditions are obvious, and if His Royal Highness is not sent to Ottawa, the reasons will be readily appreciated by Canadians. The death of King Edward will necessarily restrict the movements of His present Majesty, who will have to be represented on many ceremonial occasions in Europe by some other member of the royal family. The appointment of one of the princes to the governor-generalship of Canada, would also infallibly result in a cry for similar appointments in the other self-governing colonies. The difficulties are not, we hope insurmountable, but they must not be ignored.

The Pulp and Paper Situation.

Washington continues to find time to discuss the pulp and paper question, which became acute when Quebec forbade the exportation of pulp wood cut from crown lands. When the present United States tariff was in the making Representative Mann of Illinois, led a very vigorous fight for lower duties on wood pulp and print paper imported into the Republic. As everybody knows he failed. The men who governed the Republican party thought they could draw their supplies of wood from Canada and at the same time shut out the paper and the pulp made in Canada from the products of the same forests. They know now that their policy was mistaken. Representative Mann said on Monday in Washington that three courses were now open to the United States. "First pass an Act of Congress taking off the duty on paper coming from any province which permits the free exportation of pulp wood, wood pulp and paper; second negotiate a reciprocity treaty with Canada to the same end; and third continue the present status and ruin one half of our paper manufacturers and greatly increase the price of print paper—how much, no one can tell." Since Representative Mann made this statement the United State Government has taken off the countervailing duty of 35 cents per ton on print paper made from pulp wood cut from Crown lands in Quebec.

More New Records in Immigration.

During the heavy immigration months the United States receives from Europe something over 30,000 new citizens per week. It is estimated that the whole year will see about 1,200,000 immigrants arrive in that country. Well we are pressing closer upon their figures. Last week proved to be the record for Canada.

By ocean steamers came 14,000 people, and, as it seems reasonable enough to estimate the incoming settlers from the United States arriving at North Portal and other Western entry places at 6,000, the total of 20,000 is reached. In the whole month of April, according to statements furnished by the steamship companies, the number of settlers brought by them to Canada was 2½ times as large as in April, 1909. It is satisfactory to note that a preponderating portion is English speaking.

Stock Exchanges and the King's Funeral.

The London and Montreal Stock Exchanges will, of course, be closed on the day of the King's funeral. The New York Stock Exchange will also be closed for two hours on that occasion. We do not think that anybody would have been hurt had the New York Exchange been closed for the whole day. However, the sympathetic attitude of the whole American people forbids the idea, that the omission to suspend business for the whole day is due to anything worse than thoughtlessness.

Sir Edward Clouston's Return.

Sir Edward Clouston, who returned this week from Europe, does not anticipate that Canada would gain much through reciprocity negotiations with the United States, as no treaty would be acceptable to them which did not give them the big end of the stick. Among other things he spoke of the arrival of a number of English business men and financiers during the present year. He expects that as a result of their investigations in all parts of the country they will return home to England with a very good opinion as to our resources and general conditions. And their visit should prove of great benefit to the Dominion through interesting new and important bodies of capitalists in our investments.

Crude Rubber Holders Accept Lower Prices.

Considerable interest was taken in the outcome of the crude rubber auction held in London, Tuesday last week. It will be remembered that holders then refused to accept the prices offered and withdrew from the market. The postponed sale was held Monday and the stock of rubber disposed of. Prices were a little higher than those offered on the preceding Tuesday, but considerably below the prices obtained at the preceding fortnightly sale. It is held in some quarters that this represents the definite turn in the market. However, that point will be clearer when the results of the next sale are known. Bulls of rubber have held that the demand from America for rubber to serve as automobile tires would be sufficient to sustain the price level at the mark established a couple of weeks ago.