

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1872.

SUNDAY,	April 7.— <i>Low Sunday.</i> Raffaele died, 1570. Chantry born, 1782. Establishment of the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom, 1815. Toronto Cathedral burnt, 1847. Admiral Tegethoff died, 1871.
MONDAY,	" 8.—Lorenzo de Medici died, 1492. Hudson's Bay Co. established, 1692.
TUESDAY,	" 9.—Lord Bacon died, 1626. Necker died, 1804. Col. Joseph Bouchette died, 1841. Gen. Lee surrendered, 1865.
WEDNESDAY,	" 10.—Prince Eugène died, 1736. Chartist Demonstration, 1848. U. C. Clergy Reserves Bill passed, 1853.
THURSDAY,	" 11.—Peace of Utrecht, 1713. Great Fire in Montreal, 1788. Canning died, 1770. Napoleon signed his first abdication, 1814. Papal Jubilee at Rome, 1869.
FRIDAY,	" 12.—Bossuet died, 1704. Sir Guy Carleton, Governor, 1788. Bishop Strachan born, 1778.
SATURDAY,	" 13.—Handel died, 1759. Magdala stormed, 1868.

TEMPERATURE in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending Tuesday, 2nd April, 1872, observed by HEARN, HARRISON & Co., 242 Notre Dame Street.

		Max.	Min.	Mean.	8 A.M.	1 P.M.	6 P.M.
W.,	Mar. 27.	39°	30°	34°5	30.20	30.14	30.10
Th.,	" 28.	35°	24°	29°5	30.20	30.20	30.10
Fri.,	" 29.	38°	20°	29°	29.97	30.00	30.05
Sat.,	" 30.	36°	20°	28°	30.15	30.25	30.24
Sun.,	" 31.	27°	22°	24°5	29.95	29.80	29.40
M.,	April 1.	37°	27°	32°	29.40	29.45	29.67
Tu.,	" 2.	37°	29°	32°5	29.97	30.05	30.10

Our readers are reminded that the subscription to the NEWS is \$4.00 per annum, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

All unpaid subscribers will be struck off the list on the 1st July next, and their accounts [at the rate of \$5.00 per annum] placed in our attorneys' hands for collection.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1872.

THE question of popular education is at the present day engaging a large share of public attention in England, Ireland and Scotland. From diversities of creed and other causes for differences of opinion, it seems hardly possible that a satisfactory arrangement can be made, though doubtless the contemplated alterations as well as those that have lately been put in force in England, will do much towards elevating the general intelligence of the people. It came out in the debate on the Scotch education bill in the House of Commons, that one of the large towns in the North of Scotland had some fifty thousand children "utterly destitute educationally," and yet this in a country which can fairly rank with Belgium and Switzerland as having the best educated peasants and artisans of any country in the world. In the large towns throughout Scotland, as in the large towns throughout other parts of the world, it is unfortunately true that many parents fall behind in the race of life and become lost to all the social and political movements going on around them; who merely vegetate on the doles they pick up from the benevolent, or upon the very inferior wages they receive for the usually very inferior work they perform when hunger compels them to go to work at all. From the offspring of such parents are recruited the "gutter children" and "street Arabs" of whom we have heard so much of late. Death or the hand of benevolence occasionally cuts short the erratic career of many of these unfortunates before they rise to manhood; but not a few of them reach to sufficiently mature years to become the pests of society or the inmates of jails, prisons and penitentiaries.

Would it be right that the respectable poor man who maintains himself and his family by his own industry, should be forced to send his child to school, to herd with the "street Arabs" and "gutter children"? Surely not. The mere intellectual training, with a spice of morals for seasoning, proposed to be imparted in the national system now advocated by many parties in Great Britain would but make the vicious still more expert in crime, while the association of children, knowing nothing beyond the quiet influences of home, with those who are already deep in the mysteries of iniquity, would have a tendency to corrupt the former, and destroy in them their sense of moral rectitude to a degree that would neither compensate them nor the State for the increase of intellectual strength and the additions to their knowledge which they might acquire in the school-room. Let us imagine, for instance, the London waifs or "street Arabs," upwards of three hundred thousand in number, skilled as they are in all "the ways that are dark, and the tricks that are vain," distributed in the schools among twice or thrice their number of the children of honest and industrious parents: would not such a "leaven leaven the whole lump?"

The State can only rightfully assume the responsibility

of standing *in loco parentis*, when the parent's or guardian's responsibility lapses, through incapacity or want of will to fulfil the duties of the position. A wide margin may therefore be given to the Government in its endeavour to bring neglected children up into good habits, instead of having, in after life, to punish them for bad ones. If schools for the poor can be made to diminish the cost of the criminal courts and all the institutions requisite for dealing properly with criminals, there would be economy as well as philanthropy in providing such schools, at which all should attend whose circumstances do not permit of their obtaining tuition in another way. But the education of the children of destitute parents ought not to be conducted as part and parcel of a national system. It should be under a separate organization, and with a distinct purpose of reforming as well as educating the unfortunates. It is quite possible, and we think highly probable, that a well organized system of training for the "gutter children" on the part of the Government would well repay the outlay; for all that private benevolence can do, and it is very active in England, is to occasionally abstract a "drop from the bucket;" it cannot even stop, though it may diminish, the augmentation of the inflow. It is the want of distinction between those who maintain themselves and support the State, and those who do not support themselves but are supported by the State, that leads to much of the absurd doctrinism as to the right and the duty of the State to impose this, that, and the other obligation upon individuals. As regards the class first named—those who support themselves and the State also—the duty of the State is simply to protect them in their persons and property, and to labour in their interest for the general progress of the country. With respect to the latter class, a compulsory system may be admitted as necessary whether as regards education, residence, or the mode of receiving relief. Much has been done by the "Ragged School" system and kindred charities to rescue poor children from misery and vice, but their number is nevertheless rapidly on the increase. This state of affairs has already alarmed many benevolent persons and excited their sympathies to a very high degree, frequent instances of which we have seen in the noble efforts of Miss Rye, Miss Macpherson, and those who have generously assisted them. However, all such private movements, though they do a great deal of good, cannot stop the evil; and hence many turn their eyes to a compulsory State system of secular education. We think a more effective remedy, one at least that could not be productive of evil, would be for the State to assume the real duties of the parent towards those who, from whatever cause, are destitute of parental care; to feed, clothe, and educate them, and not permit them to be cast upon the world until they are capable of providing for themselves by their own labour. A sweeping measure of this kind, with a little more "letting alone" to those who do not require the interference of the State, would be well worth trying for a few years if only as an experiment. But this phase of the "education question," which ought to be considered the most important, attracts little attention at present.

CHANGE IN THE GOVERNOR-GENERALSHIP.

It is announced that the Imperial Government has acceded to Lord Lisgar's desire, and given him permission to retire from the Governor-Generalship of Canada in June next. His Lordship doubtless desires to spend the evening of his life in his native country, and all Canadians will sincerely wish that it may be a long and happy one.

It is said that he will be succeeded by Lord Dufferin, who is a man of acknowledged ability and no little experience in public affairs.

HONOUR TO A JOURNALIST.

Mr. Douglas Brymner, for many years connected with the press of Montreal, has just removed to Ottawa, and on Monday last he was presented by a number of his friends with a very flattering address and a purse of five hundred dollars. The subscribers to the testimonial include, besides the names of many of the leading members of the Church of Scotland, the following: His Worship the Mayor, Hon. L. H. Holton, Hon. A. B. Foster, Thos. Workman, M.P., Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, B. Devlin, Esq., Chas. Legge, Esq., John McLennan, Esq., F. B. Matthews, Esq., and many others. Such a tribute of respect has been well earned by Mr. Brymner, who, as a laborious, hard-working journalist, can scarcely be excelled. At a meeting of the Montreal Journalists' Club held on Saturday evening last, the following resolutions were carried by acclamation:—

Moved by Mr. Robertson, of the *Canadian Illustrated News*, seconded by Mr. G. S. Barnum, of the *Gazette*, and unanimously—

Resolved,—That the members of this Club hear with regret of the withdrawal of Mr. D. Brymner, of the *Herald*, from the Press of Montreal, and desire to express their high appreciation of his qualities as a journalist, a gentleman, and as a

companion; and their hope that in his future career he may be as successful and even happier than hitherto.

Resolved, also, that the Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy of foregoing resolution to Mr. Brymner, and to publish it in the city papers.

Mr. Brymner has already many friends at Ottawa, so that he goes not forth to dwell in the land of the stranger. We heartily wish him success in his new sphere.

MONTREAL PROVIDENT FUEL ASSOCIATION.—The experience of this winter ought surely to warn the people of Montreal to make provision in future against a fuel famine. The "Provident" offers its stock-holders and others an excellent means of contributing largely to this end. Its object and intended plan of operation are fully explained in the prospectus, which will be found in another column. The Directors are all business men of high character and standing, so that the public may have the fullest confidence in the management of the Association.

LITERARY NOTICES.

SCRIBNER'S FOR APRIL.—A half-dozen illustrated articles, an unusual number of short stories, several bright essays and sketches, two or three papers of special interest to scholars, and some excellent poems, make the April number of *Scribner's* not only popularly attractive, but really valuable. The leading article, beautifully illustrated, is descriptive of the great United States Navy Yard at Mare Island, California. "Curiosities of Plant Life" is an entertaining paper on Natural History, with a number of striking illustrations. Prof. Schele de Vere writes sketchily, and with the aid of pictures, of the earth's "Hidden Treasures;" and Amos G. Draper, himself an inmate of the institution, describes "The Silent College at Washington." Apropos of Easter, we find a graphic account, by Eugene Schuyler, of the Russian observance of the feast; also a thoughtful and characteristic poem by Mrs. A. D. Whitney. "Awakened Japan" is the title of a brief and timely paper by Noah Brooks, a writer unusually well informed on Japanese matters. The three short stories are especially readable. They are "The Mullenville Mystery," by young Hawthorne; "With the False Prophet: A Mormon Wife's Story," by Mrs. Raffensperger; and "The Haunted Closet," by Mrs. Weiss. There is a suggestive and touching little paper on "The Boy John." Warner's "Back-Log Studies—IV." are juicy and delicious as usual. These papers have attracted wide attention, and constitute one of the most attractive features of the *Monthly*. "Shall we Say 'Is Being Built'?" is a spirited and scholarly essay in the field of grammatical controversy, by Fitzedward Hall, of Oxford University; and in an able and eloquent paper Dr. Taylor Lewis defends the belief in "The One Human Race," in opposition to the theories of a race before Adam. Among the poems Margaret J. Preston's "Hero of the Commune" should not be overlooked.

In the Editorial Departments Dr. Holland expresses some decided opinions on "A Heresy of Art," "Hepworth and Heterodoxy," "The Illinois Temperance Law," and "The General and his Friends." In the "Old Cabinet" there is a talk about "The Smut of 'Real Work,'" "Our Friend's Portfolio," "Playing with the Passions," "Studies," and "The Sculptor and the Statuette." In the departments of "Home and Society," and "Culture and Progress Abroad" and "At Home" are papers on "The Art Museum," musical matters, and new books. The etchings show how Peter Green emulated the Grand Duke's career in the Buffalo Hunt.

THE PITCHER PLANT.—We cordially recommend everybody who, next autumn, shall be regretfully searching amid nature's treasure-house for the wherewithal to cheer and enliven a long city winter, to do as we did last November, and fill a large pot with the common pitcher plant. Who does not know it, standing ankle-deep in cool yellow mosses, and holding up to the sun its *amphora*-shaped leaves of maroon and green, each with its tiny reservoir of pellucid water? Who ever watched it without picturing Scarlet Tanager, or swamp black-bird, with orange-slashed velvet coat, lighting to drink, curving a glossy neck over the edge of the verdurous fountain, and making a picture vivid and fascinating? And the blossom—what is its charm? Is it a leaf in romantic mood seeking to be flower, or a flower of sedate disposition, longing for the prose and repose of leaf-dom? Who knows—but who does not seek to guess? It was with doubts and misgivings that we essayed the experiment of transplanting the free forester. "It can but perish if it go," we said, and we took its life in our hands and turned cityward. But soon we found that it had no idea of dying; in fact, and the testimony of others confirms the observation, it is the most satisfactory of wood-plants to bring to a fire and gas atmosphere. Water it demands and must have; water at the roots, standing water in its saucer, and a spoonful daily renewed in each cup, but, given that, it is content. Nothing can be prettier or more interesting than to watch the unfolding of the new leaves, from the tiny shoot to the slender spikes of bright green, and finally the full pitcher, with its streaks and mottlings of claret red. In some favoured hands it has even been known to blossom! to blossom in early spring, three months before its time! And if that is not doing handsomely and as a vegetable should, we would like to know what is? To live is much. It is a favour which many a pet geranium, a beloved ivy, has refused us, turning its face to the wall and perishing in our very sight. To grow—to actually bring out leaves for us—is more, and earns a gratitude which no watering-pot, or syringing, or smoking with tobacco, or subsoil-ploughing with the blade of a paper-knife can fitly express. But when it comes to blos-