

The CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is printed and published every Saturday by THE BURLAND LITHOGRAPHIC COMPANY (Limited) at their offices, 5 and 7 Bleury St., Montreal, on the following conditions: \$4.00 per annum in advance, \$4.50 if not paid strictly in advance.

TEMPERATURE. as observed by HARRIS & HARRISON, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

Table with columns for 'February 20th, 1881' and 'Corresponding week, 1880'. Rows include Max., Min., and Mean for each day of the week (Mon-Sun).

CONTENTS. ILLUSTRATIONS.—The Floods in Holland.—The Inundation of Blymen—Cattle Herders in Texas.—The Elbing Canal-Boat Railroad—Indian Boys Snow-balling on Red River—Wreck of the "Northern Light"—Ice-Boating on Toronto Bay—Chateau St. Louis—A Straw Ride—A Scating Party in Friesland—A Public Wash in Dulogao. THE WEEK.—Madame Prume—The Budget—The Elbing Canal-Boat Railway—Flogging for Wife Beaters—The Doseh. MISCELLANEOUS.—Novel Reading in the Family—The Seat of Government—Our Illustrations—News of the Week—Asleep—The Soer—Echoes from London—Literary and Artistic—Musical and Dramatic—The Student's Wife—Miriam—Echoes from Paris—Miscellaneous—In Equilibrium—Miscellaneous—Humorous—In the Sierra—Simplicity in Dress—Realism on the Stage—Amusements—Varieties—Our Chess Column.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

Mr. J. H. Gould is at present on a tour through Ontario in the interests of the NEWS, and is now in Toronto, where we trust that he will meet with a good reception from our friends that are and those that are to be.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, February 26, 1881

THE WEEK.

WE had hoped to be able with this number to present to our readers a portrait of Madame JEHN-PRUME, whose recent death has deprived us of a lady no less esteemed for her social qualities than her excellent talents as a musician. An accident, however, has necessitated our deferring its production until the next issue. For the present, this brief notice must suffice to record the melancholy event and our sympathy with those most affected by it.

SIR LEONARD TILLEY'S Budget speech contained the most satisfactory exhibit of the prosperity of Canada which has been presented to Parliament for many years. He showed that the new tariff was eminently revenue-producing, despite the predictions to the contrary; and that instead of a deficit we shall have a large surplus. He showed also, that manufactures were prosperous, from the fact of the very large increase of raw materials necessary for their use; and further, that exports by the St. Lawrence had enormously increased. All this is gratifying. A summary of the Budget statement will be found in the letter of our Special Correspondent.

It is somewhat curious that Mr. EADS, in his exhaustive article in the North American Review on the subject of the proposed Ship Railway at Tehuantepec, illustrations of which appeared in a recent issue of the NEWS, while referring to the canal boat transport near Washington, has omitted any reference to the Elbing Overland Ship Railway, which we present on another page. As Mr. EADS points out, the Washington road uses tanks of water in which to carry the boats over the line, and this plan has been criticized as undesirable, and involving the carrying of so much extra weight. The Elbing road, as will be seen by the illustrations and description in another column, presents a scheme practically the same, except for comparison of the magnitude of the present undertaking and the greater weights required to be transported over the Panama lines. One point, however, seems to be fairly well established by the success of the Prussian scheme—viz.: the capability of loaded boats to bear the strain of their cargo, unsupported by the water.

Ocean steamers, if thoroughly sea-worthy, are stronger in proportion to their size, and in every way better fitted to bear a proportionate strain than ordinary canal boats, and are, moreover, as a rule, less heavily laden for their tonnage. The motus operandi is most simple, and might serve in many ways as a model for the new railway.

THE New York Legislature are being asked to sanction a bill for the re-establishment of the whipping-post for the benefit of wife-beaters. In spite of Mr. PETER TAYLOR, a similar punishment has had a most remarkable effect in abolishing the terrorism of the garotte in England, and viewed merely as a measure of retribution we should heartily endorse even the most severe measures. But the case of wife-beating stands on a somewhat peculiar footing. Not only has it been a recognized difficulty of law courts in all time to get at the true facts in cases of dispute between those whom the law treats in many things as a single person, but from the circumstances of the case, the subsequent condition of the wife has to be considered in connection with any punishment inflicted on her behalf. There can be little doubt that flogging, especially if administered at all frequently, tends to brutalize an already debased nature, and destroy the sense of shame which has a limited existence in the breast of the meanest and most degraded of our species. And as the punishment does not destroy the marital relations, it is to be feared that the woman it is who will really suffer by anything that tends to degrade him whom she yet must call husband. Moreover, wife-beating is hard of definition, and the exact degree of blame often difficult to apportion as between the parties. Unhappily though it be to strike a woman under any provocation, there is yet a vast difference between a blow provoked by such tongue-thrusts as only an angry woman knows how to administer, and the brutal kicks of a drunken navy, borne by some innocent and uncomplaining woman. Yet unless we much mistake, the former would be more likely to feel the lash than the latter.

THE Doseh has gone the way of similar institutions, to the satisfaction of all but tourists and sight-seers, and it may be the non-performing amongst the Faithful. It may be well to say, for the information of those who are not skilled in the exercises of Islam, that the Doseh is the name given to the annual ride of the Sheikh of the Savellegh order of Dervishes over the naked bodies of his followers, who in large numbers lie packed together along the roadway. There are other reforms which must follow ere long. Civilization has had enough of dancing Dervishes and howling Refreeyeh with their unpleasant performances with knives and fire. Such institutions are in no ways sanctioned by Mohammed, but rank with the car of Juggernaut in India, which is, in its results, at all events, in distinct contradiction to the spirit of the Buddhist ceremony, of which it is a survival. The Khedive's objection to the Doseh appears to be based upon the occasional injury done those of the bystanders, who, in a moment of enthusiasm, may be tempted to imitate the regular performers. The professional participants in the ceremony rarely get hurt, but it is considered risky for amateurs. The moral of which seems to be that it is not always entirely desirable when at Rome to do as the Romans do.

NOVEL READING IN THE FAMILY.

The excitement produced by the conviction of JESSIE, the boy murderer, has brought up the old charge against sensational novels of the class which are said to have contributed to the production of so finished a specimen of juvenile depravity. From time to time there appear at the bar criminals, generally of comparatively tender years, who attribute their first deviations from the path of virtue to the influence of publications of the blood-

and-thunder school. We question whether the indictment can be fully sustained. The mere reading of tales of robbery and murder, in however attractive dress the heroes may be arranged, can hardly be reckoned as a direct temptation to a boy of otherwise good habits; but granted a proclivity in that direction, and the unhealthy food which such literature will furnish to an already diseased mind, may have much to say to the ultimate catastrophe. There is need of a determined protest on the part of the public, and of the press, as their representatives, against immoral literature of every description, but it is to be feared that such a protest, unsupported by any authoritative interference with their authors and publishers, would, of itself, serve only as an advertisement of the book reviled. The present writer was once thanked by the publishers of a work translated from the French, which he had stigmatized in a review as indecent and filthy in the extreme. They had traced, or believed they had traced, the influence of the review itself in the increased sale of the work in question. One thing can be done, the only thing probably short of prosecution of the author and suppression of the book, and that is the diligent supervision on the part of parents of their children's reading, so far as possible. It is astonishing how culpably careless many are in this respect. It is no uncommon thing to find in the hands of young people in this country literature of the most unhealthy description, even if it stop short of absolute indecency, while their parents, either from ignorance or still more culpable indifference, take no steps to remedy the evil. It is not too much to say that no head of a house should permit a book to come under his roof without his own knowledge. If he be from education or otherwise incapable of giving a just opinion upon the merits of my work submitted to him, all the more is it incumbent upon him to inform himself by means of reviews or otherwise of the opinion of men better qualified to judge, and in this way the press could do much to strengthen the hands of the head of the house. It is a fallacy often insisted on, but as often overthrown, that restraint in this matter conduces to after excess. Unreasonable restraint may, but the father who allows his children license to select their own reading, subject to his approval, will only acquire a stronger title to their respect if he draws the line occasionally, and forbids the perusal of what he considers unfit food for their minds. The question, in another aspect, goes to the root of our domestic system. It is much to be feared that the reverence paid by our fathers to their parents has been ill exchanged for the looser filial obligations of to-day. Young people are growing up amongst us with but little sense of reverence for things human or divine, and it is but natural, perhaps, that for such the fifth Commandment requires translation into the vernacular of to-day. But we believe that in all this individual parents are as much or more to blame than the spirit of the age. The laissez aller principle is ill applied to the education of the young. Some older mind, be assured, will guide the future or shape the moral character of your child. It is you, the father or mother, who are placed in the best position at starting to obtain that influence which assuredly must be exercised over the young mind. Woe to you if you let another take your place. To whom should your children go for advice but to you, the fountain of their existence. Woe to you again, if by your indifference and carelessness you drive them to seek from doubtful companions and questionable books the interest and information you might have provided. It is an evil day for a nation when the child has no honour for the father; but the time has come when we should use all our influence to resist the tide of so-called "independence," which threatens to sweep from their moorings vessels which are yet unfitted for battle with the great sea of life.

THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, February 19th, 1881.

The Pacific Railway Bill was read the third time in the Senate and passed on Monday. All the stages were very rapidly proceeded with after the measure had been substantially carried by the very large majority on the second reading given in my last letter. The conscript fathers as I have already informed you, debated the question very thoroughly and ably. But when it was found that the sense of the House was decidedly, in fact, two to one in its favour, no obstruction was offered, and all the stages were pushed rapidly forward.

No time was lost either between the passage of the Bill by the Senate and the final assent of His Excellency the Marquis having proceeded the very next day to the Senate chamber, to the Bar of which the members of the House of Commons were summoned, and in less than ten minutes after his arrival, the Pacific Syndicate Bill became a part of the law of Canada. It was well no further time should be lost. The Syndicate have already scant time to prepare for the operations of the coming open season, and they are already too late to make any effective immigration arrangement for the coming spring. Thus a precious year is lost.

Nothing of importance took place in the House on Monday, and there was no evening session. The time was principally occupied with motions for returns. The Budget speech was promised for Saturday.

On Tuesday the estimates were laid on the table. The supplementary ones for the present fiscal year amounting in all to \$855,286 of which \$100,000 is for land surveys in the north west, and \$212,381 for the North-west Indians and those for 1881-82. These show an increase of nearly five million dollars over the estimates of the current, of which four millions are chargeable to capital account, and the remaining one million to the ordinary expenditure. The increases in expenditure are as to the larger items:

Table listing public debt and various government services with amounts: Public debt (including sinking fund) \$319,600; Civil Government 39,166; Military 61,165; Railways and Canals 22,000; Public Works and Buildings 127,772; Subsidies 33,219; Miscellaneous 49,750; Excise 32,166; Railways and Canals 76,238; Post Office 91,500.

The municipal decreases are \$60,152 for light-house and Coast service, \$26,572 for Indians, \$20,725 for Penitentiaries, \$9,650 for Immigration, and \$8,376 for Administration of Justice.

Mr. Pope moved the second reading of the Patent Amendment Bill from the Senate concerning which I have before written you. In answer to Mr. Blake, he read the names of the persons who had applied for patents too late. Mr. White, of Cardwell, opposed the bill, as opening the door to some abuses, and it seemed to him, Parliament should not be called upon to remedy the consequences of the patentee's own neglect. After further discussion, the bill was read a second time.

Mr. Boulton moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Canada Temperance Act of 1878. Its object was to make it necessary that before the Scott Act could go into effect, it must receive the support of an absolute majority of the electors of the district. Mr. O'Brien moved in amendment the six months hoist, saying he was proud to say he represented a country where not one drop of liquor could be sold without a violation of the law. Mr. Ross supported the amendment, Mr. Plumb and Mr. Bannerman the bill. Mr. Songley said the real question was whether the Scott Act should be repealed. Very few members of the House had been elected by an absolute majority of the electors and if this could not be obtained under the excitement of a general election, was it likely it could be on the submission of the Scott Act to a municipality? Mr. White, of Cardwell, supported the bill as he thought the principle contained in it ran through all our legislation. Several other members joined in the debate. Hon. Mr. Blake and Sir Leonard Tilley both taking the ground that the bill would render the Scott Act nugatory. The amendment was carried by a vote of 22 to 54.

A bill to incorporate the Peace River R. R. Co. was introduced by Hon. W. McDougall and the House adjourned at a little past midnight.

On Wednesday, in reply to Mr. Blake, Sir Leonard Tilley stated there had been no despatch from the Imperial Government in relation to such immigration. Mr. Cartwright called the attention of the House to the ventilation of the Commons building. In the whole course of 13 years experience, he had never known so many members ill, and thought the real mischief was caused by the impurity of the atmosphere they breathed. Mr. Plumb said the first principles of ventilation were violated in the methods taken to ventilate the House and advised knocking out the windows. Mr. Currier said Ottawa was one of the best drained cities in the Dominion, and he thought the atmosphere of the House was as pure as that of any room occupied by so large a number of people. Mr. Charlton thought other causes besides the bad ventilation might have something to do with the prevailing sickness, and there could be better ventilation