

# THE WEEK.

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## Current Topics.

After Twelve Years.

With this number THE WEEK enters upon its thirteenth year of publication. We consider that THE WEEK is justified in believing that it never stood so high in the opinion of Canadians as it does to-day, whilst abroad it is now generally recognized as a national journal expressing the educated and independent thought of the Dominion. The ideal which originally inspired the enterprise has been kept steadily in view, and though THE WEEK has had its ups and downs, its difficulties and its disappointments, it has yet won for itself a high and firm place in public estimation, and has attained withal a very respectable age. We have been told frequently of late by our leading newspapers that THE WEEK ranks easily with the best London and New York weeklies, that it is a credit to the country, and a large factor in promoting the political and literary development of the Dominion. It is often remarked, too, that the foremost of our writers and thinkers choose THE WEEK for their medium when they wish to address the country at large. More manuscripts are offered to the journal than could possibly be used were it three times its present size. That these manuscripts come as frequently from Nova Scotia and British Columbia as they do from the central Provinces is a tribute to THE WEEK's wide circulation and to its national character. Nor is its influence and repute confined to the Dominion; from prominent men in distant parts of the Empire and in the United States, we receive with literary contributions letters of congratulation and approbation. In this connection it is interesting to note that several of our fellow-journalists in this Canada of ours have, within the last few months, frequently contributed to the columns of THE WEEK themselves. Many of them—Conservatives and Liberals—have written notes of warm approval and encouragement. Their words of kindly cheer are highly prized. They strengthen our belief that THE WEEK has taken root in Canada, and that it has become a recognized institution. It is a matter for sincere thankfulness to us that, with all its defects, THE WEEK has helped many thousands scattered far and wide over this broad land to feel a deeper consciousness of the

brotherhood of the Canadian people, and the great part that is theirs in the British Empire. To strengthen the ties which unite us to our Queen, to promote Canadian unity and loyalty, to quicken our political and literary life, to make more strong and energizing the fibres of common interests and common sympathies, to unite all who love to work in the service of our country, is the task that is given this journal to do, and earnestly would we appeal, after these twelve years, for the co-operation and hearty support of all our fellow-countrymen in the achievement of so great a task.

### Political Affairs.

Last week the Montreal Star published a notable leading article on the Manitoba School Question in which the attention of the country was called to the startling fact that there is now every probability that our fiscal policy for five years will be decided, and our national Government chosen, largely with reference to the stand taken by our public men on the question whether less than four thousand children in Manitoba shall be educated in this or that kind of school. The Star made a strong appeal to Mr. Greenway to set Manitoba right before the Privy Council and the public, and save Canada a hurtful and profitless religio-political campaign. If Mr. Greenway "will do his duty and remedy the injustice of his own laws, the rest of us, including the Ottawa Ministry, will turn with readiness to the proper business of politics once more." The Toronto World announced on Wednesday that the Manitoba School Question is to be compromised by the Greenway Government. We trust it is true. Another newspaper article which attracted much attention was The Globe's appreciative comments on the Galt Tariff of 1859. This was a tariff of twenty per cent., and The Globe states that it is regarded by protectionists as "having been largely instrumental in laying the foundations of manufacturing in Upper Canada and therefore as having been the cause of an extraordinary burst of prosperity. No doubt it did boom manufacturing." Some Conservative papers state that the Liberal Party is coming out with a new policy and that this policy will be the Galt Tariff of twenty per cent. In the way of public meetings there has been little of interest. Mr. McGillivray, who was nominated at the Conservative Convention in Cannington last week, as a candidate for the North Ontario election occasioned by the death of Mr. Madill, opened his campaign in Bracebridge on Monday. The struggle in this riding is a three-cornered one, Mr. F. J. Gillespie being the Liberal candidate, and Mr. Brandon the Patron nominee. Mr. Gillespie began his crusade by a public meeting at Longford Mills on Tuesday. He is a Roman Catholic, but has announced himself an opponent of any interference with Manitoba in the Separate School muddle.

### The Canadian Link.

The Times has published an article on the Pacific cable and the proposed fast steamship service to Canada direct. It says the success of the movement is largely due to Canada. The Government does not intend to subsidize the Australian Pacific service from Australia to Vancouver. It is also understood that the Government will only subsidize the Atlantic section of the service on condition that better time can be made over the