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TEMPERATURE

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

THE WEEK ENDING				Corresponding week, 1882.			
	Max.	Min.	Mean.		Max.	Min.	Mean.
Sept. 23rd, 1883.	81	59	70	Mon..	71	50	60
	82	60	71	Tues.	72	51	61
	83	61	72	Wed.	73	52	62
	84	62	73	Thur.	74	53	63
	85	63	74	Fri.	75	54	64
	86	64	75	Sat..	76	55	65
	87	65	76	Sun..	77	56	66

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Sept. 29, 1883.

SIR RODERICK W. CAMERON.

A correspondent sends to us the following further particulars respecting the family of Sir Roderick W. Cameron, which we have much pleasure in inserting as supplementary to the sketch we have already published of the reasons which led to the conferring of the dignity of Knighthood on him:

"I notice in your issue of the 15th a brief sketch of Sir R. W. Cameron accompanying the portrait of this new made Knight (now travelling in Europe), of whom Canadians may feel justly proud. But you say nothing of Sir Roderick's ancestry, and as I happen to be well-informed on the subject, it may not be uninteresting to the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS to know from what source Sir Roderick derived the energy and ability, as well as patriotism, which have won him his well-deserved honors.

"Sir Roderick's grandfather was a cadet of the family of Lochiel, and was out with his chief in the rising of 1745, and had to leave Scotland in consequence. He resided some years in France and emigrated to America in 1760, settling near Sackett's Harbor, New York. At the breaking out of the American Revolution, he, accompanied by his son, then a young man, followed the example of so many other of our best Canadians and crossed the St. Lawrence, finally settling in Glengarry, and dying at the ripe age of 96.

"His son (Sir Roderick's father) was one of the founders of the North-West Company, which had its headquarters at Montreal, and there established the first social club in America, the 'Beaver Club.' Mr. Cameron, speaking Gaelic and also several Indian dialects, was sent to the Red River during the troubles between Lord Selkirk's Colony and the North-West Company. An attempt was made on his return to incriminate him for some of the unfortunate occurrences of that time, but the Grand Jury at York, now Toronto, refused to bring in a bill against him.

"Shortly after, Mr. Cameron retired from the active service of the Company, and visited Europe. He was elected a member of the Highland Society of London in 1818. He married shortly after Miss McLeod, granddaughter of McLeod of Gesto in Skye. In 1820 he was chosen member of Parliament for Glengarry, and served one Parliament, but declined re-nomination. He was a remarkably handsome man, very popular, of a most genial disposition and great force of character, all of which qualities seem to have descended to his son.

"Sir Roderick's family consists of two sons, the eldest at Harrow, and four daughters. May his sons inherit the loyalty, energy and ability of their forefathers."

AN AMUSING REPRISAL.

The Premier of British Columbia has completely turned the tables upon our American friends by amusingly predicting the disruption of the Union and the annexation of California and the Pacific States to British Columbia. In replying to the toast of "the Queen," at a banquet given at Victoria to American tourists, Premier Smith made a remarkable speech. The annexation of British Columbia, or any part of it, to the United States, he declared impossible, but the future would certainly bring to pass the annexation of a part of the Pacific coast section of the United States to British Columbia. It was in that Province, with its vast deposits of coal, with exhaustless timber, with its unparalleled harbors, with its illimitable wheat fields behind him, and with the new type it was breeding of men and women of unapproachable physique, that the star of empire was to reach its final zenith. Through British Columbia the pathway of Asiatic trade was 1,000 miles shorter than by San Francisco. That fact and the absence of coal in California, and the speedy absorption of all the arable land tributary to it showed that San Francisco had reached its highest development. Portland could not carry across the bars of the Columbia the magnificent commerce that Asia is offering us. It was in British Columbia that the northwesterly march of civilization was to reach its culmination.

Passing beyond the destination of the future glories of this Province, the Premier proceeded to prophesy the certain dissolution of the American Union. "It is," he said, "a matter of deep conviction with me and with many others who have attentively considered the drift of affairs in the United States, that that country cannot continue undivided. Its elements of population are too varied, the interests of its different sections are too diverse. The day will come when it must go to pieces, and when that day comes British Columbia will be glad to take into her arms that fragment of it which is her natural neighbor."

THE WEEK.

THE union of the four Methodist bodies of Canada makes the united church the largest Protestant denomination in Canada.

THE dinner to Lord Carnarvon was a notable success. The speech of the noble Earl breathed the loftiest statesmanship and inculcated the Canadian national sentiment.

NEW YORK SUN: "Canada now adds her Industrial Exhibition to the extraordinary number of such shows that have been held or are still in progress, both in America and Europe. It is asserted that the present display far surpasses any ever attempted in the Dominion."

IN the United Methodist Conference on Saturday a long address to the Bible Christian Church in England was adopted, setting forth the desirability of union, pointing out the necessity of the Canadian Bible Christian Church entering the body to consummate unity, and praying that their consent be no longer withheld.

IT is semi-officially announced that the authorities have demanded Cetewayo's surrender. Cetewayo was badly wounded at Ulundi, early in August. Mr. Osborn, the British resident, subsequently endeavored to meet Cetewayo, who was in a kraal at Inkonkle, but Cetewayo fled when the resident with a small escort came in view. The kraal was armed, and natives appearing on the hill tops, Osborn retired.

THE Winnipeg Times contains a ten column review of the trade of the city last year, each branch of business and industry receiving separate attention. While it is admitted that depression has existed, that money has been tight, the Times takes a by no means discouraging view of the commercial situation. On the contrary, the tone of its review is hopeful. It represents that the state of the city financially has been greatly exaggerated in the East, which has produced an unfavorable, but unwarranted, impression.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by the Irish National League for a series of mass meetings in America, which will be addressed by many prominent nationalists, including John Redmond, who will return from Australia via San Francisco in November. A Dublin despatch says it is rumored that the Irish Government intends to prohibit some of the projected meetings of the Parnellites throughout the country. Many townships in the Counties Clare and Limerick have been officially proclaimed as being in a disturbed state, requiring additional police.

FASHIONABLE ENGLISH.

BY DUDLEY ERRINGTON.

The style oratorical first prominently introduced by Lord Macaulay in his critical essays has been, and is, imitated *ad nauseam* by writers of the present day. It is intended to be forcible, but is only forcibly feeble at the best. When an orator, in the height of his argument or his passion, omits his adjective and stops the flow of his words to supply it, as in the phrase, "It has been said, and excellently well said," he is perfectly justified in strengthening his meaning by an afterthought, even though it lead to a surplussage of words; but when a writer, who can supply the missing epithet in its proper place by a stroke of the pen in the manuscript, writes as if he were making a speech, the mannerism, if too often repeated, becomes painful to the reader. Thus, when the *Standard*, May 10, 1882, writes, "Though direct proof may as yet be wanting, the vast majority of the English people will believe, and rightly believe, that the Phoenix Park victims were butchered with American knives, and their murderers paid with American gold," the two *believe*s are neither necessary nor in good taste; and "the English people will rightly believe" would be better than "believe and rightly believe."

The *Freeman's Journal* on the same subject has, "Ireland would welcome with a sense of profound relief the appointment to the chief secretaryship of any English politician except Mr. Forster, because it would be assumed and naturally assumed, that the appointment of Mr. Forster means a return in a more intense form to the policy of coercion." Why the repetition of *assumed* and does the repetition add either to the sense or the elegance of the phrase!

The *Pall Mall Gazette* possesses a writer or writers with whom this mannerism appears to be a favourite. Thus, on November 1, 1882, we find in its columns, "The usual apathetic majority of disappointed citizens have revolted, and successfully revolted." On October 20, 1882, it has, "The constituency will conclude, and properly conclude." On September 20, 1882, the same journal has two examples of this affectation, "Who do not prepare, and carefully prepare," and which are all items, and important items." The *standard* offends in the same manner, "Everything obliges us to assume, and to assume with much confidence; and 'We say it, and say it advisedly.'" So also the *Morning Advertiser* of November 1, 1882, has, "They think and rightly think, the question of procedure one which especially concerns the dignity of the House of commons." The *Daily Telegraph*, November 6, 1882, in expatiating on the beauties and amenities of Hampstead Heath as a recreation ground for London, says that the neighbouring inhabitants "thought, and very properly thought, that cricket ought not to be forbidden."

Exaggeration, or attempted intensification of language, especially in the use of epithets, is one of the colloquial or literary vices of the age, and is by no means peculiar to the newspapers. If a thing is very good, or exceedingly good, it is not sufficient to say so in simple terms. *Very*, is but a weak word in the requirements of modern times, which insist on the stronger epithets of awfully, or dreadfully, to express a becoming sense of the charms either of beauty, health, wealth, or mirth. Awfully handsome, awfully well, awfully rich, or awfully funny, are common colloquialisms. Then "awfully" is varied *ad libitum* by dreadfully, or even by execrably. A very funny farce would be but a poor thing in the parlance of to-day, and must be described as "screamingly funny," if it were expected to be acceptable to the jaded frequenters of any modern theatres. To burst into tears is no longer a permissible phrase in the language of novelists, nothing less than a flood or a deluge of tears will suffice for their exigencies; while to be applauded, signifies nothing unless the recipient of the public favour be applauded "to the skies."

The introduction of new words into the language, or the formation of new words upon the old Greek and Latin basis, is no difficult process. The difficulty lies in procuring their acceptance. It is almost impossible to force them into favour or into general use if prematurely or unnecessarily compounded. In the "New World of Words," 1678, by Edward Phillips, which borrowed its title from a previous work by Florio, "The World of Words," there is inserted by way of appendix a list of two hundred and forty words, which he declared "to be formed of such affected words from the Latin and Greek as are either to be used warily, and upon occasion only, or totally to be rejected as barbarous, or illegally compounded and derived." Of these, prohibited or partially prohibited

words, only eleven have made good their footing in the language during more than two centuries. These eleven, which in our day could not well be dispensed with, and to which it seems strange, that any one could ever have objected, are "autograph, aurist, bibliograph, circumstantiate, evangelize, ferocious, holograph, imical, misanthropist, misogynist, and syllogize." Possibly, during the next two centuries, a few more of the strange words collected by Phillips may force their way into colloquial or literary favour; but there seems to be little chance of the adoption of the greater part of them, such as *fallaciloquent*, speaking deceitfully or fallaciously; *focification*, setting at naught; *homodox*, of the same opinion; *lubidinity*, obscenity; *mauricide*, a mouse-killer; *nugipolyloquous*, speaking much about trifles; *spuricidal*, obscene; *vulpinarity*, fox-like cunning; and *alpicide*, a mole-catcher, and others equally egregious. It is to be remarked that very many of the words which met with his approval, and found a place in his "World of Words," have died out, and are wholly unintelligible to the present generation. Who for instance, could divine that *Perre-urigh* meant adorned with precious stones or pierreries? *pas-sandant*?

Of late years, especially since the abolition of what were called the taxes on knowledge, viz., the excise duty on paper and the newspaper stamp and the consequent establishment of the penny press, many new words have been introduced by the rapid and careless, and also by the semi-educated penmen who cater for the daily and weekly press. A number of old English words—current in the United States—have been reintroduced into England with the gloss of apparent novelty, but also with the unmistakable stamp of vulgarity broadly impressed upon them. And not alone in the press, but in society. Men of education, some of them moving in high or the highest circles, have condescended to repeat in their daily or customary conversation the language of costermongers and of grooms and jockeys, and to use it as if it were good English. The basest slang of the streets is but too frequently heard among educated people, who ought to know better than to use it, and has invaded the forum and the senate—if it have not yet penetrated into the pulpit. "Bloke," "duffer," and "cad" are words familiar to aristocratic lips. "Who is that awfully fine filly?" says Fitz-Noodle to his companion at an evening party; she's dreadfully nicely groomed!" As if the fine girl had just been trotted out of the stable, after a careful curry-combing, or rubbing down. Even ladies—but fortunately not gentlewomen—have caught the contagion of vulgarity from their husbands, lovers, or brothers, and defiled their fair lips with what is called fast language, and with words which, if they only knew their meaning and origin, they might blush to pronounce—if blushing were still in fashion.

Though new words, however unobjectionable in their origin, are slow to find favour, they are destined to live hereafter in the language if they express meanings or shades of meanings better or more tersely than the pre-existing terms or combinations. Of five among such useful neologisms that have all but established themselves—namely *folk-lore*, *outcome*, *funster*, *criticaster*, and *disacquainted*, only the first has as yet been admitted to the honours of the dictionary. *Outcome* is in constant use, so constant that it threatens, though without occasion, to supersede entirely its more ancient synonyms, "result" and "issue." *Criticaster* is a legitimate word as poetaster, and is much needed for the proper designation of the little presumptuous and often ignorant pretenders to literature and art, who sit in judgment upon their betters, and squeak their praise—and more often their dispraise—through the penny trumpets of the time. *Funster*—founded on the same principle as the recognized word punster—is a clear gain to the language, and is much better than "wag," "joker," or "funnyman," with which it is synonymous. To say that we are *disacquainted* with a person, to whom we were formally more or less known, is a better locution than to say that we have "dropped his acquaintance," and will doubtless make good its footing. It is not exactly a new word, but a revival of one that has been obsolete during two or three centuries.

It is doubtful whether the word *endorse*, borrowed from the language of commerce, and originally signifying to write one's name on the back of a bill of exchange, is a gain to the language, in the sense in which in our day it is too commonly employed. *Endorse* that statement, *I endorse* that opinion, are not better than to say, I agree in that opinion, or I confirm that statement, though perhaps more consistent with the train of thought among a "nation of shopkeepers."

The English language still waits for many new words—and will receive them as the time rolls on. Among the most urgent of them is a synonym for "wholesale" in the uncommercial sense. To speak of wholesale objections, wholesale robberies, or wholesale murders, is to employ a word that labours under the double disadvantage of inadequacy and vulgarity. The French phrase *en gros* is something, though not much better. It should be stated, however, that the English language is not alone in the abuse of this commercial word as applied to matters entirely non-commercial, and in no way pertaining to the shop. But doubtless if a word were coined for such an epithet as "wholesale murder," it would not be generally or even partially accepted. Many new words, or words