

sulted in the Commercial Treaty between France and England, which is now, after nearly ten years of experience, the subject of much angry discussion on both sides of the channel. He also lent his powerful influence to the cause of University reform, and in every direction glided away from the old Tory moorings to which he had at first clung. He continued a member of this last Palmerston Ministry and sat for Oxford until the general election of July, 1865, when the University, alarmed and disconcerted by his growing radicalism, withdrew its confidence in a most emphatic manner, returning Mr. Gathorne Hardy over Mr. Gladstone by a swinging majority, and sending the latter into the arms of South Lancashire, which had been opened to receive him as early as 1861. His rejection by the University was a sore blow to Mr. Gladstone—to be turned out by his *Alma Mater*, in which he had taken so much pride, and on which he had reflected so much glory, was indeed a sad discouragement, and perhaps it drove him at a single step further on the road to Radicalism than he had advanced within any single decade of his life before. Close upon the heels of his rejection of Oxford, he appealed to the Electors of South Lancashire, and in language of such a character as left no doubt but that he had indeed become a Liberal of the advanced school. The desertion of the University cut him off from the High Church Tory influences, by which the progressive development of his political creed had been hitherto retarded; and he was at once acknowledged on all sides as the legitimate successor of the venerable and lively Palmerston, whose career was fast drawing to a close. In October, 1865, Lord Palmerston died; and Earl Russell became the nominal Premier of the Government with Mr. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer and leader of the House of Commons. This Ministry seemed endowed with all the weaknesses peculiar to "finality" John. Beginning with a majority of seventy or eighty, it seemed to have had a fair career before it; but in the session of 1866, it introduced a milk-and-water Reform bill, radical enough to challenge Conservative Opposition; but too halting to command Radical support. Lord John was considered *effete*, and Mr. Gladstone blundered terribly as a parliamentary leader, so that an adverse vote, on the 18th June, turned them out of office. Lord Derby then came into power for the third time, with Mr. D'Israeli as Chancellor of the Exchequer and leader of the House of Commons. The failing health of the late Earl induced him to transfer the burden of the Premiership to Mr. D'Israeli, who continued, in the face of an adverse majority, to administer with wonderful statesmanship; passed a Reform bill in 1868, and appealed to the country in the fall of that year for its verdict on his herculean and brilliant labours. Meantime, a new evil had grown up, or rather an old sore had been magnified. The "Irish question" was overshadowing all others. Mr. Gladstone proclaimed it the duty of Imperial statesmen to deal with this question in the spirit of justice to Ireland. In the very face of Ministerial opposition he carried through the Commons a declaration in favour of the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church, and this virtually became the question at the polls. The D'Israeli Government was overwhelmingly defeated; and with that high sense of honour which English statesmen know so well how to respect, the Cabinet at once resigned, leaving Mr. Gladstone and his friends the fullest opportunity before the meeting of Parliament to form a Cabinet and prepare their measures for the approaching session. From that time his career has been one of uninterrupted success. Signalling the first session of his premiership by the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church in Ireland, he has devoted the second session to a comprehensive and complete re-adjustment of the relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland. These measures, as well as the Education and other bills in the hands of the Imperial Government, are of an extremely radical character, in so far as they deal with existing systems or heretofore acknowledged rights; but in their ultimate tendency towards the preservation of Society it would be hard to prove that they are not eminently Conservative.

It is a proud position to be Premier of England; the highest political position to which any man can aspire, for with the confidence of the people at his back, he is as much a match for Kings, Emperors, or Presidents as the whole power of the Empire can make him. But it is more than probable that Mr. Gladstone is an exceptional Premier. When he ceases to have great issues at stake, and the enthusiasm of the people to support him, he will cease to be the leader of a party. He has little faculty for political *finesse*; he was earnest in former days as the champion of the Irish Church, just as he was last year in pulling it down; and so it will be to the end—a man of brilliant mind, earnest thought, and strong, but changing conviction, he will lead on in obedience to principles, while his less enthusiastic followers will be tempted sometime to hold back because of their dread of consequences. Mr. Gladstone is not only a great statesman for an extraordinary emergency; he is a brilliant orator and a distinguished scholar. His first literary effort was a work entitled "The Church considered in its relations with the State," published in 1846; and next year he issued another, "Church Principles considered in their Results." These early works, which stamped him as the champion of the High Church party, were dedicated to Oxford University, just as his later political labours have been dedicated to the nation at large. In 1851–52 he created a sensation throughout Europe by the publication of a letter on the Neapolitan State Prisoners, whose cause he warmly espoused. In 1859 he published an elaborate work on Homer, and the fruits of his subsequent studies and researches in classical lore have been embodied in his "*Juventus Mundi*," a work published only about a year ago. His great purpose now is the pacification of Ireland, and to this noble cause he has brought the courage, constancy, and genius which at least deserve success. Brief as his career in the leadership has thus far been, he has already won a place in history among the greatest of the great men who have held the office of Prime Minister of England.

The *Freeman's Journal* understands that Monsieur Etienne Stanislaus O'Dunlevie has arrived in Dublin for the purpose of prosecuting his claims to the possession of the extensive estates of his ancestors. Monsieur O'Dunlevie is described as the lineal descendant of Mac or O'Dunlevie, who went to France in the time of the reign of James II., with the object of superintending the education of his only son, André Maurice O'Dunlevie. He was born in Poland, and is great-grandson of André Maurice O'Dunlevie, who was Lieutenant-Governor of Trèves, and died at Coblenz on the 19th of June, 1751. The estates to which Monsieur O'Dunlevie lays claims are situated in the counties of Down and Antrim.

PRESENTATION PLATE.

In the Press and will shortly be distributed to all paid-up Subscribers for one year to the

"CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS,"

A Leggotyped Copy of Lefevre's Splendid Engraving of CORREGGIO's celebrated Painting (the original of which is now in the Dresden Gallery) entitled,

"THE NATIVITY."

It will be printed on a large sheet of fine plate paper, the exact size of the Engraving being 14 by 19 inches, and care will be taken to make it in every respect as attractive and artistic as the original. All parties subscribing to the *News*, and paying for one year, any time before the first of July next, will be entitled to a copy of this magnificent Plate, the value of which may be inferred from the fact that the Engraving, of which it is a *facsimile*, sells in New York at ten dollars per copy.

Montreal, 26th March, 1870.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 2, 1870.

SUNDAY, March 27.—4th Sunday in Lent. Peace of Amiens, 1802.
MONDAY, " 28.—Raphael born, 1493. Canada ceded to France, 1832. Gen. Abercrombie died, 1801.
TUESDAY, " 29.—Swedenborg died, 1772. Earthquake at Quito, 1859. Keble died, 1865. British North America Union Act received Royal assent, 1867.
WEDNESDAY, " 30.—Sicilian Vespers, 1282. Lord Lovat executed, 1747. Lord Hardinge born, 1785. Lord Metcalfe Governor-General, 1843.
THURSDAY, " 31.—New Moon. Haydn born, 1732. Battle of La Colle Mill, 1814. Beethoven died, 1827. Charlotte Brontë died, 1855. Peace of Paris, 1856.
FRIDAY, April 1.—All Fools' Day. Harvey born, 1578. Canada repaid English Loan (20 years), 1854. Richmond taken, 1865. Paris International Exhibition opened, 1867.
SATURDAY, " 2.—Battle of Copenhagen, 1801. Cobden died, 1865.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1870.

Our readers will observe the announcement above that a premium plate is shortly to be issued to our subscribers. This plate will be worth a whole year's subscription to the paper, and will prove the great capabilities of the leggotyping art in the exact reproduction of even the finest steel engraving.

We may also remark upon the vastly improved appearance of the illustrations of the *News*, since the issue of the earlier numbers. Our difficulties at the beginning were somewhat harder to overcome than we could have wished them, and though they have not yet all disappeared, our progress has been marked and steady, and will still continue until greater excellence is reached.

In a few days an accredited agent from this office will visit the cities and towns of Ontario for the purpose of appointing local agents to canvass for subscribers to the *News*. An enterprise involving so great an outlay can only be sustained by a liberal public patronage, and as that patronage increases every exertion will be made to bring the paper up to the highest standard of excellence. We bespeak from our many friends throughout the country who have already subscribed to the *News* their good offices in securing for it the patronage of their neighbours.

The trade relations of Canada with the United States have of late been the theme of much and very animated debate. In the assemblages of Boards of Trade, in the press, and in Parliament, the discussion has been long and earnest. From the beginning of the year 1865, when it was first generally bruited about that the Reciprocity Treaty was to be abolished by the United States, up to this third month of 1870, when every man of common sense ought to be thoroughly convinced that the United States have no intention of renewing that Treaty, these relations have been a stock article for comment. It was, therefore, with a sense of relief that we noticed the series of resolutions, introduced into Parliament by the member for Sheffield, favouring the establishment of a customs union between the two countries. It is the first occasion on which the proposition of an American *zollverein* was ever fairly brought before Parliament, and there was room for the hope that the good sense of the people's representatives would have so stamped it with condemnation that the proposition would be allowed hereafter a perpetual rest. But amendments, and amendments to

amendments, were moved, so that the original issue was shirked, and the final vote on the last amendment had no relation at all to the questions of trade or tariff, but simply to the personal issue of who should occupy the Treasury benches. The one hundred gentlemen who voted for the amendment proposed by the Premier voted simply that the present Government should retain office, and the fifty-eight gentlemen who voted nay merely put on record their desire to see the Government turned out. That was the full meaning of the division.

Mr. Huntington's resolutions received exceedingly little sympathy. They were so utterly distasteful to the House, that the member for Sherbrooke kindly came to the rescue, proposing to substitute a declaration that the House should respectfully ask of the Imperial Government to be endowed with the treaty-making power with other British possessions, or with foreign States—subject to the approval of Her Majesty. Meaningless as such a proposition is, there is a certain air of plausibility about it. To those who overlook the important fact that treaties are only made between Sovereign States, there is a seeming fairness in the proposition that Canada should make her own commercial treaties with other powers. But when it is remembered as a matter beyond dispute that the Imperial authorities invariably permit Canada to settle all the conditions of any treaty to which the Crown becomes a party on its behalf, it is sheer folly to argue that the interests of Canada are in the slightest degree injured, or her power of making contracts, in any sense that would command Her Majesty's approval, lessened, by the existing arrangement. Hence there can be no possible excuse for going to the Imperial Government with a fresh demand for increased authority in this direction. Who supposes that the Imperial Government would refuse to ratify any treaty of commerce between Canada and the United States, negotiated through the British Minister, which it would recommend the Queen to sanction, if made solely by Canadian agency? Yet such a case must be supposed to exist before this country can have any fair ground for demanding the powers sought for by the amendment proposed by the member for Sherbrooke. Or, the still more absurd supposition must be accepted that foreign States would concede to Canada, negotiating by herself but subject to Imperial approval, what they would refuse to the Imperial Government acting at the instance and on behalf of Canada. Common sense rebels against either proposition; and hence, unless as a part of a scheme to be hereafter further developed, there is no meaning in the issue submitted by the member for Sherbrooke in lieu of the more obnoxious proposition from the representative of Sheffield.

But Parliament was denied the opportunity of directly condemning the proposition by the introduction of a second amendment asking it to affirm something which it might very well refuse to sanction without committing itself to the first amendment. Those who voted against the amendment of the Premier merely declared their unwillingness to affirm an abstraction at the instance of the Government. They did not by any means declare that they desired to endow the Canadian Government with the treaty making power or in any way to interfere with the "ties now happily existing between" Canada and the mother country. Hence the country is just as ignorant now, so far as the information imparted by the parliamentary division list is concerned, as before the debate began, upon the two points of how many favour an American *zollverein*, as proposed by Mr. Huntington, or how many favour the investiture of Canada with the treaty-making power as proposed by Sir A. T. Galt. They only know that after a long debate fifty-eight gentlemen voted against the Government.

While some of our people have been busy talking "retaliation," there have been a few organs of American public opinion airing their sentiments in a different, or perhaps we should say in the same, direction. One tells us that we are about to injure ourselves immensely by confining our coasting trade to our own miserable craft; another that we ought not to suppose that Americans will permit us to quietly enjoy "the finest fisheries in the world," merely because of the interpretation which the words of an old treaty may bear; and a third gleefully points out that we may go ahead with our "retaliatory" measures, and Uncle Sam will reply by abolishing the privilege of transporting goods in bond through the United States to Canada. It is unfortunate on both sides that such feelings should be evoked. Canada has no cause for retaliation, and has no intention to retaliate against the United States. Whatever privileges the citizens of the latter may have enjoyed either in our fisheries or our coasting trade have been, since the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, only concessions from this country which it is equally free in its own interest to make or withhold. On the abolition of the Treaty Canada left the fisheries open,