

THE WEEK.

Fifth Year.
Vol. V. No. 45.

Toronto, Thursday, October 4th, 1888.

\$3.00 per Annum.
Single Copies, 10 Cents.

The Week.

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY, AND LITERATURE.

TERMS.—One year, \$3.00; eight months, \$2.00; four months, \$1.00. Subscriptions payable in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS, unexceptionable in character and limited in number, will be taken at \$4 per line per annum; \$2.50 per line for six months; \$1.50 per line for three months; 20 cents per line per insertion for a shorter period.

Subscribers in Great Britain and Ireland supplied, postage pre paid, on terms following:—One year, 12s. 6d. stg.; half-year, 6s. stg. Remittances by P. O. order or draft should be made payable and addressed to the Publisher.

All advertisements will be set up in such style as to insure THE WEEK's tasteful typographical appearance, and enhance the value of the advertising in its columns. No advertisement charged less than five lines. Address—T. R. CLOUGHIER, Business Manager, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto. C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

TOPICS—	PAGE
A Complicated Struggle.....	711
The Personal Factor in the Montreal Contest.....	711
Bribery by Wholesale.....	711
Canadian Free Speech.....	712
Senator Sherman's Dictum.....	712
Is there a Casus Belli?.....	712
Canada's Attitude.....	712
The New British-African State.....	712
Another Little War in India.....	712
British Operations in India.....	713
Pacification of Zululand.....	713
Proposed Convention with Japan.....	713
The Whitechapel Horrors.....	713
The Dead Emperor's Diary.....	713
The Nationalist Problem.....	714
THE LAMBETH CONFERENCE: SOCIALISM, II.....	Louis Lloyd. 715
ANACREONTIC.....	M. A. B. 715
PARIS LETTER.....	William McLennan, M.A. 715
LOUIS HENRI MURGER.....	Fidelis. 717
CAPE TRINITY ON THE SAGUENAY (Poem).....	Helen Fairbairn. 717
"MIS EN RESERVE".....	Sigma. 718
PROMINENT CANADIANS—REV. WILLIAM CAVEN, D.D.....	E. A. M. 718
CHARADE.....	718
THE PHILOSOPHY OF KANT.....	719
CELEBRATION OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.....	Goldwin Smith in the National Review. 719
READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.....	720
MUSIC.....	720
OUR LIBRARY TABLE.....	721
LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.....	722
CHESS.....	722

All articles, contributions, and letters on matters pertaining to the editorial department should be addressed to the Editor, and not to any other person who may be supposed to be connected with the paper.

THE great battle in Montreal East has been lost and won. Unfortunately it can hardly be said that either the losing or the winning reflects much honour upon the party concerned, or much credit upon Montreal, not to say Dominion, politics. The issues involved in the contest were so many and complicated that the election of Mr. Lepine must be regarded as the resultant of a number of converging forces rather than as the triumph of any one principle or party. It can be counted a Government victory only on the ground that the successful candidate was endorsed, though not nominated, by the Conservative Managers, and that he was vehemently supported by the Quebec members of the Ministry, especially by the Secretary of State. On the other hand, the large reduction of the majority that might have been expected for a Conservative candidate in a constituency which has repeatedly returned unopposed a supporter of the Government cannot be fairly claimed as a proof of the growing strength of the Liberals, since the defeated candidate did not take his stand on the chief plank in the Liberal platform, by declaring in favour of unrestricted reciprocity. Moreover, Mr. Lepine, both before and after his election, claimed to be an Independent. It might be devoutly wished that the election of Mr. Lepine could be accepted, as Mr. Chapleau and some of the Conservative papers claim, as a distinct condemnation of the resuscitated "race and revenge" agitation, but, unhappily for this view, Mr. Lepine seems to have declared his adhesion to the Nationalist programme in terms scarcely less emphatic than those of his opponent, and so on throughout the list of public questions involved. As a matter of fact, the election can scarcely be said to have settled anything unless it be that the combined influence of the protectionist principle, the labour party, the prohibition Alliance, and the Secretary of State, is stronger in the constituency of Montreal East than the combined influence of the Opposition leader, the Quebec Premier, and the anti-veto agitation.

THE character and strength of the sinister influences which, there is too much reason to fear, were vigorously used by both parties in the Montreal East contest will probably be matter for inquiry in a court of justice. It would be hard to find terms too strong in which to condemn the appeal

which was so unblushingly and persistently made by the defeated candidate and his supporters, and even by Mr. Mercier himself, to the narrowest and most violent prejudices of the French race. That Mr. Laurier himself, whose speeches have generally been dignified and dispassionate, stooped to the low level of such a mode of argument, we are extremely loath to believe. If on the other hand it be true, as stated in the Opposition papers, that Hon. Mr. Chapleau engaged personally in a house to house canvass, it may well be queried whether, and to what extent, such a course comported with the official dignity to be expected in a Canadian Secretary of State. Viewed in the light of the previous well-known relations of the two parties, such unwonted zeal lent too much colour to the charge that the election was regarded by many more as a personal struggle between the Minister and the dismissed Parliamentary translator, than as a contest in which great political principles were at stake.

ONE incident in connection with the Montreal election was at the same time so reprehensible in itself and so characteristic of one of the most demoralizing and dangerous tendencies in Canadian politics that it would be wrong to leave it unnoticed in any dispassionate review of the event. We have it on the authority of the *Montreal Witness*, which, seeing that it supported Mr. Lepine's candidature, must be accepted as a competent witness in this case, that an open bribe of a post-office was held out by the chairman of a meeting in the east division in favour of the Government candidate. "This bribe," says the *Witness*, "was offered in the presence of Sir John Thompson, the Minister of Justice, and lately the recipient of the honour of knighthood, who had no word of protest to offer, who had, so far as can be judged, no feeling of personal shame at being made a party to a bribe." From other sources it appears that the offer was conveyed in a telegram from Sir Hector Langevin, the Minister of Public Works, stating that he had decided to establish a branch post-office on Mignonne Street, in the eastern part of the city. Now, a post-office may or may not be needed in that particular locality. But whether needed or not, such an announcement at the time and under the circumstances was an outrage on all political propriety. Had those present at the meeting been moved by the proper spirit of "free and independent electors," they would have resented the announcement as an insult. Amongst the many disquieting influences which now threaten the life of the Confederation, there is none more deserving of denunciation by every true Canadian, than the wholesale purchase of constituencies by the promise of expenditures of public funds which is unblushingly carried on. The representation of a Nova Scotia constituency was the other day declared vacant by the courts, in consequence of some petty bribes by agents. No one acquainted with the facts would, it is believed, deny that the promise of Government expenditures by, and on behalf of, the candidate thus unseated had more to do with securing his return than all the personal bribery that could be accomplished by a dozen agents. In most cases it is open to members of the Government to disclaim all responsibility for such promises made by eager candidates and their unscrupulous supporters. But in the case in question the use of the opportune telegram from one minister, and the tacit assent of another to its production, connect the Government so directly with the transaction that no such defence is possible. If there is such a thing as a genuine Canadian patriotism, here is surely a field for its operation. Let all its energies be summoned for a crusade against an evil which, if permitted to grow, as it certainly will if unchecked by public sentiment, will most surely sap the foundations of the union.

WHATEVER weaknesses or defects may exist in the Canadian political system, it certainly secures to its citizens privileges and indulgences which are in some respects unique. Foremost among these may be placed freedom of speech and of the press. Though it is yet one of Great Britain's most important colonies those residents who please feel at perfect liberty to advocate independence, or even amalgamation with a foreign power, or any other conceivable change. Members of Parliament and ex-members may freely advocate annexation to the United States. Leading political newspapers throw open their columns to the advocates of various forms of revolution, inviting those who desire change to express themselves as fearlessly in favour of independence or annexation as may the loyalists in