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TEMPERATURE

as observed by Hearn & Harrison, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

May 13th, 1883.			Corresponding week, 1882.		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon. 47°	35°	41°	Mon. 38°	16°	27°
Tues. 52°	35°	43°	Tues. 42°	24°	33°
Wed. 60°	45°	52°	Wed. 40°	23°	31°
Thur. 45°	40°	42°	Thur. 46°	29°	37°
Fri. 55°	40°	47°	Fri. 47°	33°	40°
Sat. 50°	42°	46°	Sat. 34°	28°	31°
Sun. 65°	42°	53°	Sun. 22°	5°	13°

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, May 19, 1883.

A DEFENCE OF AFFIRMATION.

In his great speech on the important question of Affirmation, Mr. Gladstone went about as far as he could go, without falling into direct contradiction with the whole rule of his life. He lays down as a principle that, on every religious and political ground, the wisest course is to make no distinction between man and man of the score of religious difference from one end of the land to the other. This is very well as a premise, but one must be careful how he makes his deductions. Atheism is no form of religion and must be regarded as the negative of every form of worship. Fortunately, as Mr. Gladstone well remarks, that is an opinion rarely to be met with, and indeed, metaphysically it cannot exist. What we have rather to deal with is that large class which admits the abstract idea of Deity, as beyond all reasonable doubt, but as strongly deny that there can be no practical personal between the Creator and the creature. With his old classic habit, Mr. Gladstone quoted the grand lines embodying this doctrine.—

Omnis enim per se Divom natura necesse est
Immortali avo summa cum pace fruatur,
Sejuncta a nostris rebus, semotaque longe.
Nam privata dolore omni, privata periculis,
Ipsa suis pollens opibus, nihil indiga nostri,
Nec bene promeritis capitur, nec tangitur ira.

The veteran Premier held that opposition to his bill did not touch upon this prevailing form of mischief. It essayed to raise a jest of theism, but this had not been sufficiently defined and circumscribed. And hence his contention that the oath should be replaced by simple Affirmation, which involves no such test. Mr. Gladstone, warming up with his subject, goes further and declares that it is bad and demoralizing to force the oath upon men who cannot take it with a cordial acceptance.

Mr. Gladstone has no fear for theism in the House of Commons or elsewhere. Without attempting to understand the relations between man and the Deity, he says justly that we may leave the matter in the hands of our Maker and assure ourselves that a firm and courageous application of every principle of justice is the best way for the preservation and maintenance of religion. He concludes by expressing his conviction that grave mischief has been done in many minds—educated as well as uneducated—by the resistance offered to the admission of Mr. Bradlaugh, which a portion of the people believe to be unjust. When they see the profession and interests of religion ostensibly associated with

what they are deeply convinced is injustice, they are led into questions about religion itself, a result which is always to be avoided.

Notwithstanding these truisms, we had expected that Mr. Gladstone, who has ever been an adept in theology, would lay down the dividing principle between the oath and affirmation, in syllogistic form, and then explain it with logical sequence. While what he says is unquestionably true, he does not go down to the root of the controversy, and this is no doubt the reason that his great discussion produced so little effect. Notwithstanding all the efforts of the Government whips, he was badly defeated on the bill, and public opinion, outside of Parliament, seems to approve the action of the House.

THE WEEK.

ONE more advance. A project is on foot to establish the first Canadian Worsted factory in this city. After the first Print factory at Magog, this intelligence is encouraging.

THE French Republic is disposed to be rather aggressive in the affairs of Tonquin and Madagascar. A little military and naval excitement might quiet brewing trouble at home.

HON. MR. PORE has made another step in the cause of immigration. He undertakes to circulate in Europe pamphlets descriptive of British Columbia, and offers a bonus for each settler in the Province.

A VENERABLE representative ecclesiastic has withdrawn from the active discharge of the ministry, in the person of Rev. Dr. Cook, for 47 years pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Quebec. A long career and well filled.

NEW YORK STATE has moved at last in the wake of Ontario. The Governor has signed the bill for the preservation of the scenery at Niagara Falls, and the laying out of a State Park. This is Lord Dufferin's excellent idea being carried out.

THE investigation into the Quebec Parliamentary fire still continues. Dilatory, as usual. Why not push this important matter through, and apply the remedy as soon as possible? The Ancient Capital has no idea how much she loses in the eyes of the world, by these disastrous and inexplicable conflagrations.

As we predicted would be the case when she was here a few weeks ago, Mrs. Langtry has lost her fictitious hold on public favour. She no longer "draws" in the United States, our neighbors having discovered at length that her talents are not first rate, and her beauty not ideal.

A FARMER of St. Barthelemy has sent Mr. Joly a sample of syrup drawn from maples only six years old. If the *Negondo* variety of the maple can yield in so short a time, it would be worth everybody's while to have a little "sugary" on his premises. Let us plant maples on Arbor Day.

THE salary of the Governor of Connecticut has been raised to \$1,000, to take effect upon the accession of the next incumbent. The Nutmeg State is behind the times. In the Province of Quebec, our Governor costs the snug sum of \$10,000, while the expenses of his residence foot up nearly three times that amount.

THE British Government are moving very slowly in the demand of the extradition of Sheridan and Tynan. It would never do to expose themselves to a refusal from the United States Cabinet, and the latter, with the fear of the compact Irish-American vote before their eyes, will not surrender the men if they, by the least possibility, can help it.

THE Gladstone Government is apparently on the downward grade. Two defeats within a

week are some signs of weakness, while it is remarkable that the energetic prosecution of the murder trials at Dublin, and the satisfactory revelation of the whole diabolical plot, do not tend to enhance the prestige of the Government.

It is satisfactory to learn that, in spite of repeated statements to the contrary, the Dominion will make a creditable show at the International Fisheries Exhibition, in London. As a matter of fact, considering our piscatorial wealth, we should allow no country to surpass us in this respect.

THE friends of Mr. Chapleau will regret to learn that his health is not being restored so rapidly as was anticipated. Indeed, he is lying very ill at New York. The Secretary of State has many political adversaries, but few personal enemies, and there is a general feeling of hope that he may yet sufficiently recover to assume his official duties at Ottawa.

THE Province of Ontario has displayed its usual foresight and enterprise in sending a special commissioner to England, with the mission of attracting the emigration of tenant farmers to the Province. It were desirable that Quebec did something like this. As it is, very little is being done toward promoting emigration, and as to M. Fabre, the agent and commissioner at Paris, we have yet to see what he has done to earn his salary.

THE Province of Quebec has received another blow. The business tax imposed by the Government has been declared *ultra vires* by the Court and thus the important sum of \$125,000 drops out of the estimated revenue for the coming fiscal year. The Treasurer will have to be very careful about pressing these cases to appeal. In presence of a judgment which bears the appearance of being irreparable, Mr. Wurtelle should think twice before he saddles the Province with the costs of an almost countless number of appeals.

THE two great parties in the Province of Quebec are impairing their usefulness by bitter divisions. The breach between the leader of the Opposition and the "Old Guard" Liberals is widening instead of narrowing, while there is a Senatorial wing at Ottawa that is striking point blank at the Provincial Government. If these gentlemen were to abandon their personal quarrels, and unite in helping the Province out of her difficulties, they would be acting more like statesmen and patriots.

THE Recorder of Montreal needs looking after. When a young fellow was brought before him on a charge of rowdiness in the gallery of the Academy of Music, he not only released him, but declared that he would have done the same thing under the circumstances. The plea was that the opera played on the occasion was immoral, and had been exchanged for a "pure" one. If his Honor had taken the trouble to inquire he would have found that "Carmen," the superseded opera, is hardly less immoral than "La Perichole" that replaced it. Herein lies a huge joke at the Recorder's expense. Practically M. de Montigny's judgment means that a man can take the law into his own hands.

THE result in the Jacques Cartier election case is a profound disappointment. Mr. Mercier had declared with emphasis to a representative of the *Star* that he would carry the case to the better end, spite of the "scoundrels and fanatics of both parties." Instead of doing so, he withdrew the attack after the first onset. In view of this action, he should not have put the Premier to the annoyance and expense of a contestation, because as we said last week, there is not a seat in the Province, not even Mr. Mercier's, which could not be voided, when tried in the crucible of our very severe election law. Instead of being allowed to attend to the official wants of the Province, M. Mousseau must now devote weeks to the personal requirements of a by-election.

THE BEACONSFIELD MEMORIAL STATUE.

The ceremony of unveiling the National Memorial statue of the late Earl of Beaconsfield, in the garden space north of Westminster Abbey, opposite New Palace Yard and the Houses of Parliament, where the statues of the late Earl of Derby, Sir Robert Peel, Lord Palmerston, and Canning are erected, took place a fortnight ago. It was the anniversary of his death two years since. This statue, which is of colossal size, standing 9 ft. in height, is the work of an Italian sculptor in London, Signor Mario Raggi, whose design, a small clay model, was selected by the committee from those of a number of competitors. It represents Lord Beaconsfield wearing his robes as a peer over a diplomatic uniform, with the Collar of the Garter, and with a dress sword by his side. The likeness is good, being taken from a bust of his Lordship modelled by signor Raggi from the life shortly before the decease of Lord Beaconsfield. The attitude and expression are those of meditation and of preparedness to speak; the head is slightly bent forward, the right hand carries a scroll, and the left, which is elevated to the chest, upholds the robes. The statue faces southwards, in the direction of St. Margaret's Church. It stands on a pedestal of polished Aberdeen red granite. On the south side of the plinth is the word "Beaconsfield," in gold letters. On the north panel of the pedestal, or, in other words, at the rear of the statue, is the inscription, "Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, K. G.; 1804-1881." The figure, which is from the second design ordered by the Committee, was cast last December at Messrs Young and Co.'s Eccleston Art Foundry, Pimlico. Messrs. Macdonald, Field, and Co., of Aberdeen supplied the pedestal, which is 16 ft. 7 in. high, and weighs about 25 tons. The panel on the front will be filled with the late Earl's coat of arms in bronze.

The act of unveiling the statue, at three o'clock in the afternoon, was performed by the leader of the Conservative party in the House of Commons, the Right Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, who was supported by the Marquis of Salisbury, leader of that party in the House of Lords, by Earl Cairns, the Duke of Richmond, the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, Sir Richard Cross, Lord John Manners, and other leading Conservatives, besides noblemen and gentlemen of both parties, amongst them such eminent Liberals as Sir William Harcourt, Lord Roseberry, and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, members of the present Administration. Some ladies were present on this occasion. Lord Arthur Russell, M. P., vice-chairman of the executive committee for the Beaconsfield Memorial, opened the proceedings, and invited Sir Stafford Northcote to unveil the statue. Sir Stafford then took hold of a cord attached to the crimson cloth with which the statue was covered, and before he pulled this cord, delivered an appropriate speech. A vote of thanks to Sir Stafford Northcote was moved by Lord Salisbury. Lord John Manners seconded the vote of thanks.

Most of the ladies and gentlemen present wore primroses, or carried them in their hands; this flower, as a known favorite of Lord Beaconsfield's, having been adopted for a memorial token of regard. Primroses were freely sold at a penny the bunch all over London that day, and were very abundant in the streets at Westminster. Placed against the pedestal of the statue, as shown in one of our sketches of the ceremony, was a massive wreath of primroses, on which the words "Peace with Honor" were wrought with violets. This wreath, encircling a device of roses, shamrock and thistle, had been there placed, in behalf of the Hon. E. L. Bellios, of Hong-Kong, by Mrs. Willis, the lady who performed the ceremony of casting the statue on Dec. 23.

THE STORY OF THE THREE APPLES.

One of the Turgeneff's latest tales has a shrewd touch of humor. He recounts how Giarfar, the renowned Vizier of Haroun Al-Raschid, while yet young and undistinguished, rescued a mysterious old man from assassins and afterward visited the old man at his request. The old man took Giarfar by the hand and led him into a garden inclosed by high walls, in the midst of which grew a strange tree, in semblance like a cypress, only its leaves were of an azure hue. Upon this tree hung three apples; one of loush shape, and white as milk; the second round and red; the third little, shriveled and yellow. "Youth," said the old man, "pluck and eat one of these apples. If thou eatest the white, thou wilt be the wisest of men; if the red, thou wilt be the richest; if the yellow, thou wilt be singularly acceptable to all old women. But make speed; the charm loses its virtue within an hour." Giarfar ruminated with much perplexity. "If I know everything," thought he, "I shall know more than is good for me; if I become too rich other men will envy me. I will eat the yellow apple." And he did so. The old man laughed with his toothless mouth, and exclaimed: "Good youth! in sooth thou hast chosen the better part. What need hast thou of the white apple? thou art already wiser than Solomon. Nor needest thou the red apple, either; thou wilt be rich enough without it, and none will envy thee." "Venerable sage," responded Giarfar, "deign to dictate to me the dwelling of the august mother of the Commander of the Faithful." The old man bowed to the ground and showed the way. And Giarfar is the greatest subject in Bagdad.