

# THE WEEK'S NEWS.

## CANADA.

The Manitoba Legislature has decided to abolish exemptions.

The plasterer's strike in Montreal has been ended by a compromise at 27½ cents an hour.

The Manager of the Crofters' Colony in the Northwest says the crofters have put in the winter nicely.

The seed barley purchased in England by the Dominion Government will be shipped this week or next.

Mr. Richard Tooley, M. P. P., has again been nominated in the Conservative interest for East Middlesex.

There is a movement on foot among the Young Nationalists of Montreal to form a Canadian Independence League.

David Campbell, of the late firm of Duncan, Campbell & Sons, Montreal, has been found guilty of uttering forged paper.

Mr. James A. Slater, of Orillia, has been presented with the Royal Humane Society's medal for bravery in saving life from drowning.

Mr. John Jeffrey, business manager of the Polson ship yards at Owen Sound, died on Tuesday from inflammation succeeding la grippe.

Hon. Louis Archambault, ex-member of the Quebec Legislative Council, died on Sunday at his residence in L'Assomption, at the age of 73 years.

Sir John Macdonald was last week presented by his friends of the Senate and House of Commons with a splendid portrait of himself, accompanied by a fitting address.

Business failures during last week numbered for the United States 257, and for Canada 44, or a total of 301, as compared with 271 last week, and with 23 the corresponding week of last year.

A deputation waited on Mr. Mackenzie Bowell, Minister of Customs, representing the fruiters of Toronto, Hamilton, and Montreal, asking that small fruit should be left on the free list.

President Ritchie, of the Central Ontario Railway, has sued P. and G. W. McMullen, directors of the company, for \$181,500 worth of stock and coupons, which plaintiff alleges they appropriated improperly.

A young farmer of Edmonton, Peel county, named Hindle, was seriously shot by a companion named Shields on Sunday afternoon. They were playing duet and Shields didn't know it was loaded.

From facts ascertained at the Public Accounts Committee it would appear that a haul between the departure of one Governor-General and the arrival of the next.

The seven graduates of the Royal Military College at Kingston have taken first-class honors at Chatham, England, and have been granted a trip to the famous continental battlefields at the country's expense.

It is believed in Winnipeg that a draft agreement has been arrived at between the Dominion Government and the Hudson Bay Railway, by which a guarantee will be given in the vicinity of \$10,000,000.

The Canadian Pacific Company is forming one of the largest railway yards on this continent near Montreal. It will be 60 acres in extent, contain 60 miles of sidings and will give employment to 800 men.

A Washington correspondent thinks there is no probability of free fish, free iron, and free coal for Canada. On the contrary, he is of the opinion that a duty will be imposed on eggs and other minor farm and dairy products.

The Duke of Connaught has written to the Governor-General requesting that his visit to Canada may be marked by as little demonstration as possible. He will arrive at Vancouver from India on April 18 and sail from Quebec on June 12.

Mr. R. W. Bell, of the celebrated Bell farm at Indian Head, N. W. T., has recently sold that portion of it south of the C. P. R. track at \$9 per acre, a remarkably good price. He is now negotiating with English capitalists for the sale of the remainder of the farm, which includes the homestead, at a price considerably over \$20 per acre.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

Mr. Balfour is preparing local government bill for Ireland.

The death is announced of Lord Auckland, in his 61st year.

Severe snowstorms and frost are reported in England and in parts of Europe.

Between one and two million oysters are exported from America to England weekly.

Lord Salisbury has returned to London. He is much stronger than when he went away.

The famous Firth-of-Forth bridge was formally opened on Tuesday by the Prince of Wales.

The Duke of Bedford has built a private cremation furnace on his own grounds at Woburn.

It is stated that Mr. Goschen, the Imperial Chancellor of the Exchequer, proposes to abolish the tax on tea entirely.

Two thousand men employed on the north dock at Liverpool have struck because their demand for higher wages was refused.

The Imperial Government's Irish land bill provides for state emigration and abolishes the land courts and land commissioners.

The carpenters employed in nine of the ship yards on the Thames have struck for an advance of 6d. per day in their wages.

Besides an award of £1,500 against the *St. James Gazette*, Sir Morell Mackenzie has recovered £150 from the *London Times* for libel.

A mass meeting will be held in Hyde Park, London, next Sunday to protest against Russia's treatment of Siberian prisoners.

Mr. Chamberlain writes that he believes that free education will be conferred by the present Government before Parliament is dissolved.

The British steamer *Quetta*, from Cooktown, Queensland, for London, which sailed on February 27th, has been lost with over 100 lives.

An English firm shipped to Portugal a lot of hats, calling them Serpa Pinto hats. As soon as it was found they were of English make everybody denounced them.

The death is announced in his 90th year of Sir Edward Daines, proprietor of *The*

*Leeds Mercury*, one of the most influential Liberal organs in the north of England.

William Leatham Bright, member for Stoke-upon-Trent, has resigned from the House of Commons owing to ill-health. He is the second son of the late John Bright.

The proposed issue of one pound notes has been indefinitely abandoned in deference to the strongly expressed feeling of the community against the issue of paper money for small amounts.

At the Bishop of Lincoln's trial the other day a Dutch book was exhibited giving an account of the coronation of William of Orange, and containing a picture of Westminster Abbey, showing two large candles burning on the altar, and a lamp above.

Elizabeth Roberts, a child of 9 years, whose precocious interest in the Maybrick trial, led her to enact the part of the heroine of that drama in mimic play, has been sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for attempting to poison a lady whom her father, a widower, was going to marry, and whom she disapproved of as a stepmother.

## UNITED STATES.

Frost has destroyed the early fruit crop in the neighborhood of Pensacola, Florida.

It is stated that State Treasurer Noland, of Missouri, is \$45,000 short in his accounts.

Rubber goods manufacturers in the United States have decided to advance prices 10 per cent.

Floods in Indiana are causing loss of property and driving the inhabitants to the hills.

Reports from northern Texas say hundred of range cattle have been frozen to death during the present cold spell.

Fifteen hundred people living on the lowlands along the Cumberland River in Tennessee have been flooded from their homes.

At a meeting of socialists in Chicago on Sunday a resolution was adopted endorsing the call for an international labor convention to meet there during the world's fair in 1892.

The Eastern Pennsylvania Evangelical Conference has appointed March 19 for the trial of Bishop Fisher, of Chicago, on the charges of slander and evil-speaking, falsehood, and creating dissensions.

Ex-Gov. James E. English, of Connecticut died at New Haven last week, aged 78. He was one of the ten Democrats who voted for the Slavery Emancipation Amendment, and held prominent business and political positions.

An agreement has been made between the journeymen and master plasterers of New York, to hold good for two years from May 1st, by which the working day will consist of eight hours and the remuneration be 50 cents an hour.

## IN GENERAL.

Emin Pasha has arrived at Zanzibar.

Pope Leo XIII. was 80 years old on Sunday.

It is expected the new German Reichstag will be convoked April 1.

The Russian army manoeuvres for next summer will be on the most colossal scale.

France has gained a victory over the King of Dahomey and proposes to annex his kingdom.

The students of Lisbon threaten to attack the British embassy in that city and mob the ambassador.

Seventy murdered bodies of infants were found on the premises of a house burned in Warsaw on Sunday.

The title of Henry M. Stanley's new book is *The Darkest Africa; the Quest, Rescue and Retreat of Emin*.

The Sultan of Zanzibar has released some untried prisoners who have been kept in prison eighteen years.

The French Government has accepted the invitation of Germany to take part in the Berlin labor conference.

Owing to the illegal appointment of a registrar at Lieblitz, Silesia, a hundred couples married by him find themselves disinherited.

Victor Morier, son of the British ambassador at St. Petersburg, tried to commit suicide recently owing to misplaced affection.

The *Paris Siecle*, a semi official paper, says a treaty exists between England and Italy providing for concerted action on the west coast of the Red Sea.

Serpa Pinto has defied orders and taken passage for Portugal. He will take his seat in the Cortes and accept all the acclaim the people choose to accord him.

The Vatican official organ claims that the German Emperor was inspired to issue the labor rescript by a former speech of Pope Leo XIII. to the French workmen.

Mr. Glynn Petre, the British Minister at Lisbon, has asked to be transferred to Washington, giving as his reason that he knew Sir Julian Pauncefote desired a change.

Emperor William is very much in earnest in connection with the labor question. He not only presides over the Council of State, but performs the labours of secretary as well.

M. Constans, French Minister of the Interior, in consequence of a personal disagreement with Premier Tirard, has resigned his portfolio and has been succeeded by M. Bonngeris, a Radical deputy from the Jura.

The second ballots throughout Germany are decidedly in favour of the Socialists and Liberals. The Cartel party is almost wiped out of existence, and Prince Bismarck has put himself in communication with the Vatican to bring about a Government alliance with the Central part.

**The Longevity of Birds.**

The swan is the longest-lived bird, and it is asserted that it has reached the age of 100 years. Knauer, in his work entitled "Naturhistoriker," states that he has seen a falcon that was 162 years old. The following examples are cited as to the longevity of the eagle and vulture: A sea eagle captured in 1715, and already several years of age, died 104 years afterwards, in 1819; a white-headed vulture, captured in 1706, died in 1826 in one of the aviaries of Schoenbrunn Castle, near Vienna, where it had passed 118 years in captivity. Parrots and ravens reach an age of over 100 years. The life of sea and marsh birds sometimes equals that of several human generations. Like many other birds, magpies live to be very old in a state of freedom, but do not reach over 20 or 25 years in captivity. The nightingale lives but 10 years in captivity and the blackbird 15. Canary birds reach an age of from 12 to 15 years in the cage, but those flying at liberty in their native islands reach a much more advanced age.

## THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

**A Wise Ruler and a Sovereign Who Values His Peoples Love.**

A Berlin correspondent sends a private letter concerning events in Germany, from which we make some extracts worthy of attention:

"The rescripts of the Emperor on the labor question mark an epoch in the history of this century, and, highly rated as they are by the press, they are not too much so. In my opinion this divergence between the views of the Kaiser and the Chancellor is more apparent than real. Such a bold initiative step has a much better chance of succeeding if taken independently by the Emperor—who stands above all parties—than by the Chancellor, who, great as he is, has a party of his own creation—the National Liberal party.

"The Kaiser is politically and politico-economically the disciple of his great Minister; not a mere puppet in his hands, but an energetic and capable co-worker, who, with marvellous facilities of self-control in one so powerful and so young, will be able to continue after Time shall have killed the Iron Statesman—the work which the latter has outlined.

"It will take time for Europe to appreciate at its full value this young sovereign, whose words have the ring of greatness, and whose acts, whether in consolidating the past or in breaking with its traditions, bring with them the courage of convictions. He seems not only to have taken for his model his great ancestor Frederick, but to have sought among the members of his illustrious house who preceded him those qualities best worthy of imitation. He has the untiring energy and minute painstaking of Frederick, the graciousness and dignity of his grandfather, the humanitarianism to benefit his subjects which schemes the former might have failed through an excess of good nature and though not thoroughly appreciating the fact that a government must be strong before it can afford to be generous.

"The Kaiser would wish to be in war a leader of men, such as Frederick I and II, in peace he desires to realize the dream of Henri IV, not the *pacifist* in the sup, perhaps, which would be difficult to attain here, but shorter hours of labor for the poor slaves of the loom and soil and a few jennies added to their daily wages. If he obtains this he will have gained one of the greatest victories of peace ever won by a monarch.

"There has been no figure in European history since the time of Frederick the Great so interesting as that of the German Emperor of to-day. He came to the throne about the same age as his illustrious ancestor; his youth had happily escaped the stormy experiences and temptations of Frederick, but the events familiar to his young life, and which formed his character, were the most momentous in German history.

"He saw Germany become a nation, and upon him has devolved the grandest duty imposed upon any Emperor since Charlemagne—namely, to keep it a nation. The mistake of Frederick was that a vain thirst for glory he invaded Silesia and provoked a war which almost ruined his kingdom and carried rapine into every part of the earth.

"Would the young emperor follow this terrible and tempting example? This has been the one question in men's minds since his accession. He had but to raise his hand and the best armed and best drilled legions in Europe would have swept on toward the Danube or the Rhine.

"Would the temptation to glory which Frederick the Great confessed in his old age to have been the besetting sin of his youth swing the present Emperor into a policy of adventure? Would he risk the peace of Europe, the very existence of Germany perhaps, for a laurel crown? Would he be the servant of the great Minister whose genius has long dominated Europe, or would he rise to the due recognition of his imperial heritage and be master, statesman and king?

"Recent news from Germany, so abundantly confirmed in the extracts from the private letter of our correspondent, shows that this young sovereign knows his own mind. Bismarck's work was priceless in the building of the Empire. A new work devolves upon William II. He will reign not by 'blood and iron,' but through the confidence of his people. The patriotism of Germany is unquestioned, but William appeals to German sympathy, and that appeal will sink deep into the hearts of men.

"In these times of change and doubt, when no wisdom can foresee what even a day may bring forth, it looks as though this young Emperor—wiser than the greatest of his ancestors—had taken the one and only course to secure the permanence of his dynasty and of the throne. He proposes to reign, not alone by the 'Grace of God,' but by the love and loyalty of the German race.

## Color Blindness.

The fact of color blindness has long been recognized, the cause is still in dispute. Mr. Sherwood, a member of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Institute, is out with a new theory, which he thinks has at least the merit of being 'natural.' He believes that color blindness is due to external and not internal causes. He cites the Quakers among whom the percentage of weak eyes and color blindness is exceptionally large, and attributes the fact to the sombre colors by which they always surround themselves.

To prevent this affliction in the generations following, Mr. S. would substitute the colors of autumn foliage for that now used in our homes and in our literature. Speaking of the effects of black and white, he says that our halls of learning in which professors and students are robed in black gowns, often seem to him like white sepulchres with dark spirits hovering round. Here the reform suggested is, that the professors should wear purple or terra cotta colored gowns, and the students vaise green. The eye of the professor would rest with pleasure upon the field of color before him, and the student would easily discern the robes of the professor. The walls should be painted with such colors as would lend a soft effect to the eye, and would afford an illustration of the most prevailing tints of nature. How much truth, if any, there is in this theory can be conclusively settled only by actual experiment. It is certainly plausible, and may yet be found to have something in it.

There is a holy love and a holy rage, and our best virtues never glow so brightly as when our passions are excited in the cause. Sloth, if it has prevented many crimes, has also smothered many virtues; and the best of us are better when aroused.

## "Moral Aspects of College Life."

An article in the February *Forum* on "Moral Aspects of College Life," by C. K. Adams, President of Cornell University, will be read with interest and satisfaction by those parents who, while desirous of educating their sons, are harassed with a fear that the moral atmosphere of the modern college is unhealthy and injurious. In opening up his paper Mr. Adams calls attention to a fact often overlooked, that in College, as elsewhere, the sober, industrious, and orderly go their uniform way without attracting attention, while "profligacy and idleness have a marvelous knack of getting themselves reported. If the great business work of a profitable and steady institution might as well be closed. But this kind of work attracts no attention. It blows no horns and rings no bells. Like all great forces, it is apt to move on quietly and silently. But if at any moment a community of discretion occurs not only the community, but, perhaps, even the country at large is filled with noise." To condemn the whole because of the escapades of a few evil doers who find their way to the college halls is exceedingly unjust. As to the main question of the paper, viz., Are the conditions generally found in colleges such as naturally promote morality, i. e., are they such as to strengthen the moral impulses on the one hand, or weaken the forces tending to immorality on the other, Mr. Adams unhesitatingly answers in the affirmative. Postulating the forces which "which make for righteousness" and correctness of life to be religious convictions, conclusions of philosophy, public opinion, and wholesome example, he maintains that in respect to each the College has the advantage when compared with the general community. In his own university at Cornell they have a Christian Association, housed in an elegant and commodious building, which counts a membership of more than 500, a little short of one half of the entire body of students. And this is not an exceptional state of things, but the rule among the denominational or secular colleges of the country.

Speaking of public opinion as it exists in the ethical ideas of students, he says that the peculiar to students themselves, but adds: "The judgment of students may sometimes be faulty; but their impulses, their desires, their purposes, their moral tone, will almost always be found to be correct. I do not hesitate a moment to avow my belief that, as an almost invariable rule, what may be called public opinion among students, is not only strong, but is also clean and wholesome. It approves and it denounces with more discrimination and with more energy than does too, in the matter of example the student in the street or in the shop. 'Let outsiders say what they will, every college man knows that the great mass of students are earnestly devoted to the work of preparing themselves for the duties of life. There may be colleges where this is not the rule, but I believe they are exceedingly few, and I know of none. Students generally have a strong and manly purpose, and it would be a slander to intimate that as a rule they are not straightforward, downright, and truthful.'

"Turning from a consideration of the forces which give an uplift to character, President Adams discusses the things which aim at weakening the subjective physical forces which tend to immorality. He points out, lusty natures that study does not exhaust, that looks for some escape in the exercise of the physical powers. Here he appears as the friend of the gymnasium and the college green. So thoroughly convinced is he of the moral advantage of physical exercise that he would make attendance upon the gymnasium obligatory for the first two years of the college course. But while a friend of all outdoor games which call for bodily exercise, he is especially partial to the popular game of football. This game, it is contended, not only calls for the most active, the most strenuous exercise of intellectual discrimination, but it also demands the most complete subordination of the individual will to the good of the whole. The necessity of self-restraint is as imperative as the necessity of prompt action. To every participant in this game there come moments of tremendous temptation. But it comes under circumstances that help him to resist. He is waging battle, not in silence and alone but in the presence of spectators and an empire who demand fair play. If he allows his opponents to ruffle his temper, he is subject to disgrace. If he yields he knows that he may be sent off the field by the umpire. To hold one's self with perfect self-restraint under severe temptation and provocation, is one of the greatest of moral achievements; and any game which tends unmistakably to develop such ability cannot be regarded as destitute of moral power."

**The Voice of the Void.**

I warn, like the one drop of rain  
On your face, ere the storm;  
Or tremble in whispered refrain  
With your blood, beating warm.

I am the presence that ever  
Baffles your touch's endeavor—  
Gone like the glimmer of dust  
Dispersed by a gust.

I am the absence that taunts you,  
The fancy that haunts you;  
The ever unsatisfied guest  
That, questioning emptiness,  
Wins a sigh for reply.

Nay; nothing am I,  
But the flight of a breath—  
For I am Death!

—George Parsons Lathrop in the *Century*

**Dawn.**

The eager light of morning! A clear blush  
Of arrowy crimson shooting to the flakes  
Of cloudland snow—then ruffling the dim  
lakes

From starlit silver to a dimpled flush  
Of rosy water. Now the slumberous hush  
Yields at the breath of breezes; morning  
breaks,

And corolling of lark and throats wakes  
A world to labour. When the herb is lush  
On sheltered mead, the level gleams of light  
Permeate the daisies to a wider round  
Of stretching petals. Morn! the stir, the  
night,

The wonder of young being, with sweet  
sound  
Of questing voices as the golden height  
Of heaven dawns and earth is summer-  
crowned.

C. A. DAWSON.

## The Alien Contract Labor Law.

On the principle of tit for tat the Alien Labor bill of Mr. Taylor, of Leeds, which aims at prohibiting the importation and migration of foreigners and aliens under contract or agreement to perform labor in Canada, has considerable justification. What ever may have been the real object of the authorities at Washington in passing the U. S. "Alien Contract Labor Law," and the more charitable incline to the opinion that the law was aimed at undesirable immigrants, from across the ocean and not at Canadians, the fact is indisputable, that the law has been so interpreted as to include Canadians within the scope of its provisions. And right vigorously has the law been enforced, especially along the Canadian frontier. In the discussion upon Mr. Taylor's bill last week, several instances were related by members in which the most extreme interpretation had been placed upon the law by our neighbors. Men in the employ of the U. T. R. Company who worked in the States but lived on the Canadian side of the line, were obliged to cross over or lose their situation; the Company was liable to a fine of \$1,000 for every man who lived in Canada and worked across the border. Two instances at least have occurred where Canadian ministers were not allowed to accept calls extended to them by American congregations who desired their services. Only last week the management of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lewisburg, Pa., were informed by acting secretary Batchler, that the Canadian clergyman called by them is regarded as an "alien" within the meaning of the Alien Contract Labor Law. Now it must be confessed that such conduct is irritating and annoying to the last degree, and goes far to excite the vigor with which the neighboring system is assailed and denounced. Nevertheless the considerations of expediency and right must not be lost sight of in dealing with a matter so important. As Sir John Macdonald pointed out, "there is this difference between Canada and the United States: The United States do not want any more people there and we do, and there is a very nice difference between the two countries." The question therefore resolves itself into this; whether to invite immigration in this way by patently submitting to such unnecessary treatment, we do not pay too dear a price in the loss of national dignity and influence. We cannot afford to submit to such an extent as to produce the impression that we either have no sense of independence or are afraid to try the experiment of existing upon our own resources as an independent nation. Then as to our rights in the matter, we undoubtedly have the constitutional right to say whether we shall adopt a policy of retaliation or not. The moral right, however, which nations that would abide most respect, is another thing. If the United States has acted in such a manner as to violate the great ethical principles that should govern nations in the intercourse with one another, it is not a sufficient reason for Canada that she should follow the bad example. Rather our duty is by a strict adherence to the principles of truth and righteousness to reprove the grasping selfishness, the irritating unneighborliness of our big and erring cousin. History, if it teaches anything at all, teaches that like as with individuals so with nations, their sin will surely find them out.

**The Emperor's Labor Council.**

The Berne labor council is declared off and Switzerland has intimated her willingness to take part in the German conference.

All the powers named by the Emperor have given in their acceptance, viz, Switzerland, Belgium, France, England. The press dispatch announces that the official programme of the International Labor Conference has been issued. The subjects to be discussed are the regulation of mine work, with reference to the prohibition of the labor of women and children underground; the shortening of the shifts in particularly unhealthy mines; the ensuring of a regular output of coal, by subjecting the working of the mines to international rules; the regulation of Sunday labor, and also the regulation of the labor of children and females.

But while the subjects to be discussed appeal with tremendous force to the humane feelings it is clear that if the Conference goes no further, or at least, if Germany herself goes no further in seeking to settle the labor difficulties which at present give the Socialist movement its power, so far as the Fatherland is concerned the Conference will not have accomplished a very great deal. Indeed, to outsiders it is a puzzle which increases in perplexity the longer it is contemplated, how the labor difficulties of that country can be satisfactorily arranged while the present oppressive military system exists. The curse of Germany, as of all the great European nations, is her immense standing army which takes from industrial and productive pursuits so many hundreds of thousands of her strongest and most capable men. So long as she resolves to keep up her great military establishment, so long will the backs of her poorer subjects be bowed down under the oppressive load. For the kindness of his heart the Kaiser is to be commended; for his statesman-like grasp of the situation and the best means of relief, the public praise must be withheld until his plans shall have demonstrated their efficiency under actual trial.

**Pope Leo and His Monument.**

Leo XIII. Pope of Rome, who was 80 years old on Monday, is just now absorbed in the interesting but somewhat gloomy task of superintending the making of his own monument, which he is anxious to have completed during his life-time. The monument is to consist of a large sepulchral urn, on which the life-size statue of the Pope is placed. At either side of this urn are two colossal statues, representing Religion and Justice, and between them a haut relief. The statues are of Carrara marble and the urn of porphyry. In three years' time the work of art is to be completed, and its cost will be £5,000.

The shafts of sarcasm are only effective when barbed with truth, tempered with justice, and feathered with wit.

Money will make us work, but money will not make us give our hearts to the work—nothing but love for our work or real good principle can make us do that.

Wisdom makes all the troubles, griefs, and pains incident to life, whether casual adversities or natural afflictions, easy and supportable, by rightly valuing the importance and moderating the influence of them.