

# THE WEEK.

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## Current Topics.

Deeds  
Speak.

The Kolapore Cup and the Queen's Artillery Prize are two events which will help to keep up our national reputation. The victory of Mr. Duggan's yacht at New York and the cruise—let us hope—the triumphant cruise of the "Canada" in the inland lakes will prove that Canadians are at home on both land and water. Our countrymen are often laughed at because they are sensitive and have too much of the what-do-you-think-of-this-country air about them. We have yet a national character to form, and we wish to make a respectable national history. To date there has not been a bad beginning. One of the chief elements of the typical character we wish to produce is that of doing, not talking. There is enough of that already on this continent. A little pleasant mutual admiration among ourselves is not a bad thing, but let us be generous and kind to those over whom we show our superiority. Magnanimity is the mark of a great nation—*parcere subjectis et debellare superbos* must be our national motto.

The "Boss" at  
Toronto.

Almost the only refreshing incident during the late warm spell was the coolness of the proceeding whereby in some dozen constituencies the Liberal and Conservative "bosses" came to an agreement that certain threatened election petitions should be set off against one another, and not pressed. The rage and disgust of the simple-minded bucolics who do not know that politics are chiefly humbug would be amusing if it were not rather sad. Poor folk! They knew that bribery had been rampant. They knew that the member who was to represent them in the House of Commons ought not to be there. They believed that the new régime was to introduce purity and honesty and righteousness. But what have they seen? Their carefully prepared protests are all disregarded—their good money tendered as deposit is sent back to them—and by whom? By the courts? Not at all; by their "boss." They have had their first lesson in practical politics. Their's not to reason why. Their's but to do and—buy—or be bought.

If the charges which were sent up were true, a good many men will hold seats in the House of Commons they are not entitled to. If the charges were not true, the men who made them were, at all events, entitled to have them tried. There has been a complete stifling of justice in either event and an enquiry should be instituted when the House sits. If possible, legislation should be introduced to prevent similar scandals in future. Meanwhile the helpless rage of the deluded petitioners is rather funny.

The Chinese  
Bismarck.

The visit of Li-Hung-Chang to Europe is the latest sensation on that *blasé* continent. Exactly what card the Chinaman has up his sleeve has not been disclosed. Li-Hung has not said much himself, but if the cable reports are to be believed Li-Hung's secretary has been expressing some opinions about England which a visit to that country may remove. A sight of forty-seven battleships, and the knowledge that there are a few more like them in support, may do something to dispel the idea that England's power for weal or woe is gone. At present, and for some time past, there has been a paralysis of anything in the shape of energetic movement on the part of England in foreign affairs. It has been clearly a case of Defence, not Defiance. The fighting in South Africa and in Egypt has not been serious. No more troops have been moved out of England. Crete is to be free, if English non-intervention will secure that desirable end. Will Russia then take action on the Porte's behalf and bring pressure to bear on Greece in order to prevent any assistance to the island which has struggled so valiantly for liberty? The Eastern—the Far Eastern—problem—that of the existence of the Chinese empire—may depend on Li-Hung's decision. Altogether, the situation grows interesting. It is too warm for people to quarrel, and yet that is just the season when they do fall out. Li-Hung's honest opinion of the Barbarians he has met would be delightful reading.

Dr. Jameson's  
Sentence.

Revolution is successful rebellion—rebellion is unsuccessful revolution. Dr. Jameson failed, therefore Dr. Jameson goes to gaol. Had Dr. Jameson captured Johannesburg, and taken and held Pretoria, he would have been a K.C.M.G. at least. The Union Jack would have floated triumphantly over him, and poets would have sung good verses about him instead of bad. Now he is "doing time." As for the notion that punishing Dr. Jameson is going to lead the British lion and the African lamb to lie down together in harmony, it is very pretty, but it will not answer. German rivalry and intrigues behind the scenes will continue. Dutch jealousy—justifiable jealousy—of English expansion will continue. The taunts of "Majuba Hill" and the "White Flag" will rankle still. The advance of miner, rancher, projector, shepherd, in short, of the restless Anglo-Saxon, will continue. Kruger's unprogressive, obstinate, and self-confident countrymen cannot remain as a barrier to the invasion of civilization. Their country is too valuable to lie idle. If they will not utilize it, somebody else will. They will not be allowed to