

Prominent Topics.

Death of Mr. James Crathern.

The death of the late Mr. James Crathern removes one of Montreal's most prominent landmarks. He was prominent not only in business but in religious, social and philanthropic life. For many years he was associated with and the dominating influence in, one of the most successful business enterprises in the city. He had been president of the Board of Trade, and of the Merchants' Cotton Company. He was a director of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the St. Lawrence Sugar Refinery, the National Trust Company, the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company and the Dominion Coal Company; and president of the Keewatin Flour Mills Company. He was president of the Royal-Victoria Life Assurance Company, also of the Montreal General Hospital, and he was one of the prominent members in various official capacities of the Diocesan Theological College, of the Anglican Synod and of St. George's Church. He was a liberal patron of the fine arts and had gathered a magnificent collection of paintings. Mr. Crathern in recent years seemed to be naturally indicated for the trusteeship of all kinds of public funds, and rendered much service to the community in this capacity. He will be greatly missed by a large circle of friends.

The Weather. The merry month of May was what Mr. Mantalini would call a "demonition moist unpleasant month;" and June promises to be a sister to it. We of the younger generation (say from forty to sixty) are apt to smile at the forebodings of the wise old fogies who shake their heads at an early spring as unseasonable. But some of these days, if we live long enough we too shall learn that the good things of this life are most to be desired in due season. Some people never buy strawberries except when they are dear and tasteless. Yet one box of berries when they cost ten cents, is worth a dozen boxes, when they cost fifty cents a box. Hereafter let us pray for seasonable weather; a real winter gives the promise of a real spring and a real summer. We had a short winter, a very short season of balmy weather and now the literature issued by the Meteorological Department is as monotonous as it is trite and true. "Cooler with showers;" "a little warmer with showers;" "anything with local showers." And the showers come so close together you cannot tell when one begins and the other ends. Any old boy with corns or rheumatism could predict the weather in Montreal just now as correctly as Old Probs. Up west, they are getting a little variety now; frost, hail

storms or blizzards. Something at least to break the soggy monotony, of what Canadian and American mockers spitefully call "English weather." In Alberta the settlers are finding the snow in June as welcome as the flowers in May; because a large proportion of it is convertible into golden grain, which can be transmuted into gold much more readily than any Philadelphia doctor can transmute the baser metals.

Teddy the Irrepressible

The London press is criticising Mr. Roosevelt's Guildhall speech rather savagely, and the London Star observes "Mr. Roosevelt should learn that he is not exempt from the customs of civilised nations." We believe that one of the customs of civilised nations is to treat their guests with ordinary courtesy. It is difficult for a man like Theodore the Great to make a speech without saying something. Speaking on the Egyptian question, he said about the same things in London that he said in Cairo; and in both places all that he said was entirely complimentary to British rule and enthusiastically friendly to the Government and people of Great Britain. What on earth was he to talk about? He could not well discuss American politics, nor even the third presidential term. A dissertation on the Carter Early Closing By-law or the Annexation of Notre Dame de Grace, would not have been appreciated. He could not criticise the civic turtle, and if he had mentioned big game he would have got into hot water. What more natural than that England's guest coming recently from Egypt, should say a few nice things about England's rule and England's responsibilities in the land of Pharaoh?

Dominion Textile Company.

The statement presented at the fifth annual meeting of the Dominion Textile Company on the outcome of operations for the year ending March 31, 1910, showed satisfactory earnings. The profit from manufacturing, after making the usual provision for repairs and betterments, was \$893,311.80 and adding the dividends received on stock in the Dominion Cotton Company and Merchants' Cotton Mills, the total was \$1,016,407.30. The surplus for the year, after paying fixed charges and dividends of 7 p.c. on the preferred and 5 p.c. on the common stocks, was \$35,732.21. The sales for the year increased \$2,590,080.04, being \$8,743,706.20 as against \$6,153,626.16 in the previous year. The printing work has been centralized by the transfer of the printing machinery of the Colonial works to the Magog Print Works and extensive improvements at the Colonial Works at St. Henri, have converted this plant to a modern bleachery establishment.