

## Notes of the Week.

Montreal has done itself honor while honoring the distinguished Commander-in-Chief of the victorious British Army in Egypt by the splendid public meeting of Saturday week, a public meeting called for the purpose of congratulating General Wolseley and the British forces under him on the great victory of Tel-el-Kebir, and which a contemporary says "old citizens say was the most orderly and enthusiastic held in Montreal for fifty years." Hundreds were turned away for want of even standing room. The Mayor presided, and resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were moved and supported by the Rev. Dr. Stevenson, the Hon. L. S. Huntington, Mr. Thos. White, M. P., the Hon. Louis Beaubien, the Hon. Thomas Ryan, Mr. M. H. Gault, M. P., Mr. J. J. Curran, Q. C., M. P., the Hon. D. A. Smith, the Hon. Judge Ramsay, Lieut.-Col. Dyde, Mr. Henry Bulmer and Mr. J. R. Dougall. The speeches were all good but Dr. Stevenson's was particularly eloquent and appropriate. General Wolseley was for a time a citizen of Montreal.

And now once more we learn that the unhappy Czar's coronation must be postponed, this time it is said until next year.

The telegrams announce that the last position in Egypt has been taken, and that the last rebel has surrendered. The war at the close may well be termed, short, sharp, and decisive.

At one of the Jewish synagogues in Manchester on Saturday, Sept. 2nd, the minister in his sermon made special allusion to the illness of the Archbishop of Canterbury, calling upon the congregation to offer earnest prayers for his recovery. He spoke of his Grace as a noble prince of the Church, who like the English prelates in general was distinguished for maintaining true religious liberty.

We regret to learn that the Exhibition building at Sydney, New South Wales, with all its contents, has been destroyed by fire.

Last week's storm and continuous rain have done immense damage to the late Spring crops in Ontario. Thousands of bushels of oats have been rendered worthless. In Quebec and the Lower Provinces much harm has also been done.

There may be and doubtless is good in Trades Unions and kindred societies, but their connection with strikes makes their evils prominent and shows that they can be made most dangerous both to the prosperity of the state as well of individuals. A sad example of this phase of their history is the strike among the workmen of Pennsylvania which extended itself even beyond the limits of one state into others, causing immense loss to the manufacturers as well as much suffering and loss to the men. After having lasted for nearly four months at a loss to the men of between eight millions and ten millions of dollars, the demands which led to the strike have been withdrawn and the men resume work at the old wages which they refused to accept in June last.

A contemporary says the trade of Canada for the last fiscal year will be found to be largely in advance of the year previous. It will closely approach if not reach that of 1873 and 1874. Our exports are ten million dollars more than those of the years mentioned but the imports will not be quite so large. In 1874 our trade amounted to \$217,000,000. Afterwards it fell off until it

reached \$153,000,000. In 1880-1 it had risen again to \$203,600,000. The amount for 1881-2 will be in the vicinity of \$215,000,000. The volume of trade being so largely in our favor makes the announcement especially gratifying.

A despatch from Vienna dated Sept. 22 says the Tyrol floods have almost entirely destroyed the towns of Innechen, Sillein, Toblach and Welsberg. Houses are falling every hour at those places. The Emperor has ordered four detachments of pontoniers and engineers to be sent to the distressed province to repair the damages by the floods. Railways in several parts of the province will not be in running order for a month. The rain fall continues.

The garrison of Halifax it is reported is to be greatly reduced. Gradually the Imperial troops have been withdrawn from Canada, and it will be a fortunate day for the commercial prosperity of the Winter Port of the Dominion when its character is changed from being a great military depot and fortification and it assumes its proper place among the live wideawake business cities of Canada.

The United States Government proposes sending a party of scientific men to Capetown to observe the coming transit of Venus, and Professor Simon Newcomb, of the U. S. Nautical Almanac office, goes in charge of the party. Prof. Newcomb is a Canadian, having been born in Colchester County, Nova Scotia.

Dr Stone Wiggins, who has on several occasions made remarkable predictions regarding atmospheric disturbances, warns us that—"A great storm will strike this planet on the 9th of march next. It will first be felt in the northern Pacific and will cross the meridian of Ottawa at noon (5 o'clock p. m. London time) of Sunday, March 11th, 1883. No vessel smaller than a Cunarder will be able to live in this tempest. India, the south of Europe, England, and especially the North American continent, will be the theatre of its ravages, as well as the lowlands on the Atlantic will be submerged." Canadian weather prophets are becoming quite numerous, and we believe people have had reason to place confidence in their prognostications.

The city of Panama was visited by a terrible earthquake very early on the morning of the 7th instant. It lasted a minute. A terrible alarm pervaded the whole city. There were shrieks and cries as the inhabitants rushed into the streets in their night-clothes. At daylight it was found that a part of the front of the cathedral, the largest and finest building in Panama, situated on the Plaza del Cathedral, had fallen into the square. Many other buildings were destroyed or more or less injured. Several lives were lost. The upheaval is attributed to volcanic action in Central American as Izalco—a volcano of Salvador—has been active again. The damage done to property will probably amount to at least one million dollars. Walls all over the city must be taken down and rebuilt.

The largest individual sheep-owner in Texas is a woman, known all over the States as the "Widow Callahan." Her sheep, more than 50,000 in number, wander over the ranges of Uvalde and Bandera counties, in the south-western part of the State. Their grade is a cross between the hardy Mexican sheep and the Vermont merino. They are divided into flocks of 2,000 head each, with a "bossore" and two "pastoras" in charge of each

flock. At the spring and fall shearings, long trains of waggons transport the "widow's" wool to the market of San Antonio. Fifty thousand sheep is a large number but we believe large as it sinks into insignificance in comparison with the enormous flocks of Australia and New Zealand.

A prospectus has just been issued of "The Postal Telegraph Company," with a capital of \$21,000,000 in shares of \$100 each. The directors are leading men of New York and Boston. The objects of the company are to provide absolute certainty and quickness of transmission at cheap and uniform rates, doing any quantity of business without delay, including press news (at cheaper rates), at any time of day, without interfering with commercial business, to provide a method by which any two parties at distant points can communicate without the knowledge or intervention of any officer of the Company. The Company will issue stamps, like postage stamps, by which telegrams will be received through the post-offices, sent over the wires, and then delivered by mail at the other end. Trunk lines will be constructed from New York to San Francisco, and all other large American, Canadian and Mexican cities, connecting also with the cables. Cities and towns will be served by loop lines to avoid delay to through messages. The most interesting points in this prospectus are those which announce that the Company possesses and will work the patents of Leggo's automatic system and Gray's harmonic system. By the former, the exact handwriting of a message written at one end appears at the other. This dispenses, it is stated, with the services of operators, the transmitting being mechanical and automatic, and without error, and preventing fraud by forgery. By the harmonic system, a single wire can be used for eight separate messages at the same time, going in the same or opposite directions. The *Montreal Witness*, from which we take the above, says agents of the Company have been purchasing immense quantities of telegraph poles in Canada.

We are sorry to find that Dr. Norman Kerr in his crusade against alcohol has allowed himself to make use of language which will do much, we fear, to keep many aloof from the Temperance movement. No doubt he is a high authority and is very much in earnest, but as is the case with many who after many years of perhaps antagonism come to see a great evil, the judgment is apt to be warped and blinded by a too sudden awakening, so we think he has gone a step too far. However, while the evil of drunkenness exists with all its attendant curses and horrors it is difficult to keep back the use of strong language, and the Christian world has been all too slow in recognizing and dealing with the evil.

The remains of the late Rev. Dr. Pusey were buried in the cathedral at Oxford on Thursday. The funeral procession numbered 452. Rt. Hon. William E. Gladstone was one of the pall-bearers. Cardinal Newman walked beside the coffin. Very Rev. Henry G. Liddel dean of Christ Church, assisted by Canon Liddon, read the service, and Dr. F. F. Mackarness, Bishop of Oxford, pronounced the benediction. The flags of the city were at half mast. All the principal dignitaries of the university were present.

We have heard so very little about the movements of Stanley, the discoverer of Dr Livingstone, that he has been almost forgotten. Now, however, we learn that he is on his way to England, after