

The Dominion Illustrated.

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9th MAY, 1891.



British News by Cable.

It is becoming more and more unsafe for Canadian newspapers to base their remarks on British news as wired over. In spite of the comparative multiplicity of cables, comparison of items telegraphed with statements on the subject in English journals shows that about one-half only is correct, the rest being either totally false or so more or less erroneous as to be worthless. The intelligence recently sent across the wires giving full and elaborate details of a serious mutiny in the Grenadier Guards, gave rise to remarks on the subject in many newspapers in the United States and Canada, some of them making it a text for a sermon on the evils of a standing army, the miseries of British rule, etc. As it now appears that no mutiny whatever took place, much good ink and highly moral republican sentiment has been wasted.

The Opening of Parliament.

The ceremonies which marked the recent opening of Parliament showed no falling off in brilliancy from that of previous years; on the contrary, more attention than ever seems to have been paid to the scenic accompaniments of the initial speech. With this we are heartily in accord. Severe simplicity is excellent in theory, but there is an æsthetic taste in most people of to-day which craves gratification; and however much certain people may outwardly condemn pomp and pageantry in civic and military display, nine out of ten of them secretly admire a moderate amount. Proof of this can be seen in every feature of nineteenth century life. To the gathering of the nation's representatives for deliberation on national subjects, ceremony and formal surroundings give dignity and a halo of importance, and assist materially in preventing monarchical Legislatures from sinking to the bear-garden level which has been reached by more nominally democratic governments.

The First Debate.

The debate on the Address was characterized by a sharpness and brilliancy which showed that the heavy fighting that ended on the fifth of March had transformed recruits into tried soldiers and had imbued veterans with an unusual amount of dash and vigour. It is no disparagement to the other speakers to say that the speeches of MR. HAZEN and the HON. MR. LAURIER were remarkably happy efforts and received the prominence they deserved. The former gentleman's repudiation of the insults that had been cast upon his Province since the election had a true ring of eloquence, while his review of the matters of chief moment to our people was thoroughly lucid and comprehensive. HON. MR. LAURIER'S speech was a masterly one and well maintains his

reputation as one of the first orators in Canada. When it is remembered that he was not only French-Canadian in birth and early youth, but that he was educated in a French Academy and has spent his life almost exclusively in a French-speaking community, his mastery of the English language in its most difficult form, and his ease in its use, shows his marked ability in the study of language. One feature of both speeches was a particularly pleasant one. That was the absence of that pessimistic decryal of Canada and things Canadian that is so characteristic of certain politicians, and of one of our most prominent *litterateurs*. In this respect, may the patriotic sentences of the leader of the Opposition be a key-note for his followers so long as the Seventh Parliament continues and for many a day thereafter.

Newfoundland and Canada.

The action of the Newfoundland authorities in discriminating markedly against Canada on the question of bait has not a single feature to commend it. We can overlook the slight that it conveys; but regret that a sister colony should act in such a small and shortsighted manner. The troubles of the island have been freely wired all over the world; and whatever sympathy its people may receive from the other parts of the Empire, the effect of their refusing to sell bait to Canadian fishermen while disposing of it freely to foreigners, will be to alienate them from all British people. It is altogether probable that this fact has not been overlooked by the Imperial Government when deciding on the immediate application of the new act, to which the colony has objected so vigorously. Canada has strong friends at Court; and her London representative is a man who personally wields much influence apart from his position as agent of England's greatest nation-colony. In the endeavor to force the mother country to take action towards the extinction of French treaty rights, one would naturally think that the Island Government would have done all in its power to gain assistance and good-will from its powerful western neighbour; but on the contrary, every effort appears to have been made to estrange Canadian sentiment. The loss will be theirs, not ours. This bad-feeling is especially out of place when one considers that large numbers of Newfoundlanders are each year coming to Canada for work they are unable to find in their native island.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Literary Competition.

The Publishers of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED offer the sum of \$130 in four prizes for short stories from Canadian writers—

1st prize.....	\$60
2nd ".....	40
3rd ".....	20
4th ".....	10

On the following conditions:

1st—All stories must be delivered at the office of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED not later than 1st June next.

2nd—Each story to contain not less than 5,000 words, and not to exceed 8,000 words,

3rd—All MS. sent in for this competition to become the property of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED.

4th—Each story must contain a motto on top of first page, and be accompanied by a sealed envelope, inside of which is stated the name and address of the writer. The outside of envelope to bear motto used on story.

5th—MS. to be written in ink, and on one side of paper only.

6th—Stories on Canadian subjects are preferred.

THE SABISTON LITHO. & PUB. CO.,

Publishers "THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED,"

Montreal.

The Dominion Illustrated Prize Competition, 1891.

QUESTIONS.

FOURTH SERIES.

- 19.—Give particulars of a new railway mentioned as likely to be undertaken by the Russian Government?
- 20.—What comparison is made with a noted encounter mentioned in one of Captain Marryatt's novels?
- 21.—What feature of Canadian life is said to be specially noted by strangers?
- 22.—Where is mention made of the famous struggle between Char-nisay and La Tour?
- 23.—Give name of a blind lady who has recently passed with high honours through a university and mention one of her chief accomplishments.
- 24.—Who was the author of "Quebec Vindicata" and give a brief sketch of his life.

NOTE.--All the material necessary for correctly answering the above questions can be found in Nos. 131 to 147 of the "Dominion Illustrated," being the weekly issues for January, February, March and April.