

falling off in vitality it continues to grow by absorption. It has within recent years added to the number of its "Sections" one of trustees, and to its "Departments" one of History. The constitution, with its involved federalism, is very complicated to look at from the outside, but it works smoothly and harmoniously. What the spectator is apt to feel most strongly when he tries to attend the convention is the truth of Sir Boyle Roche's saying that "a man can't be in two places at once, barrin' he's a bird."

The George Brown  
Statue.

When the statue in memory of the late Hon. George Brown was erected in the Queen's Park, Toronto, a beautiful site was selected for it on the bank of the ravine and close to the carriage-way leading to the University. At that time no definite steps had been taken to erect a new Provincial building, and when a site was chosen it was found that Mr. Brown's statue was close in rear of the edifice. Mr. Harty, as Commissioner of Public Works, with the concurrence of his colleagues in the Provincial Government, has removed the statue to a more appropriate site in front of the Parliament building. There is a general feeling that Sir John Macdonald's statue should be similarly honoured. Where it stands now it is isolated from the historic background furnished by the building, and there would be an obvious appropriateness in giving successive generations of young Canadians a chance to see in close proximity the counterfeit presentments of these two great protagonists.

Canada's Export  
Trade

The sensible practice of publishing blue-books in advance of the meeting of Parliament enables the press to inform the public that the foreign trade of Canada for 1895-96 showed some improvement over that of 1894-95, though it fell short of the exhibits made by the years 1892-94. The exports for the year amounted to \$121,013,852, and the imports to \$118,011,000, the former being the largest amount for any year since Confederation. As the bulk of Canadian trade is with Great Britain and the United States, it is interesting to note how it is divided between these two countries. The exports to the former amounted to \$66,689,253, and the imports to \$32,979,742; the corresponding amounts in the case of the United States were \$39,750,201, and \$58,574,024. As Great Britain imposes no customs duty on what we have to sell her, our export trade to her may be expanded indefinitely, and in all probability the year 1896-97 will show a large increase. Strenuous efforts to improve the butter export trade may have an important effect even within the present financial year.

Winter  
Butter.

If Canadian butter is ever to hold its own in the markets of Great Britain with butter from the continent of Europe, it must be made during the winter season. Summer is the time for making cheese to advantage, and nature thus furnishes admirable facilities to the farmer for the more perfect distribution of dairy farming throughout the year. One enterprising manufacturer of dairy products, D. M. Macpherson, M.P.P. for Glengarry, has announced his intention to thoroughly test the matter during the coming winter. He will operate twelve creameries in the counties of Glengarry and Huntingdon, each of them having a cold storage attachment. The output is expected to be a carload of butter a week, though the amount will depend, of course, on the quantity of milk obtainable. If this and similar experiments are fairly successful, the supply of milk for winter butter making can be easily regulated hereafter in precise accordance with the demand.

Athletics and  
Athletics.

When the Toronto Athletic Club was started the aim of the promoters was to make and keep it a high-toned social establishment, to which respectable young men who believe in "muscular Christianity," might safely resort for harmless amusement. We take the liberty of asking the management how long, in their opinion, this character is likely to be maintained in the face of reports like this of a recent glove contest "fought to a finish" in the presence of five hundred spectators: "The fifth and sixth were Hanley's rounds. He had Baskerville's eye bleeding from a nasty cut, and kept hammering away at the mark until he had him covered with blood. In the eighth Baskerville rallied a little and rushed Hanley off his feet. Neither men were much punished and looked strong when the ninth round came round. Hanley landed his left in wind and followed it up with a right on the jaw and Baskerville went down and was counted out. It took five minutes to bring him round. Three stitches were put in the cut over his eye."

Lord Dufferin's  
Exit.

The Marquis of Dufferin, at a banquet recently tendered to him in Belfast, publicly announced that owing to age and loss of hearing he has definitely retired from public life. His last position was that of British Minister in Paris, and this, as well as the analogous position in Turkey, he filled for years with great tact and success. His name has been mentioned in connection with the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland, but, in view of the speech at Belfast, evidently without his authority. Canadians have a sufficiently pleasant recollection of Lord Dufferin to be interested in his career, and while all will regret the occasion of his retirement, they will cordially wish him an old age as happy as it is certain to be dignified and honourable. His Lordship will certainly never try to annoy his Royal mistress by leaking State secrets to newspapers.

The  
British Navy.

Great Britain has within the past few years enormously increased her navy, and so long as other nations add to their fleets she will continue to strengthen hers *pari passu* and somewhat more. As each large vessel must be manned with a numerous crew it has become a difficult matter to secure enough of marines, and the difficulty is sure to increase. There has been a good deal of plain talk on the subject during the past few days in the British journals, and among statesmen who take a special interest in the navy. Formerly press-gangs were sent through the rural districts to capture young men of good physique and force them into the service, but as the day for that has long gone by some other plan of recruiting must now be resorted to. The most obvious one is to offer a sufficient inducement in the form of wages, but that would add indefinitely to the cost of maintaining the navy. The discussion can at all events do no harm.

A Second  
Dreibund.

The triple alliance of Germany, Italy and Austria-Hungary, known as the "Dreibund," has endured for many years, but it seems not unlikely to lead to the establishment of a second triple alliance, including Russia, France and Great Britain. If the latter should be formed, Germany will have herself to blame for a state of affairs which is very annoying and which may easily prove disastrous. The most formidable obstacles to the second Dreibund are British jealousy of Russia in Asia, and French jealousy of Britain in Egypt. Leading publicists and statesmen in Great Britain seem disposed just now to adopt an attitude towards Russia quite different from the traditional unfriendly one. The two powers are neigh-