



**A BAD TEMPER**  
and a bad liver—  
you'll always find  
joined together.  
Make a note of this,  
and see if it isn't  
true.

Now, why not give  
your naturally sun-  
ny disposition a  
chance? Dr. Pierce's  
Pleasant Pellets  
will do it for you. They correct your dis-  
ordered liver, clear up your system, and  
make life look different to you. They do  
it in a pleasant way, too. They're the  
smallest, the easiest to take, and the most  
natural remedy.

Keep a vial of these tiny Pellets in your  
vest-pocket. They'll give you a permanent  
cure for Biliousness, Jaundice, Constipation,  
Indigestion, Sick or Bilious Headaches, and  
every derangement of the liver, stomach  
and bowels.

The makers are so sure you'll be satisfied  
that they'll agree, if you're not, to return  
the money.

For twenty-five years these Pellets have  
sold on their merit. Why buy other pills,  
when P. P. P. are "guaranteed"?

There's nothing likely to be "just as good."

### READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

The ex-Empress Eugénie has been en-  
gaged on her memoirs for many years. As  
soon as a page is written it is placed un-  
der lock and key, and not even her most in-  
timate friends ever see it. The work is not  
to be published until twenty-five years after  
her death. The ex-Empress uses in writing  
a penholder which is ornamented with dia-  
monds. It was used by the fourteen repre-  
sentatives in signing the treaty of the Peace  
of Paris in 1856, and was given to the  
ex-Empress as a memento.—*New York  
Tribune*.

### SOME AMUSING BLUNDERS.

A Canadian correspondent recently sent  
to the *Spectator* these answers to questions  
put at an examination at a High School in  
Her Majesty's dominions in North America.  
The genuineness of the answers is vouched  
for by the correspondent. In an account of  
Queen Mary, one pupil added: "At my  
death, the name Calais will be found in my  
stomach, graven on my heart," evidently  
due to a remark in Collier's text-book. An-  
other defined an abstract noun as "the name  
of something which has no real existence,  
as the virtues." "Q. Name some of the  
chief instruments of tyranny under the  
Stuarts. A. The axe with which Charles I.  
was beheaded was one of these." A more  
advanced student wrote: "In Old English,  
the pronouns of the first and second person  
had a *duel* [dual] and both perished in Mid-  
dle English." In explanation of "Tam  
O'Shanter," "catch'd by warlocks in the  
mirk," "warlock" was defined as "the tuft  
of hair left on the top of an Indian's head."  
—*Public Opinion* (London).

### TWO BANK REPORTS.

The publication of the annual report of  
the Merchants Bank of Canada is always  
awaited with marked and peculiar interest.  
One of our greatest financial institutions,  
its affairs are of moment to all Canada.  
But perhaps it is because Mr. Hague takes  
the opportunity afforded by the report to  
discuss the commercial situation and the  
lessons to be drawn therefrom, that this  
event is come to be looked upon as one of  
such importance and significance. When  
Mr. Hague has anything to say people  
listen. His words are of weight. The  
Budget Speech of the Finance Minister  
hardly commands greater attention than  
the annual address of the general manager

of the Merchants Bank of Canada. Es-  
pecially is this the case with the present  
address when the wide-spread financial  
depression and disorganization of trade and  
commerce makes the opinions and views of  
such a distinguished and impartial authority  
as Mr. Hague of more than ordinary in-  
terest and value. We commend the ad-  
dress to the careful attention of all our  
readers. As for the Bank itself, the net  
profits of the year have amounted to very  
nearly \$631,000. \$100,000 have been  
added to the Rest, thus making  
the Rest equal to half the capital,  
which is now an even six millions. Divi-  
dends of seven and eight per cent. per  
annum were declared for the first  
and second half year respectively.  
Nearly ninety thousand dollars were reserv-  
ed for rebate in full on bills discounted.  
Though the circulation of the Bank, like  
that of other Canadian Banks, shows a cer-  
tain shrinkage, the year, as the figures in-  
dicate, has been a successful one for the  
institution, and reflects the greatest credit  
on the management.

At the nineteenth annual meeting of the  
Shareholders of the Imperial Bank of Cana-  
da, held recently in the Banking House of  
the institution the directors submitted their  
report, which will be found produced in full  
in another column of this journal. The  
Imperial Bank holds an honoured place  
amongst the first financial institutions of  
the Dominion—a place coveted by many  
rivals. Its success has been remarkable  
and its Stockholders are among the satisfied  
of the land. Fat dividends have been of  
yearly occurrence and the present year is  
no exception. Dividends have been paid  
at the rate of eight per cent. per annum,  
and a bonus of one per cent. The Rest  
account has been increased by fifty thou-  
sand dollars. The profits for the year,  
after deducting charges of management  
and interest due depositors and making  
full provision for all bad and doubtful debts  
were over two hundred and thirty-five  
thousand dollars. We note with interest  
that the Bank is contemplating opening a  
Branch in British Columbia. Prosperity  
and success have always waited on the  
Imperial Bank. May this new enterprise  
be all that is expected of it.

### THE ONTARIO LIFE.

In the last impression of *THE WEEK* we  
printed the annual report of the Ontario  
Mutual Life Assurance Company. This  
well known institution is now in its 25th  
year and possesses assets of considerably  
over two and a half million dollars. Not-  
withstanding the much-talked-about hard-  
times the Company's increase in new busi-  
ness for 1893 over 1892 was \$328,000, and  
new assurances were written amounting to  
\$3,004,700. Sixty-nine applications for as-  
surance, representing \$107,500, were not  
approved of, and were consequently declin-  
ed. It is evident from these figures that  
the Ontario Life is a most popular company  
amongst the insuring public of Canada.  
And it deserves its popularity. It knows  
how to combine economy with enterprise,  
and this is the secret of success. The direc-  
tors, the manager, Mr. William Hendry,  
and staff in general were accorded all praise  
by those members of the company present  
at the meeting. Mr. Bowman, M.P., presi-  
dent, and Messrs. Taylor and Melvin, first  
and second vice-presidents, respectively,  
were promptly re-elected to the offices they  
had so well filled in the past.

### PUBLIC OPINION.

**Victoria Colonist:** The people of Eng-  
land would be only too glad to be released  
from the necessity of providing immense  
sums for her own defence, created by the  
warlike attitude of her great Continental  
neighbours. Whether or not the Law of  
the Maximum will recommend itself to the  
powers of Europe does not appear to be  
very well known. Everything that has  
been said about it so far appears to be pure  
surmise. But the idea is an attractive one  
and it may be feasible. The burden of war  
establishments is felt to be exceedingly  
heavy by the nations of Europe, and there  
is no doubt that the taxpayers of every one  
of them would rejoice if their Governments  
came to a halt in the matter of war expen-  
diture.

**St. John Telegraph:** Canada is in fact  
now recognized as the greatest of the pos-  
sessions of the British Crown, for, although  
far less populous than India, unlike India,  
it requires no British army to preserve  
order or hold it in allegiance, while as the  
future home of tens of millions of the  
British race, it will have a place in the his-  
tory of the coming centuries, to which no  
oriental dominion of the crown can ever  
aspire. Canada still remains that "true  
north" of which Tennyson sang twenty  
years ago, when he upbraided the *London  
Times* for its contemptible suggestion that  
Canada should loosen the bond and depart  
from the Empire. The same paper which  
made the suggestion now sends a special  
commissioner to report the proceedings of  
the Conference in its behalf, and that com-  
missioner happens to be a son of New  
Brunswick, who, of late years has devoted  
himself to the work of advocating the unity  
of the Empire.

**Farmers' Sun:** In all measures that  
have been discussed before the country,  
such as the payment of salaries to county  
officials and their election by the people,  
the removal of the Lieutenant-Governor's  
perquisites of about \$23,000 a year, and the  
observance of greater economy in the pub-  
lic service, the amendment of the assess-  
ment laws, which now favour the professions  
and burden the masses and others, Patron  
representatives will vote solidly in the  
House in the interests of their constituents.  
Many other measures will directly or in-  
directly affect the people in the rural sec-  
tions to a greater or lesser degree, and on  
all such questions it will be the duty of  
Patron members to act unitedly as far as  
possible after having discussed the question  
in their own caucus. Where divisions  
occur, as they may occur, on any new ques-  
tion, they will not be occasioned by party  
considerations, but because our representa-  
tives aim to be men of ideas who support  
measures, and not men of parties. When  
Patrons divide it will not be as partisans.  
This is the true Patron policy, and it is one  
that commends itself to thoughtful and in-  
dependent electors everywhere. Partisan  
politicians are too frequently the serfs of  
unprincipled leaders.

The first consideration with a knave is  
how to help himself; and the second, how  
to do it with an appearance of helping you.  
Dionysius, the tyrant, stripped the statue  
of Jupiter Olympus of a robe of massy gold,  
and substituted a cloak of wool, saying,  
"Gold is too cold in winter, and too heavy  
in summer; it behooves us to take care of  
Jupiter."—*Colton*.