

# The Dominion Illustrated.

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"THE EDITOR, DOMINION ILLUSTRATED."

7th FEBRUARY, 1891.

With reference to our Prize Competition, we think it well to remind our subscribers that the coupons—entitling the holder to compete—are only sent when applied for. All direct subscribers who wish to take part should, therefore, write at once for same.



## The Montreal Board of Trade.

The report of the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade shows how faithfully that body has watched the commercial interests of the city during the year just closed. Nor have purely business matters alone absorbed its attention. The range of subjects brought before it, and on which an expression of the collective opinion of the Board has been given, is a most comprehensive one, from topics such as Imperial Penny Postage down to purely local and recreative ones, as the encroachment by the Incline Railway on the area of the Mountain Park. While matters relating solely to Montreal have naturally occupied most attention, much of interest and importance to the trade of the whole Dominion has been discussed, and it is to this point that we wish to draw special attention. Such subjects as "Navigation of the Ship Channel," "Lights and Fog Signals in the River and Gulf," "The Quarantine Station at Grosse Isle," "Canadian Inspection of Steamships holding British Certificates," "The St. Lawrence Canals," "The Herring Fishery," "French Fishing Claims in Newfoundland," "Postal Matters," "Fruit-Growing," "Tobacco Raising in Canada," "London Trade Rules," "The Jamaica Exhibition," are all of more or less general interest, and bear but indirectly on the commerce and trade of Montreal. The pronouncements of the Council, and the active measures taken by that body to carry out their decisions, have in many cases borne such weight as to result in the settlement of the proposed measure in accordance with their views.

## An English Literary Club.

Bristol, England, with a population numbering about the same as that of Toronto, has just opened a "Literary and Philosophic Club" with no less than 470 members. Its proposed scope is an excellent one. As is the case in most English cities, Bristol possesses a large number of small clubs or associations with the object of furthering various branches of literature or science. These organizations have hitherto been quite independent of each other, and there has been no meeting-place common to all, no point on which they could centre and derive the strength and help furnished by occasional contact with thinkers in other lines. Such will now be afforded by the new club; and the strong membership with which it commences looks well for the success of the scheme. A similar institution in Montreal or Toronto, if it could be conducted at moderate expense and thereby successfully kept up, would be a great stimulus to

literary and scientific life in either city; not only so, but its influence would be felt in every part of the Dominion. If such were ever established here, it is altogether probable that it would speedily become the central governing point of the many weak literary and scientific societies scattered throughout the country, and become the means of not only systematizing and improving their work, but of also watching their progress, helping and advising their officers, and prevent their surrender to that epidemic of *laissez faire* which has been fatal to so many of such organizations.

## The Late Rev. Dr. Stevenson.

Many of our Montreal readers will remember what a sudden blank was caused by the removal to London a few years ago of the REV. DR. STEVENSON, who died here last Sunday. For ten years we had seen his kindly face in our midst, and had heard his magic words on every occasion when important questions of the day were publicly discussed. Always on the side of right and liberty, always sympathizing with the oppressed, always proud to extol his dear native land and the flag he loved and honoured, he was ever ready to boldly express his sentiments; and he did much to instil into the hearts of the young men of Montreal a deep and abiding love of British institutions and a strong pride in their inheritance of a birth-right in the British Empire. That eloquent tongue and warm heart are now at rest; but his impassioned pleading for all that is right and honourable, and his burning words of pride in national greatness will live long in the minds of those who were fortunate enough to hear him.

## The Appeal to the Country.

The event of the week has undoubtedly been the dissolution of Parliament and the issue of writs for a new House. The probabilities of this had been so freely foreshadowed by the press that it could have taken no one by absolute surprise; still, there had been more or less uncertainty until the announcement was actually made. That the chiefs of either party are unprepared is scarcely probable, in so much as preparation can be made prior to the official declaration of the dissolution. The undercurrent of feeling throughout the country in favour of an endeavour to improve our trade relations with the United States must be a strong one, judging from the measures which the Government have taken towards that end—measures which appear moderate, and which have no appearance of lowering the honour and dignity of Canada. To many moderate persons, entirely free from partizanship with either political party, the proof of the greatest skill in the conduct of the affairs of a country such as this, is the perfecting of such foreign relations as result in the increased financial prosperity of the people at large, combined with a dignified attitude towards other nations. We cannot afford to lose self-respect and incur the contempt of other countries by an undue sinking of our nationality in a subservience to foreign powers for the sake of financial advantage. On the 5th of March the people will have an excellent opportunity of showing their colours, and it is sincerely to be hoped that they will be so guided in their choice of representatives that the result will tell all the world that they have decided for that party, whichever it may be, which promises most for the development of the country in every way, and the increase of national sentiment throughout the length and breadth of the land.

## Canada and the U.S. Senate.

The advocates of Canadian Independence must feel highly encouraged in the work of spreading their pet idea by the talk indulged in by the talented gentlemen of the United States Senate on Monday last. Their expressed contempt for Canada as an enemy, coupled with their fears that in case of war Great Britain could lay in ruins their principal cities within a very few days, must be intensely flattering to those who think that we could preserve a separate nationality, and, and, at the same time, receive honourable treatment in matters of dispute between the two countries.

# The Dominion Illustrated Prize Competition, 1891. QUESTIONS.

FIRST SERIES.

- 1.—State where mention is made of the war of 1812, and give particulars, as concisely as possible.
- 2.—Give details of the announcement of forthcoming books by Canadian authors.
- 3.—Where is mention made of an unfinished work by an English writer now dead.
- 4.—Describe briefly a midnight scene in the forest, and state where mentioned.
- 5.—Some habits of a well-known English novelist are mentioned. Give particulars.
- 6.—Where, and in what connection is mentioned the most prominent poetess of this century.

NOTE.—All the material necessary for correctly answering the above questions can be found in Nos. 131 to 135 of the "Dominion Illustrated," being the weekly issues for January.

The second series of Questions will be given in our issue of 28th February.