

# THE WEEK.

Vol. XIII.

Toronto, Friday, January 31st, 1896.

No. 10.

## Contents.

PAGE.

CURRENT TOPICS.....	223
LEADER—	
The Fast Atlantic Service.....	225
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES—	
Complicated Political Problems and Environment.....	226
The Manitoba School Question and the Orange Order.....	226
The Revival of Interest in Carlyle.....	227
A German View of Keats.....	228
Canada and the United States.....	232
Parisian Affairs.....	233
Music and the Drama.....	234
Art Notes.....	233
POETRY—	
A Hundred Years.....	231
Jameson's Ride.....	232
A Parody.....	232
The Sons of the United Empire Loyalists and the Old Flag.....	233
BOOKS—	
Books.....	236
Recent Fiction.....	212
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR—	
Wolfe Before Quebec.....	237
A Prophecy.....	237
The Port of St. John.....	238
American Newspapers.....	238
Church Treasures.....	238
An Object-Lesson.....	238
Mr. Cleveland's Responsibilities.....	238

## Current Topics

Cape Breton's  
Temperature.

The political temperature of Cape Breton has risen so rapidly during the past week that it is now at the highest possible point.

In fact the district invaded by the politicians seems little better than a burning, fiery furnace. Sir Charles Tupper is waging a campaign of extraordinary vigour. The efforts he is making show that the fight is not so unequal as it was expected to be. Mr. George Murray, his opponent, is a popular man, energetic, resourceful, and influential; and though it is likely that he will be defeated it is generally conceded that the majority against him will not be large. Sir Charles Tupper's defeat would be more than the Government could stand in its present delicate condition; but whilst the "Cumberland War Horse" is himself striving with all his might, his lieutenants are not working with the energy they should and are being distanced by the Liberal canvassers in all directions. It is the house-to-house work that tells, and in this form of energy the Conservatives have been lacking during the whole contest. The supporters of Sir Charles are too confident of success. Elections are seldom matters of certainty. Mr. Murray might possibly win. It is never safe to prophesy unless you know.

Mr. Cleveland's  
Position.

It may or may not be true that Mr. Cleveland wrote his famous "war message" to forestall any action Congress might take

on the same lines; but from whatever motive he wrote it is pretty clear now that he did not at the time realize the full force of the language used by him in the message. It is said that the President authorized Senator Smith, of New Jersey, to say for him: "I regard the Davis resolution as mischievous, inopportune, and unfortunate." A month ago this resolution would have been in complete accord with the war message. But Mr. Cleveland now sees that his curt demand amazed the world and that European statesmen only excused it on the ground of American diplomatic ignorance. On Wednesday, in the course of a scathing denunciation of Mr. Cleveland, Senator Tillman referred to the President as a "besotted tyrant." Is his training in the meaning of words also defective? Do the American

politicians ever mean half they say? However that may be, Mr. Cleveland's change of heart with respect to the Venezuelan boundary dispute is very apparent. His position is altogether different.

Mr. Chamberlain's  
Optimism.

The world now-a-days is so full of gloomy souls wandering about in search of auditors or publishers that it is delightfully refreshing to hear a cheery voice raised on high prophesying good things and laughing at our fears. Last Saturday night Mr. Chamberlain—it is unnecessary to say *what* Mr. Chamberlain—made a speech at Birmingham the chief part of which—according to the cable report—was devoted to the relations between Great Britain and the United States. Mr. Chamberlain is determined to believe that "the American people and all that is best in the United States would regard with horror a needless war with their own blood and kindred," and that Mr. Cleveland "would never drive the two kindred nations to strife." The two nations "were more closely allied in sentiment and interest than any other, and while the British looked with horror on anything approaching fratricidal strife, they looked with pleasure upon the possibility of the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack floating together in defence of a common cause, sanctioned by community of sentiment." Mr. Chamberlain declared amidst the plaudits of his audience that he would re-echo and reciprocate from the bottom of his heart Senator Walcott's noble words: "Blood is thicker than water." The distinguished statesman deplored the wasting of breath in a petty South American boundary dispute, and expressed the wish that England could count on "the powerful support of the United States in enforcing the representations which hitherto we have fruitlessly made in behalf of those who are suffering by Turkish tyranny and Turkish fanaticism." We should like to believe that Mr. Chamberlain's faith in the good will of the President and people of the United States were well founded. As Senator Walcott was not "mobbed" for his recent great speech in the Senate Mr. Chamberlain may infer that there is sufficient ground for his faith.

An Ingenious  
Clause.

Though the terms of the Remedial Bill which the Government will soon bring down are not yet known outside the inner circle, it has leaked out, so we understand, that an important compromise clause is under discussion as a means of combining the opposing elements in the Conservative party. What the nature of this clause may be it is possible to glean from what is apparently a feeler thrown out by a Toronto evening paper. It is more than hinted that this clause declares the Bill obsolete wherever Roman Catholics may elect to take advantage of the methods provided to adopt the public school system instead of supporting a separate school. It is obvious that from a party point of view some compromise of this nature must be found, and the surprising ingenuity of this clause will attract wide and favourable attention. Apparently the effect intended is that if the election is once made in favour of the existing school there will be no second