

THE WEEK.

Fifth Year.
Vol. V., No. 13.

Toronto, Thursday, February 23rd, 1888.

\$3.00 per Annum.
Single Copies, 10 Cents.

The Week,

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY, AND LITERATURE.

TERMS:—One year, \$3.00; eight months, \$2.00; four months, \$1.00. Subscriptions payable in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS, unexceptionable in character and limited in number, will be taken at \$4 per line per annum; \$2.50 per line for six months; \$1.50 per line for three months; 20 cents per line per insertion for a shorter period.

Subscribers in Great Britain and Ireland supplied, postage pre paid, on terms following:—One year, 12s. 6s.; half-year, 6s. 3s. Remittances by P. O. order or draft should be made payable and addressed to the Publisher.

All advertisements will be set up in such style as to insure THE WEEK'S tasteful typographical appearance, and enhance the value of the advertising in its columns. No advertisement charged less than FIVE lines. Address—T. R. CLOUGHIER, Business Manager, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto. C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

TOPIC—	PAGE
Religious Instruction in the Schools.....	195
The Situation in Manitoba.....	195
The Probable Tenor of the New Washington Treaty.....	195
Sir Charles Tupper's Position on the Commission.....	195
A Breeze in the Local Legislature.....	196
Lady Dufferin and the Women of India.....	196
England's Unemployed and the Chelsea Experiment.....	196
Lord Dufferin's Appointment as Ambassador to Italy.....	196
The London Board of Works Commission.....	196
Russia and the Bulgarian Question.....	197
Our Forests and the Forestry Bill in Congress.....	197
Inter-collegiate Athletic Contests.....	197
Mr. Blaine and the Republican Party.....	197
STANDARDS OF CHARACTER.....	D. F. 197
PARIS LETTER.....	Bliss Carman. 198
HUCKSTER KING (POEM).....	B. 199
WASHINGTON LETTER.....	Louis Lloyd. 200
MONTREAL LETTER.....	Charles G. D. Roberts. 200
A NOTE ON RUSSIAN REALISM.....	J. Talbot-Lesperance. 202
PROMINENT CANADIANS.—HON. J. A. CHAPLEAU, M.P.....	202
MR. KINGLAKE'S INVASION OF THE CRIMEA.....	Sarah J. Duncan. 203
MY WASHBURN WOMAN'S STORY (POEM).....	204
READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.....	204
LITERARY GOSSIP.....	204
CHESS.....	205

THE vexed question of religious teaching in the schools is once more under discussion in the Ministerial Association of Toronto. The Province of Ontario long since refused to tolerate so much as the shadow of a State-supported Church, and has since Confederation even withdrawn the small subsidies previously given to denominational colleges. Few can doubt that this absolute separation between State and Church is largely due to the constantly growing harmony and goodwill which happily prevails amongst the religious societies of the Province, and of which the Toronto Ministerial Association is itself a pleasing evidence. It may be asserted with confidence that any proposal to use the funds of the State for the endowment of a religious organization, or for the carrying on of an exclusively religious work of any kind, would be met with the determined opposition of every member of the conference, and of every Protestant denomination in the Province. In view of all this, it is certainly surprising to find so many intelligent and devoted Christian ministers using all their influence to force the Government into undertaking the work of religious instruction through the agency of its licensed officials—the public school teachers. Such a practice would clearly involve, amongst other violations of sound principles, religious as well as political, the taxing of Christians and non-Christians alike for teaching what the latter do not regard as truth; the training of teachers by the State in a system of religion; the application of a religious test as a condition precedent to obtaining a licence; and other intrusions into those realms of opinion and belief which are regarded by the most advanced thinkers of the day, Christian and non-Christian alike, as sacred to the individual conscience. It is to be hoped that the majority of the members of the conference, and of the leaders of Christian thought in the Province, will come to see that no law of the State, no regulation of the Education Department, can enable any teacher to exert a religious influence which is not the legitimate outcome of his personal character; that every truly Christian teacher is sure to wield whatever of such influence belongs to him by virtue of such character; and that any usurpation by the State of those religious functions which belong to the Church will almost inevitably be productive of formalism, hypocrisy, and sectarian discord, rather than of the true fruits of Christian life and character.

SUPERINTENDENT VAN HORNE has pronounced the statements from the Winnipeg Board of Trade and other sources, in reference to the wheat blockade, gross exaggerations. His statements are, however, flatly contra-

dicted by the officers of the board, while the Toronto *Mail* undertakes to show, and with apparent success, from Mr. Van Horne's own figures, that the Canadian Pacific Railway is, and has been for some time past, able to carry only one-fifth of the grain offered. There must, however, be some mistake or misinterpretation on this point. Perhaps it is in taking the number of cars which are reported as the daily shortages for a couple of weeks as if independent of each other, whereas the number for each day may be included in the following day's report. Be that as it may, the general fact of the inability of the road to forward the crop seems too well established to admit of doubt, and it is a fact which will immensely strengthen the demand for the speedy removal of the monopoly. The triumphant return of the members of the new Government—those who were opposed—by majorities which surprised both parties, and the deposition of Mr. Scarth from the presidency of the Winnipeg Conservative Association, are further tokens that the people of the Prairie Province are terribly in earnest. It is scarcely possible that the Dominion Government can fail to recognize the seriousness of the situation, and bring forward some proposition looking to a satisfactory settlement during the approaching session of Parliament.

CONTRARY to general expectation the members of the Fisheries Commission signed an agreement at Washington, before rising. The exact terms of the convention cannot be known until officially communicated through either the Canadian Parliament or the United States Senate. From the general consensus of the reports in the American and Canadian papers, its leading features may probably be inferred with some degree of confidence. There is little doubt that Canada has failed in the main points of her contention. Her strict interpretation of the Treaty of 1818 she has, it is pretty certain, been obliged to abandon, by granting to the American fishermen the "touch and trade" privileges they have been demanding, excepting only the right to purchase bait. If, as generally believed, Canada has been obliged to yield also her views on the headlands question, so far as to concede that the line defining the limits of her exclusive jurisdiction shall follow the contour of the coast in the case of all bays or other indentations more than eight or ten miles wide at the mouth, the surrender would seem to be a most serious one, involving so far as appears, the denial of a territorial right rigidly maintained by the United States herself, in regard to her own coasts. That these important concessions should have been made, as is almost certain, without any return in the shape of free admission in United States ports of Canadian fish, coal, salt, lumber, or other natural products, seems to indicate that the Canadian representation on the Commission was overborne at every important point. Some of the newspaper correspondents convey the idea that the United States have made a substantial concession in acknowledging Canada's exclusive right to the inshore fisheries. Such statements are either ignorantly or wilfully misleading, as the Canadian claim to these has never been seriously disputed. The representatives of the United States fishery interests have of late years, consistently declared their fishermen did not care for the inshore fisheries, but demanded only ordinary commercial privileges; while the view strenuously maintained by the Canadian Government in all its correspondence was, that these inshore fisheries were of special value, and that the denial of the "touch and trade" privileges was indispensable to their adequate protection.

SHOULD the above prove to be a correct forecast of the main features of the new Washington Treaty wonder is naturally excited that a member of the Canadian Government could be induced to put his signature to a document so strikingly inconsistent with the views which that Government have hitherto ably and resolutely maintained. The explanation is no doubt to be found in one or both of two considerations. In the first place it must be borne in mind that Sir Charles Tupper, while a member of the Canadian Administration and selected for that reason, derived all his powers as commissioner directly from the Home Authorities, and was for all the purposes of the Commission, a representative and servant of the British Government. Whether there is any element of truth, or not, in the newspaper report that a direct injunction from London was necessary to compel his assent at the last moment, few will doubt that that assent was given in deference to the British, not the Canadian, view of the case. In the second place, an auxiliary, possibly a controlling motive, may have