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TEMPERATURE

as observed by HARRIS & HARRISON, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

March 5th, 1882.			Corresponding week, 1881		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon... 38°	10°	24°	Mon... 25°	5°	15°
Tues.. 42°	25°	33°	Tues.. 33°	9°	21°
Wed.. 43°	16°	29°	Wed.. 32°	19°	25°
Thur.. 45°	35°	40°	Thur.. 32°	14°	23°
Fri... 45°	36°	40°	Fri... 14°	-10°	2°
Sat.... 45°	30°	37°	Sat.... 11°	-5°	3°
Sun.... 44°	33°	38°	Sun... 20°	0°	10°

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, March 11, 1882.

THE WEEK.

THE alarming news of the attempt upon the Queen's life which reached us on Thursday last, was fortunately accompanied by the assurance that Her Majesty had not only escaped the assassin's aim, but had suffered no serious results from the shock. It has been generally felt that the recent mania for assassination of those in power predicated a state of things which might threaten danger to our beloved sovereign, and unusual precautions for her safety have been taken of late. It was not so much the deliberate attempt of an assassin that was feared, but the influence of the terrible events of the past year upon the unstable mind of some crank. Probably, however, in this case, effect and cause had widely different relations. The examination of MACLEAN seems to have fully satisfied people of the genuine insanity of the unhappy boy, who has thus added one more to the series of providential escapes which Her Majesty has had at the hands of lunatics. Four times in all during her long reign has the Queen's life been attempted, in every case providentially without harm. In every case, too, the would-be assassin has been unmistakably insane. OXFORD, the young carpenter, who in 1840 shot at the royal carriage as it passed down Constitution Hill, was imprisoned for many years in the criminal lunatic asylum at Broadmoor, where the present writer has seen him peaceably employed at his bench. His recovery has been lately pronounced as complete, and since his release he has over and over again expressed his sorrow for the "wicked piece of foolery" which marred his life. The assault which followed was by a hopeless madman of the name of FRANCIS, who attacked Her Majesty in 1842, and struck her a blow in the face, without, however, serious results.

The boy O'CONNOR, who levelled a pistol at the Queen in 1869, but without firing it, was pardoned by Her Majesty's intercession, and sent to Australia. But his case was another of undoubted insanity, and when caught a year after lurking in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, he was identified and conveyed to a lunatic

asylum, after which he was sent to New Zealand.

Previous to the last-mentioned attempt, an Act of Parliament was passed providing the punishment of flogging for attempts or threats against Her Majesty's person. This seems to have had the same effect as a similar provision undoubtedly did in the putting a stop to garotting. This law still exists and may be enforced in MACLEAN's case, should not a more merciful view of his irresponsibility be taken.

One thing is certain, that the present incident will do much to accentuate the necessity already felt of taking some efficient measures to protect society against the insane, or that even more dangerous class, to whom of late the epithet of "cranks" has been applied. What those measures are to be will be one of the great questions of the next few years, side by side with the temperance question, with which it is in many respects closely allied.

AMONGST the telegrams relating to the attempt on Her Majesty comes one which, if true, deserves notice. The Eton boys are said to have made an attempt to "lynch" the unhappy creature who fired the shot. We say, if true, advisedly, for not only is such a suggestion easily made, even without foundation at all, but we can readily imagine that a crowd of school-boys might be eager to lay hands on the criminal, and to hustle him roughly after the manner of boys, without such ulterior views as the reporter assigns them. Eton boys must have been greatly changed in manner and discipline during the last few years, if any deliberate attempt at lynching was even thought of. Still, the very report leads us to notice how, so far from dying out, the American idea of mob law is actually gaining supporters where least we should expect, and that appeal from justice to force, which a few years since we classed as distinctively American, and stigmatized by uncomplimentary epithets, is now spoken of as the not unnatural result of an attempt on the life of the most constitutional of Sovereigns.

THE latest reliable news from Ireland is the most satisfactory that we have had for some time. The Land League are fairly beaten, and the "ladies," whose status must be taken on the authority of Mr. REDMOND, are doing little in their cause. Mr. SEXTON's anticipation that fewer rents will be paid in March than in October last bids fair to be falsified. Law and order, in short, are beginning to recover their lost prestige, and the Government measures are bearing their fruit. Rents, we are told, are being paid as they have not been for the last two years. As the so-called "ladies" hold the purse-strings of all the funds known to be devoted to the "cause," it would be interesting to know what connection there exists between this fact and that elicited by the Mill Street examinations relative to the money and PARNELL medals furnished the maimers of cattle and mutilators of peasants by a central organization in Dublin. If this be proven against the committee in question, it will be a comfort to those who still attach some meaning to the old-fashioned word "lady," to find that with the exception of the Hon. Mrs. DUGMORE, and possibly Miss PARNELL, there is scarcely one to whom the term in its conservative sense could be fitly applied.

PARIS has been celebrated in all times for her causes célèbres, but a queerer lawsuit than usual is in store for the lawyers of the French capital. The great, the divine SARAH, it appears, took it into her head two years or more ago to be photographed reclining at full length in that celebrated coffin, which the world knows is her favored *compagnon de voyage*. MÉLANDRI, the photographer, by her desire, obtained some excellent proofs of the actress, who simulated death with the

greatest success, artistically. The artist was, however, somewhat taken aback by the fair one's demanding of him an undertaking not to sell any of these photographs until after her death. On his pointing out the delay which would in that case possibly supervene, he was assured that the BERNHARDT had made up her mind to die within a year from that time, so that the delay would not be so very great after all, and that, besides, if she failed to complete this part of the agreement, MÉLANDRI should be at liberty to sell the prints so soon as the year had elapsed. The time passed, however, and some time after the expiration of the year SARAH received a letter while she was in New York, pointing out her negligence in remaining still in the world, and suggesting some more satisfactory arrangement. "Patience," telegraphed she to the impatient photographer. "At end of American engagement will fulfil engagement with you." The idea of March, however, came and passed, and, to make a long story short, SARAH is still alive, and the unlucky MÉLANDRI, after several unsuccessful attempts to make her take a proper view of the matter, has referred his case to the *Tribunal de Commerce*.

Two rivals in prophecy will have their catastrophical predictions of the end of the world put to the test during the ensuing quarter of a century. Mr. PROCTOR's erratic comet will, he anticipates, in 1897 make it exceedingly warm for those of us who are alive at that date, but no less a person than NOSTRADAMUS will have to be heard first. Eleven years earlier will take place a remarkable religio-meteorologic conjunction, in which, according to the elder prophet, we are specially interested. The end of the world is foretold by him in the lines:—

Quand Georges Dieu crucifera,
Que Marc le ressuscitera,
Que Saint Jean le portera,
La fin du monde arrivera.

In other words and simple English, when Good Friday falls on St. George's Day, Easter on St. Mark's Day, and the *Corpus Domini* on St. John's Day, the catastrophe foretold is to happen. The Calendar shows that in 1886 this rare and almost unprecedented conjunction will take place, Easter Day falling that year on the 25th April, St. Mark's Day. Curiously enough, when examined by the side of Mr. PROCTOR's scientific prediction, it appears that the dates only differ in 1897 by a single day, Easter falling upon the 24th of April, instead of the 25th—and in the many changes of the calendar since the days of NOSTRADAMUS, a day may easily have been missed one way or the other. On the other hand, comets are slippery customers, and it is just possible that Mr. PROCTOR's comet may have the good taste to see the difficulty of reconciling the rivals without some concessions on its own part, and may put in an appearance eleven years earlier than the astronomer calculates, if only to show its good will towards so devout an astrologer as the worthy NOSTRADAMUS.

DOINGS AT THE CAPITAL.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Ottawa, March 4th, 1882.

Last Saturday, tobogganing and skating party at Government House. The scene was a pretty one and purely Canadian; our "native talent," about which we hear so much, need not go any further for a striking tableau. A background of forestry lit up with Chinese lamps, skaters fitting about like swallows on the lakelet, toboggans rushing by like arrows shot from a Tartar's bow, pretty girls in white, blue and red blanket coats, and a glorious bonfire throwing its ruddy glare on the whole, such are the materials. His Excellency wore an Indian buckskin jacket richly embroidered in silk, and aided by his staff, did as usual his best to make people feel at home and enjoy themselves.

St. Alban's Bazaar is flourishing and is the bazaar of the season. It has been called "Church and State," Lady Macdonald representing the latter.

Commander Cheyne's lecture drew a large assemblage. He is ever interesting, and people here are getting quite enthusiastic about his balloon scheme, so much has he the power of carrying his hearers with him.

Dinners are the order of the day. The Ministers of Public Works and Militia and Defence are giving a series of them. Another ball has been evolved out of the inner consciousness of a local scribe at Madame Caron's, yet none took place.

"The Sorcerer" was fairly rendered, public opinion praising in a special manner Miss Aumont as Lady Sangraze, Miss Poetter as Aline, Mr. Robt. Sinclair as Sir Marmaduke and Mr. M. Dunlevie in the title role. Vice-Royalty was present. The company have been asked to repeat the performance, and it is to be hoped they will. Ottawa owes a great deal to its amateur musicians and vocalists. "Patience" was introduced here by ladies of the St. Alban's Church choir some time ago, and one can only hope that the professionals who are to present it shortly will do as well.

Commander Cheyne's lecture was given under the auspices of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society. An interesting paper was read on Friday at the Society's rooms by Senator Allan, entitled "Some Notes on the Physical Geography and Archaeology of Palestine."

Another tournament in the House on Tuesday, on the occasion of Sir Charles Tupper's comments on the budget. From the gallery, where the chiefs are taking notes, or where, as others say, the Scribes are looking down upon the Pharisees, one could espy Lady Frances Balfour's Kilmarnock, which has become an "institution" in Ottawa. Sir Charles laboured to show that the tax of fifty cents on coal made it cheaper to the consumer; a wag suggests that when the duty will be \$5, coal will *a fortiori* cost nothing.

It is now an open secret that there is to be a dissolution and a general election for the second week in June. Those who know say so. Sir Charles made a regular election speech and amused the galleries by the picture he drew of Sir Richard Cartwright's career. It sounded awful, and was delivered in virtuously indignant tones. Sir Richard, disdaining personalities, replied briefly, and then the Hon. T. W. Anglin bored the House until one a.m. next day, the monotony of the proceedings being relieved by interruptions from the Niagara bard, who is ever in his element at that pastime.

Sir Richard Cartwright had drawn Sir Charles' ire upon by commenting on the ungrammatical phraseology of Sir "N. P." Tilley.

Sir John created a joke, during the afternoon, saying that the Opposition did not like surpluses, as they were Low Church.

Friday being a Government day, Mr. Boulton resumed the debate on the Budget. As a matter of course he put on another coat of tar and a few more feathers on those unfortunate individuals the members for Centre Huron and Gloucester. It is time we had something new.

During the course of the afternoon, that curious being, whose duties consist in making a right angle of his body a few times during the session, and of issuing invitations on opening and prorogation days, on which latter occasions he is himself peculiarly fussy and overbearing, entered the House.

"Under the shade of melancholy bows,"

(Shakespeare, slightly altered), and summoned the Commons to the Senate, where His Excellency gave the Royal assent to a couple of bills.

Madame Rivé-King's second concert was less attended than the first. All present enjoyed and appreciated her splendid playing.

A local critic complains that Mendelssohn's concerto in E minor, which she played on Thursday, "is not at all suited for the piano," adding "we missed the violin." Perhaps so; but so would one miss the piano, were a violinist to play it as a solo; as a matter of fact, Mendelssohn originally wrote this concerto for two pianos.