

THE WEEK:

A CANADIAN JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY, AND LITERATURE.

Second Year.
Vol. II., No. 29.

Toronto, Thursday, June 18th, 1885.

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

CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK—	PAGE—
Reciprocity with Jamaica	449
Canal Tolls	449
The Fate of Big Bear	449
The Rescue of Mesdames Delaney and Gowanlock	450
Alliance of Religion with Politics	450
The Scott Act Tried and Found Wanting	450
Repressive Legislation under the Stuarts	450
Baron Bramwell on Liquor Legislation	451
Foreign Interference in Canadian Politics	451
Decrease in the Church of England's Revenue	451
Mr. Gladstone's late Defeat	451
Parnellite Ingratitude	451
Lord Salisbury as a Statesman	451
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES—	
Imperial Federation	Hon. J. W. Longley. 452
A Canadian Poet	Howard J. Duncan. 453
Mr. Cleveland's First Quarter	B. 454
Art Notes	Delta. 454
HERE AND THERE	455
CORRESPONDENCE	456
POETRY—	
The Mission Chapel	C. F. B. 457
A Cry from an Indian Wife	E. Pauline Johnson. 457
A HALF-FORGOTTEN CHAPTER IN CANADIAN HISTORY.—II.	G. Mercer Adam. 457
SCRAP BOOK	458
MUSIC	459
PERIODICALS	459
LITERARY GOSSIP	460
CHESS	460

The Week,

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY AND LITERATURE.

Edited by W. PHILIP ROBINSON.

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

ADVERTISEMENTS, unexceptional 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 prepaid, on terms following:—One year, 12s. 6d.; half-year, 6s. 6d. 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. CLOUGHER, Business Manager, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

WHEN the annexation of Jamaica was proposed, we pointed out that, while the political objections were insuperable, annexation would accomplish nothing which could not be attained by the simple and unembarrassing process of a commercial arrangement. Jamaica, it now appears, is also of this opinion. She has sent to Canada delegates whose mission is to prepare the way for a reciprocal commercial arrangement. The delegates contend that Canada has more to gain by commercial reciprocity with Jamaica than with the rest of the West Indies. This may possibly be true if the comparison be confined to an equal number of customers; but it is clearly the interest of Canada to include as much of the West Indies as possible in any arrangement that may be made. To enter into an agreement that would practically compel her to buy her raw sugar from Jamaica, would, by restricting the choice to the produce of one of the least prolific of the sugar colonies, be a doubtful benefit. Competition among the producers of raw sugar would, so far as Canada is concerned, be reduced to the narrowest circle; its action would at best be feeble, and might be altogether suspended by a little judicious combination. But the overtures of Jamaica ought not, on this account, to be rejected; though in making any arrangement with the island it will be necessary to bear in mind that Canada's interest will best be served by an extension of the same terms to the rest of the West Indies. Under any relations into which it would be possible to enter, Canada could not hope to sell much to a population of six hundred thousand souls, a large majority of whom are negroes subsisting on the meagerest of fare. The removal of the heavy tax of eight shillings a barrel on Canadian flour might have the effect of placing within the reach of the negro a better description of food than he now gets, and if so the first step towards a fuller development of his energies would have been taken. His physical power of production would be

increased, and if he exerted that power only in the same degree as at present, he would have made a distinct advance in the improvement of his condition. There would still be several more steps to take, but they might if the climate did not forbid be taken one after another, before he was physically as good a man as the negro of the Southern States. In this way the consuming power of the Jamaica negro might be largely increased; but it would still remain true that the best thing for Canada, both as buyer and seller, would be to have the markets of the whole of the West Indies open to her on equal terms, which she would reciprocate in a way best suited to their general interests.

A YEAR ago the Dominion Government was induced to reduce the tolls on the canals, on the assurance that the reduction would act as a lure to increase the traffic of the route. This hope, if it was really entertained, was not realized; and this year, when the Government did not seem disposed to repeat the experiment, it was asked not merely to reduce the tolls one half, as before, but to abolish them altogether. The deputation from the Montreal Board of Trade which went to Ottawa to make this request, took the ground that it is now a question of preserving part of the traffic which we already possess. But Mr. Pope cannot be induced to believe that the traffic, the increase of which the late Mr. John Young spent his life in assuring the public canal enlargement would bring, now depends upon the removal of the tolls. He told the deputation, apparently with some truth, that the possibilities of the route hang upon the cheapening of the cost of forwarding freight between Kingston and Montreal, which is greater, ton for ton, than on the entire distance of the Erie canal with its shallow water and little boats. The minister here put his finger on the weak spot of the carrying system of the St. Lawrence. If, in elevating apparatus, Kingston had been made another Buffalo, there would have been a different tale to tell. Many millions have been spent on elevators in Buffalo, while Kingston is no farther advanced in this respect than an obscure grain shipping port in Russia. The conditions of successful competition have been strangely neglected by the forwarding interest of the St. Lawrence. The country has spent enormous sums in successive enlargements of the canals, and now it is asked practically to write off all the capital expended in these works by the entire abolition of the tolls. Freedom from tolls on the Erie canal is more than balanced by the superior facilities offered by the St. Lawrence route, with its fine river navigation and its large canals, by which obstructions in the natural water-course are overcome. Last year the Government yielded to the demands of the forwarders so far as to reduce the tolls by one-half, without really believing in the efficacy of the remedy; this year after hesitating to try on a larger scale, or even to repeat, an experiment which failed to realize the expectations held out, and which, in its opinion, offers no substantial grounds of hope for the future, it compromised by repeating the half reduction of last year.

For the present, Big Bear has found safety in flight, favouring quagmires having compelled his pursuers to give up the chase. Escaped captives say that he has with him only a hundred forest and thirty-three prairie Crees. But General Middleton, instead of giving up the chase altogether, is now trying to effect a junction with the forces of General Strange, on Beaver River. Should Big Bear succeed in escaping northward, the northern frontier of settlement would have to be guarded against possible Indian depredations. It will be well if this did not prove to be the beginning of a state of things which may last for a long time. On two sides Indians who may commit outrages on settlements may fly for shelter; they may hide themselves in the shadows of the Rocky Mountains, or take up their abode in the forests of the north. In the latter direction they are most likely to go. Poundmaker had set his eyes in that direction and thither Big Bear may go. Now that the Buffalo is practically extinct, food will not be less plentiful in the northern woods than on the plains which settlers have begun to dot over with grain fields. But any large addition to the usual numbers of Indians in the north will cause a pressure on food supplies, the more severe since the vast herds of their deer which were once found over the whole country