

## The Echo

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MONTREAL, November 29, 1890.

THE ECHO is mailed to subscribers at a distance every Friday evening, and delivered in the city early on Saturday. Parties not receiving their paper regularly should communicate with the office.

### NOTES OF THE WEEK.

In the Scottish Geographical Magazine for November there appears a summary of a paper read before the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club some months ago by Dr. G. Dawson, which gives a very good idea of the enormous extent of this Dominion of ours. According to Dr. Dawson, the unexplored and unoccupied regions of Canada present an aggregate area of nearly 1,000,000 square miles. A good many of the districts included lie, however, to the north of the limit of profitable agriculture, which Dr. Dawson defines as the isothermal line 60 degrees Fahrenheit in the month of July. The following are the tracts which await the explorer: The country between Alaska, the Porcupine river, and the Arctic Ocean, 9,500 square miles; between the Lewis and Yukon rivers and Alaska, 32,000 square miles; between the above rivers, the Stricken, and the coast ranges, 27,000 square miles; the territory between the Pelly and Mackenzie rivers, 100,000 square miles; between the Great Bear Lake and the Arctic Ocean, 50,000 square miles; between the Great Bear and Great Slave Lakes and the Mackenzie river, 35,000 square miles; a tract of 81,000 square miles, bounded by the rivers Stickeen and Liard on the north and the Skena and Peace on the south; 75,000 square miles between the Peace, Athabasca and Loon rivers; 85,000 square miles to the south of Athabasca Lake; an area of 7,500 square miles between Bathurst Inlet and the Coppermine river; a territory of 81,000 square miles between Black River and the Arctic Ocean. There is also a vast region, with an area of 178,000 square miles, between the lakes mentioned and the western coast of Hudson Bay; an extent of 100,000 square miles between Hudson Bay and the rivers Severn and Attawapiskat; an area of 15,000 square miles between Lakes Trout and Seul and Albany river; and about 35,000 square miles south and east of James Bay. Finally, almost the whole of the interior of Labrador, estimated at 289,000 square miles, is unexplored country. The bulk of the British people have very little or no idea at all of the vast extent of Canada's cultivatable territory and the excellent summary above alluded to is calculated to open their eyes. The only mistake is that the magazine in question does not reach the body of the people. When will Canadians themselves be proud of their country!

It is believed in well informed circles that the British Government will introduce, during the present session

of Parliament, a measure for the promotion of free education—free at least as far as the lower standards are concerned. The proposed bill will deal with the question on a larger scale and the Government hopes, with the assistance of a large section of the Liberal and ultra-Radical sections of the House, to settle the matter before the close of the session. The question is certain to give rise to a prolonged debate, and all the bitterness of a cursed sectarianism will be called into play. In Great Britain the free education of "Ginx's Baby" is hampered and hindered by squabbles among sectarians and the intolerance of religious (?) enthusiasts, but the Government bill will be so fenced about with little privileges and immunities for church schools that they believe they will carry with them a large proportion of their own supporters, as well as of the divided Opposition, the Radical wing of which is committed to the principle of free education. The Government are naturally anxious to pass a measure popular with the masses pending a not far away dissolution, and a liberal system of free education would tend to restore in some degree their popularity, which at present does not rank very high. Prominent Conservatives, however, say the Cabinet have come to a fixed resolution not to dissolve Parliament for two years, and have all their plans laid accordingly, but of course the turn of events may prove irresistible against this determination. Present indications are that the party would be swept away in the event of a general election, were such to take place in the near future, and knowing this, the Ministers will hold on to office just as long as the law will permit, in the hope that a change will take place in public opinion; not an unlikely thing to happen, the British electorate being of an exceedingly fickle disposition.

From late Scotch papers received it would appear that the outlook for the iron trade is anything but hopeful. The process of repairing the blast furnaces in the Coatbridge district is still being carried on, but even though the repairs were completed it is stated, by those who ought to know, that it by no means follows that work will be resumed, even on the old conditions. It is regarded as a certainty that the furnaces will not, on any account, be put in blast again till after the New Year. The men on strike, on the other hand, are evidently not dismayed at this gloomy prospect, having, to all appearance, fully made up their minds to eke a bare subsistence on the strike allowance, which they have every assurance of being continued as long as necessary. The men, as a rule, are following their leapers' advice, keeping sober and using the strike money only in meeting their actual necessities. The merchants of the Cleveland district are contributing a levy of half a crown a week to the strike fund, and the miners of Lancashire are subscribing in the same way to the support of their fellow-workmen. The strike is exceedingly popular, and there is little likelihood of the men's allowance falling short, as anonymous donors continue to send in, and to guarantee as long as the strike lasts, sum ranging from 10s to £10.

The Unionists of Australia have shown their power in an unmistakable manner by the defeat of the government of the Province of Victoria. Although defeated in the industrial field they have scored a decided success in the arena of politics. During the continuance of the recent strikes the government showed itself to be nothing else than the tool of capitalists, helping in every way, the cause of monopoly against right and justice. But, with the assembling of the Legislature, have come their downfall. A considerable number of Government supporters owe their election to the labor vote, and these succeeded in car-

rying a motion of want of confidence. In this case the labor representatives proved faithful to their constituents, and assisted to depose a Government which, ignoring altogether the just claims of labor, allied itself with the moneyed class to defeat the efforts of the workman to secure for himself a recognition of his right to a share of the comforts of life. The Canadian workman should apply this lesson to himself and act accordingly. The surest way for the workman to obtain redress is to work himself, and his work can only be made effective by united action with others. Look not to self alone, but for the good and welfare of the whole. Throw aside petty jealousy, contracted selfish notions, and, above all, indifference, inaction and slavish fear, join the ranks of Unionism, and once united, the day of triumph for the workman is not far distant. Within the last five years the progress made by Unionism has been something extraordinary, and gives encouragement to all true labor reformers. Every great measure of social reform within recent years has been initiated and carried to a successful issue by Unionists, and it remains for our Canadian workmen to say whether they shall act their part like men or prove a drag on the wheels of progress.

From late telegrams it appears that there is a change in the attitude of a considerable portion of the Nationalist members of Parliament towards their leader. This has been caused by the publication of Mr. Gladstone's letter to his followers. Several meetings of the Irish members have taken place, and it is said that at one of these a majority has asked for his resignation. Outside of the Nationalists, it is conceded by the warmest friends of Ireland's cause that it is the duty of Mr. Parnell to retire from the leadership for a time. Even Mr. Labouchere, who has stuck through thick and thin to the Irish leader, has written to him to withdraw, while Mr. Davitt admits that the cause of Ireland is paramount to Parnell, and that the consummation of her hopes and desires will be prolonged should he abide by his present decision to remain at the head of the party. There is not the slightest doubt that Mr. Parnell's retention of the leadership will alienate a majority of the rest of the empire, and to avoid this calamity it is fitting he should remain in the background for a time.

The Knights of Labor, along with other organizations, are having a reaction from the deadly apathy into which they have been lately drifting. The General Board reports that during the past six weeks ending Saturday last 52 new charters to local assemblies have been issued, while 21 have been reorganized and reinstated. This is a hopeful sign and goes to show that the Order, notwithstanding the alleged set back it received from the New York Central, has yet the confidence of a large proportion of intelligent and progressive workmen. At the recent General Assembly of the Knights in Denver, Mr. T. V. Powderly was unanimously re-elected General Master Workman, while Mr. A. W. Wright, of Toronto, a name well-known throughout Canada as a zealous worker in labor's cause, has been elected to the General Executive Board.

"Bismarck, the Brewer," is the latest title of the ex-Chancellor Prince Bismarck has, it is said, arranged with a syndicate of Hamburg financiers for the establishment of a large brewery at Friedrichsruhe. The capital of the concern is to be 600,000 marks, and the above-mentioned syndicate is to have control of the brewery for five years, paying to the Prince or his heirs the sum of 3,000 marks per annum. After the expiration of this term the Bismarcks will have the option of managing the business themselves. In this connection it is annoy-

ing to remember that in a speech delivered about a couple of years back Bismarck, still the foremost man in the " Vaterland," roundly denounced beer drinking as fuddling the heads of his German friends. The whirligig of time does indeed bring round its revenges.

Baron Tauchnitz, the head of the firm of continental booksellers and publishers who issue the well-known edition of British authors under that name, is now seventy-three years of age. His ancestors for three generations back were booksellers and publishers. Next year the firm will celebrate its jubilee of the establishment of the series of works it is so widely known by, the issue commencing in 1841. The Baron is an accomplished English scholar, and is also a man of the strictest honor. It would have been an easy matter for him to pirate the English works he published, but in every case he not only asked permission of the authors, but paid them all the dues and royalties. This commercial integrity has brought his firm a world-wide distinction.

M. Taine, the French critic, who knows perhaps more about England and English literature than any other French writer of the day, deprecates the degradation into which the English language has fallen from the grand tongue which was shown at its best in the writings of Swift. He attributes the first sign of deterioration to the writings of Carlyle, and says the only living writer who uses the language in all its purity is Lord Tennyson.

Subscribers, who have not already done so, will oblige by remitting at their earliest convenience.

RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY,  
No. 7028.  
Rooms Weber Hall, St. James street. Next meeting Sunday, Nov. 30th, at 2.30.  
ED. TABRE, Recording Secretary.

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All kinds of Fur in stock, and made to order at moderate prices.

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KNITTED SHAWLS	50c,	worth	\$1.00
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Wool Clouds	at	25c
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Remember every line of these clouds are cheaper than wholesale firms ask for same goods.

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Our Stock of Furs this season is just immense, nowhere can you get better value, and as we show all the latest novelties, be sure and visit our Fur Department.

Black Fur Muffs,	only	85c
Black Fur Boas,	only	\$1.50

CHILDREN'S WOOL BOAS, in all sizes, at 12c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c and 40c, these are all at wholesale prices.

Fur Capes,	new	shapes	
Fur Collars,	new	shapes	
Fur Collarettes,	new	shapes	
Fur Trimmings,	in	all	widths

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We have an extra large stock of BOYS' CLOTHING and to make quick sales we have marked all lines very cheap. Great value in BOYS' OVERCOATS.

BOYS' OVERCOATS,	In	all	sizes	and	all	qualities,			
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Come to us for Boys' Clothing.

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1781, 1783

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Good Working Pants,	65c.	Worth	\$	
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A fine All-wool Tweed Overcoat,	\$	cheap	at	\$18.

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This is really the best chance for chasers to secure their clothing and furnishings that ever was known in the city of Montreal. Come and examine our goods and before purchasing elsewhere. No trouble to show goods. You may be obliged to wait a while give our clerks a chance to serve you, will pay you for your time.

DO NOT FORGET THE ADDRESS:

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