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CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

	PAGE.
TOPICS OF THE WEEK—	
The Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway.....	257
Sunday Observance.....	257
The Riel Emeute.....	258
Officiousness of the High Commissioner in England.....	258
Immigration to Canada.....	258
The Site of the Ontario Parliament Building.....	258
Colonial Contingent.....	258
Two Irelands.....	259
The Religion of St. Patrick.....	259
The Complete Advent of a Restored Union.....	259
The Fury of Faction in England.....	259
Mr. Bright's Demeanour in the British Crisis.....	260
The Issue Between England and Russia.....	260
General Gordon Slandered by the N. Y. Nation.....	260
The N. Y. Nation upon Earl Spencer.....	260
Impotence of the House of Lords.....	261
Morality of the Aristocracy.....	261
Miss Pfeiffer on Female Suffrage.....	261
Cobden's "Three Panics".....	261
CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES—	
The Riel Rebellion.....	F. C. Wade, 261
Echoes of the Inauguration.....	B., 263
Trade and Finance.....	Economist, 264
HERE AND THERE	266
CORRESPONDENCE	
POETRY—	
Flower-Pieces.....	Horatio Gilbert Parker, 266
Rejoinder to "A Moan in Church".....	Fred Mann, 266
SCRAP BOOK	
MUSIC—	
Handelian Festivals.....	268
Hamilton Musical Union.....	268
General Notes.....	268
PERIODICALS	269
BOOK NOTICES	269
LITERARY GOSSIP	

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AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY AND LITERATURE
Edited by W. PHILIP ROBINSON.

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TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE session advances, and it is evident that the question of further assistance to the Pacific Railway must in some form soon be before Parliament. All that can be said has been said already. We cannot stick where we are, with the road half finished. There is not the slightest reason for doubting the integrity of the President's character, or the honesty of his representations, and if his figures are correct and his calculation well founded the prospects of the road, as a commercial enterprise, are most favorable, and its value to the stockholders when it is once completed, will be great. In that case, the best course for the nation is to hold on to the security and make a further advance by way of loan. The land, as we have said, will not be of so much value in the hands of the Government, where it will be liable to the indefinite claims of the North-Western Provinces, as it is in the hands of the company who hold it as private owners. Bonds would be exposed to all the adverse influences and fluctuations of the money market. That the Government will propose assistance of some kind cannot be doubted. It must complete the road or fail. This its supporters will be told in caucus, and a fee will probably be paid to Quebec. There will of course be a raking fire from the Opposition, which will be directed as usual not against the policy but against the contractors. Charges of scamping the work, we are persuaded, will fall to the ground: the road has been solidly built, and is well equipped. The best point for the Opposition is the fact that the Syndicate, while they come to Parliament for further aid, are drawing dividends practically at the rate of twenty per cent. on a great mass of stock in their own hands. The defence is necessity: the money was indispensable to the progress of the enterprise and could not at the time be obtained in any other way. This unfortunately does not make the transaction right in principle or salutary as a

commercial example. But the nation, floundering in the quagmire of delusion, miscalculation and perplexity into which the party leaders have brought it, is ready to put up with anything, to overlook anything, and almost to pay anything if it can only see the end.

THERE are some very excellent Christians who seem not to have sufficiently laid to heart the saying of the Apostle that the strength of sin is the law. If Mr. Charlton, for instance, had his way, the verses of the Sermon on the Mount would probably become the clauses of a Charlton Act, with an interpretation clause defining meekness and a schedule enumerating the works of mercy. So long as people are tolerably disposed to be a law to themselves it is better to abstain from regulating their actions by cast-iron legislation, which deprives them of the pleasant sense of spontaneous well-doing and is apt to turn their zeal into coldness, if not into passive resistance. Mr. Charlton's Sunday Observance Bill was withdrawn at Ottawa, being pronounced beyond the powers of the Dominion Parliament, but it has reappeared and been passed in the Ontario Legislature under the auspices of Mr. Wood. It seems to be admitted by the reformers themselves that, on the whole and as times go, Sunday is particularly well kept in Ontario and generally in this Province. Certainly our observance is far better not only than that of New York but than that of almost any city in the States. If that be so, was there not a good deal to be said for leaving us alone? Why force us to think that in keeping the day of rest for body and mind, of respite from care, of renewal of spiritual life, we are doing the will not of nature and her author but of Mr. Wood? Sunday excursions, which it seems the chief object of the reformers to prevent, are no doubt open to objection on the ground that they impose work on the steam-boat people and the keepers of the houses of entertainment. Yet we should think twice before we voted for their prohibition. To people pent up all the week in the stores or factories of a city, no pleasure can be so great or so healthful as an excursion; it is a great point in its favour, too, that it is usually enjoyed by the whole family. The substitute for it, practically, is less likely to be a religious exercise than some amusement less healthy and less domestic: at best perhaps spending the afternoon upon the doorsteps in a frame of mind neither very happy nor very spiritual. In former days they carried out the principle thoroughly and compelled people by law to go to church. We cannot help at all events wishing that the framers of these religious and ascetic enactments could be required as a pledge of their sincerity themselves to make some sacrifice as great as that which they exact of an artisan or a clerk in taking from him his Sunday excursion.

THE magical effects of the Party lens were never more curiously illustrated than in the opposite versions given by the party journals of the rising in the North-West. Where Government organs see a trifling disturbance, such as a few policemen will soon suppress, Opposition organs see a formidable rebellion. Trifling the disturbance can hardly be, if it is true that the Winnipeg Militia has been called out and that General Middleton has proceeded to the scene of action. It is natural to surmise that the talk of despatching a Canadian contingent to the aid of England in the Egyptian War may have set the enemies of England at work to create a diversion. The probability of this is increased if the insurgents are well supplied with rifles. These can hardly have come from any armoury but that of the Fenians. A serious rising in that distant territory would be very embarrassing to the Ottawa Government. The settlers, scattered along a line of eight hundred miles, can hardly assemble for defence: they would be afraid to leave their homesteads and their families; probably they would make the best terms in their power, each for himself, with the enemy. Our chief reliance would be on the Mounted Police, which is undoubtedly a fine corps, but not ubiquitous. This affair brings forcibly home to us the remoteness of the North-West from Old Canada and the magnitude of the natural barriers which lie between. The same degree of military strength and compactness is perhaps not necessary to cohesion here which is necessary in Europe; but some degree is necessary even here. We have annexed a Continent in the Moon.

As Imperial Federation would be a serious step, it is well that we are enabled in some measure to forecast its results by an experiment on a smaller scale. The language and bearing of our High Commissioners are always showing us what that of Canadian delegates domesticated in London society would be. Evidently we might as well consign our interests at once to the hands of the Lord Chamberlain or the First Lord in Waiting; indeed these functionaries might perhaps be more trustworthy and independent, inasmuch as they would be at ease in their own element, and would not be intoxicated by breathing their native air. Sir Charles Tupper has been earnestly assuring British society that no constituency in Canada would think of electing to Parliament a man who dared to cherish the seditious hope of Canadian nationality. He has, with equal earnestness, disclaimed on behalf of the Canadian Protectionists, any intention of seeking protection against British goods, vowing that it is only against American goods that protection is desired, and insinuating that the freer admission of British goods was in fact the main object of the Tariff. These statements and many other statements like these the British believe: perhaps in the moment of social rapture the speaker believes them himself; but we may be forgiven for deeming the Canadian press and the telegraph more faithful exponents of Canadian sentiment than any colonial member of a London club. It is proposed that Sir Charles Tupper should enter public life in England and lead the Tory Party. His oratory would be a great improvement in point of vigour on any of the present Tory speakers, though his style is a little full-bodied and might require tempering to the tastes of the House of Commons. But is not the suggestion pregnant with a warning that Canada may possibly be better governed when the highest aspirations of her public men centre in their own country?

WHAT is the High Commissioner? Is he an ambassador from Canada to England? If he is, we would humbly suggest that he should observe the rules of his office, and propose nothing without the authority of the Government and the community which he represents. He is now, of his own motion, but with the credentials of Canada in his hand, advising the British Government to expend a million annually in the deportation of its surplus population to our shores. It would be the pauperism and the incapacity that we should receive: England does not want to be relieved of valuable labour, nor would the British Parliament be so foolish as to spend a great sum of money for that purpose. At all events, before such a scheme is settled between Sir Charles Tupper and the Poor Law Board at Westminster, let the people of Canada be heard. We can hardly afford to allow a gentleman on the other side to carry this country in his pocket.

If no site can be found for the new Parliament Buildings except the Queen's Park we must bow to necessity; but the necessity is most unwelcome. The Park is being gradually devoured, and this new encroachment will eat deeply into what is left. Only one open space or ground for recreation has Toronto now left—the Horticultural Gardens. No other playground have our boys. They cannot go out by rail for ball or lacrosse at High Park. A playground for the boys of a city is more than a source of pleasure and health; it is almost a moral necessity. Amusement boys will have, and if they have no playground to afford it them, they will find it in worse ways. Whether the welfare of our rising generation in Toronto or the better accommodation of our Provincial Legislators is the more important object it would be impious to inquire. Why could not the site of Upper Canada College be taken, and Upper Canada College, if it is not to be abolished, moved to the neighbourhood of the University, where land is still to be had? If University Confederation goes into effect, Trinity College will move, and its site and buildings will become disposable and might be purchased for Upper Canada College. That the site in the Park is obtained for nothing may seem a great consideration now, but a not remote posterity will probably wish that an act of improvident parsimony could be rescinded, though it were at double the cost.

A MEETING, we learn from the *London Times*, was held at the War Office on the 3rd instant, and attended on one side by the Secretaries of State for War and the Colonies and the Commander-in-Chief, on the other side by the representatives of colonies, the object of which was "to obtain information as to the Colonial Contingents whose services have been offered to Her Majesty's Government, and to discuss the conditions under which they should be employed in the autumn operations in the Soudan." "Sir Charles Tupper, V.C.M.G.," proceeds the announcement, "who was unable to be present on the 3rd, has subsequently had an interview with the Secretary of State for War and His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge." Surely malingering is sorry work. Let those who love England here, show it by telling the honest truth.

MR. DAVIN on St. Patrick's Day at Montreal pointed to a certain English writer as intensely hostile to all Irishmen. It happened, curiously enough, that the very writer to whom he referred was, in connection with the same anniversary, the invited guest of a large gathering of Irishmen, and by them, when called upon to address them, was received not only as a friend but with a cordiality which in the opinion of one reporter deserved the name of an ovation. Nor did the Irishmen there assembled belong to an element of the Irish population unworthy to represent Erin; but on the contrary to that element in which a very large proportion of the vigour, the intelligence, the industrial energy resides, and which has produced almost all the illustrious men. Where Ireland is Protestant she is prosperous, she is contented, she is friendly to England and to Englishmen, she is loyal to the Union. This is the Irish question in a sentence. We call the attention of His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto and all other candid investigators of the problem to this fact, and to the inference which it appears to suggest. The government, laws and tribunals of Ulster, are the same as those of the rest of Ireland, and the administrative system of Dublin Castle, to which so malign an influence has been ascribed, is common to the whole island. To complete the basis for an induction, the discontented element and that hostile to the British connection, which ascribes all its weaknesses and all its misfortunes to the hateful institutions of Great Britain, has been transplanted on a large scale to this side of the Atlantic, where there is nothing British to blight its political virtues or to trammel its political progress, and the result of its emancipated development is Tammany. When will people learn that there are two Irelands? Nor is this all. Mr. Davin, with generous fervour, and apparently with the full assent of his audience, denounced the acts of the dynamiters as utterly alien to the Irish cause. Does he, and do those who applaud him, extend the condemnation to Land League outrage and assassination, to the butchery of men in cold blood before the eyes of their wives or mothers, and to the cruel maiming of helpless cattle? If they do they will find themselves at variance in sentiment with a very large number even of those Irish with whom politically they appear to be at one. They will find in short that the phrases, "Ireland," "Irish," "the Irish Cause," are used when "Parnellite" or "Fenian" is the proper term, and that a man may be set down as an enemy to Ireland when he is an enemy to nothing but Disunionist conspiracy and murder. They may perhaps be led on to the conclusion that it is possible for a man to have sympathetically studied Irish history and yet with perfect consistency to be opposed to the plots of a set of selfish demagogues, the foulness of whose language betrays the lowness of their natures, and who, with their train of assassins, are labouring to bring on a conflict between the two islands, and at the same time between the two sections of Ireland itself, which could end only in a fresh revolution of the whole cycle of Irish woes.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY brings up again the controversy as to the character of the Irish Saint's religion. To the historian who requires substantial evidence the figure of St. Patrick is almost mythical, and he leaves it to the pious care of the hagiologist with whom the religious tendency of a fact is an assurance of its authenticity. But history may with certainty pronounce that the church to which the Saint belonged, and which was a branch of Celtic Britain, can neither have been Roman Catholic nor Protestant. Protestant it cannot have been, since the liberty of private judgment, the cardinal tenet of Protestantism, was in those days unborn; of an open Bible there was just as little thought; and the doctrine of Justification by Faith had certainly not been developed as it was by the leaders of the Reformation in antagonism to Indulgences and Good Works. Roman Catholic it cannot have been since it three times came into decisive collision with Rome: once when in its Celtic fastness, amidst the hills of Wales, it rejected the authority and repelled the overtures of the Roman missionary, Augustine; a second time when the two Churches, contending for the possession of Northumbria, confronted each other at the Synod of Whitby in the persons of the Scoto-Irish Colman and Wilfrid, the great champion of Rome; a third time when the Pope granted Ireland to Henry II. on condition of his reducing to the Roman model and obedience the irregular and schismatical native church. Satisfied with these proofs of antagonism history need hardly involve herself in labyrinthine controversies about the reckoning of Easter, the tonsure, the relations of Bishops to Abbots, or the rule of the Culdees. It is enough that in points of discipline and ritual there were differences which to primitive minds seemed vital. The Ecclesiologist, deducing sacred institutions from the ordinances of Heaven, is apt to overlook the earthly medium in which they have been developed. The medium in which the Latin Church was developed was the Roman Empire, with its regular government, laws and civilization, with its great cities and its urban life, with its municipalities and confraternities, with its august capital and autocratic head. The

medium in which the Celtic Church of Britain and Ireland was developed was an unorganized assemblage of wild and half-nomad clans. There was no political mould in which a regular Church government could be cast. There were no cities to form centres for episcopacy, to build cathedrals, to sustain by their wealth the pomp of ritual. Through the mist of unrecorded time we can just see the encroachments of a plundering and coshering chieftaincy on the Episcopate, and on the privileges and possessions of the Celtic Church. A missionary and monastic or semi-monastic form was the only one which the Church could well assume in her conflict with a weltering barbarism; and this would be naturally accompanied by an exaltation of the authority of the Abbot in his relations to the Bishop. The Round Towers of Ireland, in which the clergy with their sacred things might find a refuge when the country was swept by a clan raid, were as appropriate to the Celtic as the Basilica was to the Latin Church. Other posts of safety and vantage the Irish missionary, like the Tyrian vendor of less precious wares before him, found in little islands close to the coast, such as Iona and Holy Isle. If we were to describe the religion and Church of St. Patrick as those of the Celtic Clans we should be getting nearer to the root of the matter than some of the learned authors of ecclesiological dissertations.

The appearance in Mr. Cleveland's Cabinet of a Southerner who served the Confederacy, both in arms and as a negotiator, marks the close of the war epoch and the complete advent of the restored Union. Those ashes at last have ceased to glow and are gathered into the historic urn. The other day they were vainly raked in the Senate by a discussion between two Senators of the question whether Jefferson Davis was a traitor. If, as has been alleged, Jefferson Davis, or any other Southerner, while holding office in the Federal Government used his official opportunities to prepare the ground for the revolt, he betrayed his trust, and deserved in that respect to be dubbed a traitor. But apart from this the controversy is idle. American secession is an event which stands by itself: it cannot be docketed as treason or rebellion and thrust into a historical pigeon-hole. The group of States which formed the Republic, while politically united was socially divided by slavery; the social division being fundamental in its character, and constantly increasing in strength and importance, prevailed over the political union and the two moieties fell apart. The immediate cause of the severance was a Presidential Election which showed that on the social question the balance had turned against the South, and made the Southerners feel that their social system with the property on which their wealth depended was in immediate peril. The war was neither exactly civil nor exactly international: it was a war for the restoration of the Union, and for the abolition of slavery, which had been the cause of the disruption, the determination to abolish slavery growing stronger as the conflict went on and the connection between slavery and secession was brought more forcibly home to the minds of the Northern people. The Southerners were never treated as rebels; all the rules and courtesies of regular belligerency were observed from the first, and in this respect the war was international. The source of disunion having been extinguished, the reconciliation is now complete, and the prophecies of those who predicted undying enmity between South and North, like the equally confident prophecy of military despotism as the certain offspring of civil war, have been totally belied by the event. The growth of manufactures and other industries which in some of the Southern States is now rapid, together with the general influences of the economical change, by assimilating Southern society to Northern will efface the last traces of the old quarrel. Yet the Negro remains and the Negro Problem. One crater of the volcano is closed, but it would be rash to say that the volcano is extinct.

A RUSSIAN lady writes that, when staying at an hotel at Palermo, she was astonished at the rejoicing among the wealthy English tourists in the house when it was reported in the newspapers that Gordon had been killed by the Arabs. It was explained to her that Gordon's death would greatly damage the Gladstone Government. The English tourists at Palermo, it is to be feared, were only giving unrestrained expression to the general feeling of their class and of the party to which their class belongs. Such, even in the breasts of the highly educated, is partisanship, which we are bidden to accept as the rule of public life and the permanent basis of government. The fury of faction at this moment in England is unexampled in modern times; it has broken through all the restraints of patriotism and made politicians on both sides willing, for the sake of overthrowing their hated rivals, to ally themselves with the avowed enemies of the realm. This is the most dangerous element of the situation; and there is no saying to what it may not lead; it has already dragged the country far on the road towards dismemberment, and almost laid her at the feet of Healy and Biggar. Personal accidents of more than one kind contribute to the

intensity of the plague. The leaders of the Conservative Opposition are such weak men that they cannot afford to wait as Peel or Canning would have waited till the country turns to them as its natural guides and chiefs; they must try to scramble into power by desperate tricks and unprincipled combinations. Nor have they the power, even if they had the will, to restrain the violence of their followers, and to come to an understanding with the Government, as Canning or Peel undoubtedly would have done, for exempting the Union or any other great interest of the State from the operations of party war. Sir Stafford Northcote is believed to have given some assurances of co-operation against Obstruction; but, if he has, he is evidently unable to redeem his pledge. Not less mischievous in their influence are the personal worship and hatred of Mr. Gladstone; the hatred partly the recoil from the worship. Enemies of the Prime Minister become political maniacs trampling down in their eagerness to drink his blood, not only the interests of the country, but those of their own party. In this respect Mr. Gladstone's continuance in office is a source of danger. This departure will relieve the situation of a great strain, and allow parties at all events to fall back more into their natural lines, and the tidal wave of their fury to subside to the normal level.

AMIDST all the faction, conspiracy and selfishness of which the House of Commons is the scene, and which present a spectacle afflicting to every British heart, there is at least one figure on which the patriotic eye can rest with pride and pleasure. The behaviour of Mr. Bright has been altogether worthy of one who if, not having held the highest official place, he cannot be called the greatest of British statesmen, may truly be called the greatest of British citizens. In accordance with his general principles, and as the logical consequence of his conviction that the Suez Canal was the only object of practical concern, and was in no danger, he retired from the ministry. But he has continued to give his late colleagues his silent support, and has never by word or deed betrayed any petty feeling of wounded ambition, or done anything to weaken the Government and embarrass it in the conduct of the war. A thorough man of the people, with a character formed by honest industry, he stands in striking contrast to the patrician selfishness of the Tory Chief. Nor is his conduct less politic than it is noble. It is the duty of a leading man, and one to whom the nation looks up for counsel, to oppose the entrance of the country into a war which he deems unnecessary or unjust. But war once declared, silence is the better part, at least till a fair opportunity for renewing pacific overtures occurs. Continued protests only inflame the war fever, and perhaps defeat their own end in another way by encouraging the enemy with hopes of division, and increasing his unwillingness to treat. Mr. Morley, we venture to think, does not serve the interests of peace by bringing forward at this juncture a motion for the abandonment of the war. It is a motion for surrender, to which a proud nation will never consent while the hope of victory remains; it irritates and intensifies the war passion; and at the same time it inflates the Mahdi and prevents him from giving way.

THE negotiations between England and Russia drag, it must be owned, somewhat ominously. It is pretty evident that the Russian commanders in Asia are restless and disposed to encroachment, as they always have been, and as British commanders and officials in India have always been in at least an equal degree. It was natural that this jealous activity on the Russian side should be stimulated by Lord Beaconsfield's invasion of Afghanistan. But diplomacy must be impotent indeed if it cannot prevent the peace between the two great powers from being broken by the restiveness of frontier commanders. A presentiment prevails that because England and Russia "drifted into war" thirty-one years ago after a long train of negotiations, they will in the same manner drift into war now. But the cases are quite different. The Governments did not really drift into the Crimean War, though that phrase was actually used by a member of the British Cabinet. They were drawn into it by the combined action of Lord Palmerston, the French Emperor and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, then ambassador at Constantinople. Lord Palmerston was a Russophobe, as he had shown by his fatal invasion of Afghanistan, and he wanted to oust the pacific Lord Aberdeen from the Premiership and to take his place. Louis Napoleon, who had set on foot the embroglio by his hypocritical championship of the Sacred Places, wanted a war and the British alliance for the purpose of gilding his usurpation and adding to the strength of his still tottering throne. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe wanted to take vengeance on the Czar for a personal affront, which, as a passage quoted by us the other day from the life of Sandwith proved, rankled deep in his breast, and overcame the restraints of diplomatic prudence in his conversation. That Palmerston was capable of any perfidy to his colleagues the Diary of Lord Malmesbury has put beyond a doubt. These three conspirators so worked together in London, in Paris,

and at Constantinople, that the Cabinet from day to day found itself insensibly moving towards the gulf. The jealousies between the sections of Whigs and Peelites of which it was composed was highly injurious to the unity and decision of its councils at the fatal crisis; nor was Lord Aberdeen, though a man of the purest integrity, gifted with a full measure of the firmness which was so much needed by him as Prime Minister and by the country. Had he boldly recalled Lord Stratford, whose tendencies he suspected, peace might have been preserved and an ocean of blood might have been saved. The British Government, in the present case, is at all events united on the question before it, and not likely to be betrayed by its ambassadors. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, when the first gun was fired, exclaimed "Thank God, that is war." Nobody in a high place on either side would be likely to utter the same exclamation now.

THE New York *Nation* supposes itself to have detected equivocal relations between Gordon and Mr. Stead, the editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, who raised the cry of "Gordon to the rescue," and forced the Government to employ his hero. According to the *Nation*, Gordon telegraphed to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, suggesting himself as the man to solve the problem, and asking whether the editor would support him; an affirmative answer was sent; the editor went down to Southampton to meet Gordon; and the articles which were supposed to be expressing the demand of the people were written by Mr. Stead in Gordon's own study, and submitted to him in manuscript before being sent to London. The *Pall Mall Gazette* admits the interview at Southampton; but as to the rest of the story, and especially as to Gordon's having put himself forward as the man for the situation, it gives the *Nation* the lie direct, and brands it as a slanderer of the Dead. In that amicable position the question rests. Our own view of Gordon's character has always been that it was mixed, combining some truly heroic qualities with a good deal of self-delusion, as well as with a restless and unsettled craving for adventure, which veered in a moment from China to Egypt, from Egypt to Congo, and was ready to take service either under the Crown of England or the Crown of Belgium. It seems to us quite possible that his egotism may have played other tricks with him besides persuading him that he was a special instrument in the hands of the Almighty. Fanaticism, especially of the self-exalting kind, is almost invariably attended by a certain amount of moral obliquity. The emissary of Heaven must do his appointed work; means which are necessary to that end are thereby sanctified and the rules of ordinary morality must give way. The rule of morality proscribing slavery gave way at once when it came into collision with Gordon's plans. The most serious part of this matter, however, we must repeat, is that a sensational journal, engaged in forcing its own circulation by thrilling effects, should have been able to compel the Government first to employ Gordon and afterwards to send a British army to the rescue. The lesson is emphasized by the fact that the present editor of the *Pall Mall* was, but yesterday, sub-editor under Mr. John Morley, a vehement opponent of the war. Press government will hardly do.

THE well-earned, and more than well-earned, reward destined by Mr. Gladstone for Earl Spencer excites as might be expected the spleen of our Irish-American contemporary the New York *Nation*. Earl Spencer, it protests, ought not to be rewarded, inasmuch as "his conduct has been condemned by the vast majority of the people within his jurisdiction." Is it so certain that the vast majority of people even in Ireland condemn the repression of murder and cattle-houghing, or desire the outbreak of a civil war? It is certain that the majority of the representatives of Ireland at all events do not, for barely thirty out of the hundred and three are regular followers of Mr. Parnell. But waiving this question, the objection evidently assumes that Ireland is a separate nation, and this, though much desired perhaps by Irish-American editors, has not yet become a fact. Lord Spencer is an officer, not of the people of Leinster, Connaught and Munster, but of the people of the United Kingdom of England, Ireland and Scotland. The Act for administering which, with all possible equity, temper and humanity, he is reviled as a bloodstained monster, and daily threatened with assassination, is an Act of the United Parliament, in which Ireland has more than her full share of representation. Is the delegated ruler of a disturbed district usually expected to conform his action to the will of those who are exciting the disturbances? When political disunionism and social conspiracy prevailed in Calabria and Sicily, was the representative of the Italian Government called upon by political malcontents to defer to the local vote in dealing with Bourbonist movements, or with the plots of the secret societies? Did Italy feel bound, or did any Irish-American writer tell her that she was bound, because Calabria or Sicily was discontented, to let it go adrift? Is every member of a composite nation to be at liberty to separate itself from the other

members and break up the nation whenever it sees fit? Is Bavaria entitled to throw off her connection with Germany, or the French cantons of Switzerland to dissolve partnership with the rest? The Americans at all events did not act upon that principle. But when a writer can say that Mr. Gladstone, after all that he has done for Ireland, "does not care one cent what the bulk of the Irish people think about Earl Spencer, but considers the hostility which he has excited as one of his strong claims to reward," to reason with him is as absurd as it is to reason with Healy or O'Donovan Rossa.

WHILE Sir Stafford Northcote's mildly-worded motion of censure was lost in the House of Commons, one much stronger in form, brought forward by Lord Salisbury, was carried by an overwhelming majority in the House of Lords. Who cared a straw? Who has even alluded to the vote of the Peers as affecting in any way the moral position of the Government or as adding the weight of a feather to the reasons in favour of its resignation? If the labourers on Lord Salisbury's estate had held a meeting and passed a similar motion the effect would have been as great; in truth it would have been greater, since the vote of the labourers might have represented the sentiment of a large class while that of the Peers represented nothing but the mechanical hostility of a group of privileged families to political progress. Had the Ministry been Tory, everybody knows that whatever blunders it might have committed, whatever disasters it might have encountered, and on whatever scene, whether at Walcheren, in Afghanistan or Egypt, it would have been upheld by the same majority of the Peers which condemned the Liberal Government. Where then can be the use of such an institution? What reliance can rational Conservatism place on a Senate which has lost all moral authority and retained only the capability of bringing legislation occasionally to a dangerous dead-lock? Power has centered and must continue to centre in the assembly which represents the nation; and surely it would be the aim of a statesmanlike Conservatism to provide that where power centres Conservative influences should centre also. To extract them from the National Assembly and shut them up in a limbo apart would appear to be the most perverse and the weakest of policies. Nobody would have dreamed of it, had not the House of Lords come down as a survival from the Feudal times, and, in common with all other survivals, enjoyed the benefit of the ingenuity which devises *ex post facto* arguments in defence of the obsolete. Mingled with a mass of perfectly worthless material, mere idlers, sybarites, or stolid and selfish liegemen of privilege, there are in the House of Lords eminent men the authority of whose character and ability is enhanced in the eyes of the multitude by the possession of hereditary rank. As members of a national Assembly these men would exercise a Conservative influence even greater perhaps than they deserved. Where they are, they are simply ostracized; and the shrewdest Radicals are so sensible of that great fact that pending the thorough revolutionizing of the House of Commons they are by no means anxious for the abolition or even for the reform of the House of Lords. If Conservatives are capable of learning from their enemies, here is a lesson which they ought to lay to heart. But privilege never compromises; the violent section of the order prevails and the whole drives on together to its ruin.

THE Durham divorce case is the latest in a pretty lengthy train of aristocratic scandals which have recently been affording sweet food for those whose tastes lie in that direction. There is a latent flunkeyism, a servility under the guise of Radicalism, in this passion for dwelling on the details of patrician vice. A man is not the worse for being a lord, nor do his vices deserve on that account a severer condemnation. In truth they deserve a condemnation less severe, inasmuch as his temptations are greater, his safeguards less than those of ordinary men. The same allowance is due, even in larger measure, to the vices of Royalty; there is no saying what the best of men might have become had a malignant fairy conveyed him into the cradle of Louis XV. or George IV. But that which is an apology for the individual is the condemnation of the order. These are the effects usually produced on character by the idleness to which the members of a hereditary peerage with entailed estates are consigned from their birth, of the enfeebling influence of unearned rank, and of the opportunities which social baseness presents to the aristocratic sybarite. That which corrupts the man corrupts the legislator, and it is idle to expect peculiar wisdom and patriotism above the common in a body of men specially trained in folly and selfishness. In former days the people were disposed to excuse immorality in a king or a nobleman: their disposition is the other way now, and every one of these scandals drives a nail into the coffin of the House of Lords. At the same time the basis of territorial wealth which far more than an apocryphal pedigree supports the order is being rapidly withdrawn by the fall of rents. Small will be the strength of the institution when nothing but the pedigree remains. Apart from

political agitation, the action of the social and economical forces can scarcely fail before many years are over to make an end of the hereditary House of Lords.

In the *Contemporary Review* Miss Emily Pfeiffer pleads elaborately for Female Suffrage. Amidst the biddings of the parties in England against each other for votes, it is not by any means unlikely that Female Suffrage may prevail. But Miss Pfeiffer seems before the end of her second page to have given her case away. The backwardness of women compared with men in the political race she ascribes to the burden of maternity. She may with equal truth trace to the same impediment their backwardness in war, in seamanship, in all those industries which entail severe and continuous exertion, or are attended with dangers. But does she see any reason for hoping that the burden of maternity will ever be laid down? Why then invite the sex to competition in walks of life or spheres of activity in which it must always be heavily weighted. Why give its aspirations a hopeless direction? Nature has assigned it a part in the social and domestic organism distinct from that of the male but perfectly coequal. Widows and spinsters Miss Pfeiffer says are the best representatives of their sex, because they are free. This is in the style of Mr. Mill, the prophet of the whole movement, who speaks of marriage as slavery, nay as the worst of all slaveries, inasmuch as the slave has no hope of a change of master, and who carried into effect his own doctrine by appropriating, though platonically, the affections of another man's wife. Of the double life, the writers of this school have no conception; nor have they any conception of love as an effectual safeguard against illusage apart from law. Is a mother unkind to her child because no statute forbids her? Does a polite host use his legal power of kicking his invited guests out of doors? If man is the immemorial oppressor of woman, how have women obtained the privileges which Miss Pfeiffer cannot deny that they possess and would be unwilling to resign? This suffrage, which man is accused of tyrannically withholding from his partner, how long and by what proportion of the male sex has it been enjoyed? Has it not, as well as all other powers, been exercised by the men for the benefit of their wives and children as well as for their own? Have not male legislatures obeyed the wishes, or what they imagined to be the wishes of the women? Have they not abolished the headship of the family, declared that in questions of inheritance the wife's most distant cousin is nearer to her than her husband while they declare the contrary where it is the woman's interest, and relaxed the Divorce Law till in the United States the family is seriously threatened with disintegration? Not only does Miss Pfeiffer accuse the ogre man of "riveting political bonds" upon his partner, and of making her "an outlaw"—an outlaw, it may be remarked against whom it is not easy, before a jury, to get justice—but she is inclined to lay upon him the blame of tight lacing and small shoes; though if she desires a unanimous declaration of the male sex against those modes of self-torture, she can have it without a political revolution. She desires us to mark the humanizing influence of woman in the past, and still more widely at the present day; we do mark it and rejoice in it while we note that it is independent of political power, and would perhaps have lost some of its efficacy had it been tainted with anything political. Political power, it cannot be too often noted, is neither the only sort of power nor the highest. But Miss Pfeiffer spurns the guardianship of affection. She wants "to have the weapons in her own hands." She and her sisters, if they follow her leading, may find that the weapon depends for its force on the strength of the hand, and that they have entered the political arena only to find themselves weaker men.

THE Cobden Club has reprinted Cobden's "Three Panics." In a literary point of view it could not have done better, for the pamphlet is a model of pamphleteering. The special object of the Club, no doubt, is to stop the navy panic, got up by the *Pall Mall Gazette* and to arrest the naval expenditure into which, under the influence of the panic, the nation is being hurried. It is very likely that a caution is in season. The panic was evidently a stroke of journalistic enterprise, and naval architecture is now in such a constant state of flux, owing to the rapid progress of invention, that if the navy were to be rebuilt in accordance with each new improvement no money would be left for anything else. But the position taken by Cobden with regard to war and military expenditure is unfortunately one to which it is impossible in the present state of the world to adhere. His confidence in the sovereign efficacy of commercial relations, under the Free Trade system, as a guarantee of peace, though not baseless, was exaggerated, and inspired counsels which, had they been followed by the nation, would have led not to peace but to war. He saw with an evil eye, if he did not actively oppose, the Volunteer movement, a movement purely defensive and in all its aspects, social and even sanitary as well as military, entirely

healthy. He failed to see in it the practical antidote to conscription. To propagate good-will and mutual confidence among the nations, to substitute rivalry in the arts of peace for rivalry in arms, to extend the jurisdiction of diplomacy and arbitration in settling international disputes, and thus to pave the way for the reduction of the bloated armaments with which Europe has been cursed and the earnings of the people have been devoured since the baleful era of Napoleon, are feasible as well as philanthropic objects for a statesman. But no nation can at present afford to disarm. Civilization cannot afford to disarm: it would become the defenceless prey of barbarism which no commercial influences touch and which knows no international law but conquest. The Chinese are purely industrial: they have no military profession, no sense of military honour, no sentiment by which a soldier can be sustained; they are the ideal community of Cobden and Herbert Spencer; and the consequence is that they are three hundred millions of sheep: a helpless prey, with all the fruits of their industry, to a few thousands of French wolves. Cobden was incensed because the English people would not place blind reliance in the pacific professions of a potentate who had proved himself the best of rulers and of men by consenting to a commercial treaty. Yet every fresh revelation of the character of the French Emperor and his gang, including the recent disclosures of their enormous peculations, shows that that they were most reasonable objects of suspicion, and that, had the fell necessities of his dynasty given the word, Louis Napoleon would have sprung without warning upon England, as he sprung on Germany, as he had sprung on Austria, as, in spite of his reiterated oaths of fealty, he had sprung upon the French Republic. It is perfectly conceivable that when the result of the Plebiscite had shown that the throne of the Bonapartes was in danger, and urgently needed a renewal of its glories, the military precautions against which Cobden wrote, and the exhibition of spirit which he viewed with aversion, may have determined in the council of the Tuileries the question between avenging Leipsic and avenging Waterloo. No one who watches the actions of the French Government or studies the organs of French opinion, not excepting the works of historians, in which a calmer and more moral spirit might be expected to prevail, can imagine that the volcano of Chauvinism has ceased to burn or that French lust of war and conquest is extinct. It would be madness to present to Gallic ambition and hatred the tempting spectacle of an unguarded England. Those who have no disposition to commit burglary must still provide their doors with bolts and their windows with bars.

THE RIEL REBELLION.

THE wildly exciting events of 1869 and 1870 in Manitoba are fast fading from the common contemplation of her people and becoming matters of early history only. There is a story current at the foothills of the Rockies about an Englishman who arose early and left his host's house one sunny morning, intending to walk to a neighbouring hill and back before breakfast, anticipating all the time how delicious the bacon and eggs would taste after a brisk constitutional. He walked rapidly in the fresh morning air until the briskness wore off, and then trudged along until the sun approached the meridian, and yet the hill seemed just a stone's-throw away from him, but no nearer than when he had first set out. The constitutional had become a pilgrimage, and at high noon he faced about, and reached home late in the evening, famished and exhausted. Next morning he tried a less ambitious stroll, and his friends, suspecting what had happened, watched him until he reached a tiny stream, when to their surprise, he proceeded leisurely to undress as though preparing for a plunge. In answer to their inquiries he related his experience of the day before, and seemed genuinely in doubt whether the crossing of this apparently narrow stream was to be a repetition of Byron's feat in the Hellespont or not. If it is a characteristic of the Western horizon to be "so near and yet so far," it is equally characteristic of the historical horizon of Manitoba to seem remote after the passing of a very few years. The doings and sufferings of the Earl of Selkirk, the massacre of Governor Semple and his party, the bloody struggles of the rival fur companies, the floods—all these events seem to have receded into a shady antiquity, although 1812 and 1815 saw the most of them. This is partly owing no doubt to the ancient atmosphere with which the actors in our early history—the quiet-living French on the banks of the Red River—seem to surround themselves. The main causes, though, which have been operating to produce this effect during the last few years, are plainly the incoming of an entirely new population, and the substitution of one of the most intense commercial fevers ever known for the excitement of the Rebellion. Owing to this tendency of comparatively recent events to crystallize themselves into history, it becomes less difficult perhaps to call them into review and come to some conclusions respecting them.

The one event which has always remained uppermost in the minds of the Ontario people in connection with the uprising, is the murder of Thomas Scott. Poor Scott was tried by a people who spoke a language unknown to him, and condemned to be shot without a word being heard in his defence. The sickening details of his death were soon written over and over by pens that were fired to a white heat by the shocking news. The story as told without embellishment in a Manitoba history is briefly as follows: "Shortly after mid-day, on the fourth of March, Scott was summoned to execution. He was calm and prepared to die. He requested time to bid his fellow-prisoners farewell. This was granted him, and he took final leave of those who had shared in his captivity. Being bound, he was conducted outside of Fort Garry and made to kneel in the snow a short distance from the walls of the Fort, when he was shot like a dog, by a party of six, under command of Adjutant-General Lépine; the whole party, it is said on good authority, being drunk at the time. Scott's last words were, 'I am ready,' and immediately after Lépine gave the signal, and the unfortunate man fell, pierced by several bullets. He uttered an exclamation as he fell, and on approaching the body it was found that life was not extinct. Some one in the crowd spoke up saying, 'Put him out of his misery,' and one of the party named Guilmette discharged a revolver at his head." This is enough of the painful story. Whether he still lived and had to be killed in one of the bastions of the Fort afterwards, is uncertain. That a little red cutter appeared at the gate of the Fort one moonlight night, with two men who passed the sentry, dug the body up from its temporary burial place, and carried it off in the conveyance between them to German Creek and there sunk it, loaded with chains, into the Red River, is almost generally believed. But these are subsequent events. The awful picture of Scott's death rivetted the gaze of the people in the East. To all it was apparent that the dominant party had mercilessly butchered a prisoner for some alleged insubordination, but Scott was an Orangeman as well, and sectional pens dipped in gall did not tire of exaggerating the horrors of the scene. So much has this incident engrossed the attention of the people in the Eastern Provinces that until this day a Manitoban would not expect from his friends in the East an intelligent estimate of the constitutional causes that led to the Rebellion, or an appreciation of it as an uprising against authority asserted without judgment. Even if this lamentable execution had not taken place and drawn off all attention from the causes of the Rebellion, and the constitutional demands which were made by the Métis (the French half-breeds), the remoteness of the Province itself, the prevailing ignorance, both as to the people who were being forced into Confederation and the mode of confederating which was being proceeded with under the provisions of the British North America Act, sufficiently account for the absence of sympathy with the movement which has always existed in Ontario.

In Manitoba the weight of opinion might almost be said to be approaching the other extreme. Louis Riel can never be regarded as a hero; the murder of poor Scott makes that impossible forever. Nevertheless, it must not be understood that Scott was inoffensive and harmless. It requires but a slight knowledge of his character to show what a thorn in the flesh he was to the Métis, and that his conduct could not fail to get him into trouble sooner or later. In the first place, he was one of the so-called "Canadian Party," which seems to have lost no opportunity of making itself thoroughly detested by the French and French half-breeds in Winnipeg and the parishes along the two rivers. By the time of the Rebellion an intense hatred had grown up between this Canadian-Orange Party and the Métis, who gave allegiance to the priests. This feeling had been forming ever since 1862. In that year an English Church clergyman in the Village of Headingly was arrested for alleged criminal conduct towards a half-breed girl and lodged in Fort Garry gaol—a low log building which has since disappeared. Early in the following year the reverend gentleman's parishioners forcibly liberated him from his log prison; but he had not been free long before the village schoolmaster found himself incarcerated in the primitive bastille for conspiring to effect his pastor's release. Next day, however, the Church members came around, mounted on thirty horses, to demand the schoolmaster's release, and showed that they were in earnest by tearing up the palisade with great vigour, breaking through one end of the gaol and liberating their co-religionist. The Battle of the Boyne was not crowded over more than was this triumph, and henceforward the Canadian Party delighted in showing their small hatred towards the Métis and in indulging in high-handed treatment of them. This spirit seems to have found full vent when it became known that the Hudson's Bay Company had transferred their control to Canada, and the "Canadian Party" felt that their hands would be strengthened by the incoming government. Scott is said to have been one of the most impetuous of this party. He hated Riel and made no attempt to conceal his feeling. He was twice imprisoned

and broke gaol each time. He struck "the captain of the guard," and heaped insults on the Provisional Government individually and as an aggregate concern. He kept all the prisoners in a high fever of insubordination, surrounded Riel with an armed party at "Coutu's house," on one occasion kicked him out of a tavern in a most humiliating way, and worst of all, when freed from imprisonment in Fort Garry, delighted to clamber up its dreadful walls and grin at the warlike party within, very much to their discomfiture. There seems to be no doubt but that poor Scott, without in any way disparaging him, helped to secure for himself his death sentence. That he was bewildered with surprise when the sentence came, shows that he thought the Métis would submit to his abusing them with impunity. There seem to have been other reasons for determining upon his death, however, besides mere personal wrongs. One object was to frighten the Canadian Government into an appreciation of their power, and another to secure submission to the rule of the Provisional Government by punishing insubordination, and so prepare for an expected attack of the Indians—"in a word," so say Riel and Lépine in their letter to Governor Morris in 1873, "to secure the triumph of peace and order, which it was our duty to establish throughout the settlement, we had recourse to the full authority of Government." It might be added that their Provisional Government was the only authority in the country at the time. Governor McTavish, thinking that the Hudson's Bay Company had handed over all control to Canada, declared his power at an end before he should have done so; and the Hon. Wm. McDougall, armed with his commission, which was to take effect at the date of the transfer of the territory, through an unfortunate misunderstanding was trying to cross the southern boundary long before he should have attempted to do so. In the meantime, the Provisional Government was the only one in existence; it saw fit to try Scott by court martial and condemn him to death.

Without attempting to condone this wanton and blundering action on the part of the Métis, it is easy now to turn away from it to the constitutional features of the Rebellion. To fully comprehend the position taken by the people of Manitoba it is necessary to refer to "The British North America Act, 1867," before alluded to. In section 146 of that Act will be found the main cause of the Rebellion. This is the first section under sub-division No. 11, providing for the "Admission of other Colonies," and reads as follows: "It shall be lawful for the Queen, by and with the advice of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, on Addresses from the Houses of Parliament of Canada, and from the Houses of the respective Legislatures of the Colonies or Provinces of Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, and British Columbia, to admit those Colonies or Provinces, or any of them, into the Union, and on addresses from the Houses of the Parliament of Canada to admit Rupert's Land, and the North-Western Territory, or either of them, into the Union, on such terms and conditions in each case as are in the addresses" (of the Houses of the Parliament of Canada) "expressed, and as the Queen thinks fit to approve, subject to the provisions of this Act." In this section is laid bare the root of the Rebellion; Newfoundland, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island were to be admitted on the address of their respective Legislatures. They were to come into the Union when they liked, and at the request of their people expressed formally through the Legislature. Newfoundland has not seen fit to come in as yet! Manitoba (Rupert's Land) on the other hand was to be "admitted" on the addresses from the Houses of the Parliament of Canada! Nothing was said about consulting her people as to the form of Government they desired. They were not to be asked whether they were anxious to join Confederation or not. They were simply to be "admitted," and then dragged in by the hair of the head if they exercised their option in refusing the gracious invitation.

Canada's first mistake arose from adhering literally to the words of the section. The whole transfer of the territory was a cut-and-dried proceeding. The Dominion Government was to pay £300,000 to the Hudson's Bay Company, the company was to surrender its right, title and interest to the Imperial Government, and the latter was then to hand over to Canada said right, title and interest. Nothing was said about the people of the territory. They were to be transferred incidentally like the hairs on a mink skin: they were to go with the soil, probably on the theory "*cujus est solus ejus est usque ad coelum*"—reserving the disputed point, whether the Hudson's Bay Company ever had a shadow of title to the soil. No notice whatever was taken of the fact that at the time of the proposed Union there were 12,000 people in the Province, exclusive altogether of trappers and others having no fixed residence. Of this number 1,565 were whites, including Canadians, Americans, English, Scotch, Irish and French, 5,757 were French half-breeds, 4,083 English half-breeds, and the small residue were Indians. Upon these people, many of them from Quebec, where they or their fathers had fought under Papineau for Responsible

Government, and many of whom had come from the United States imbued with all the sentiments of representation and fair Government—a community almost unequalled in intelligence—it was attempted to superimpose, without explanation, without so much as “by your leave,” a governor in council, the most hateful of all institutions to those who knew of the struggles for Responsible Government. There was another objection to the impending change which came nearer home, and appealed more forcibly to the Métis. They were told that Canada had bought the land, and they had no guarantee that any notice would be taken of their claims. The Métis are a suspicious people, and they thought that the new comers would lose no time in dispossessing them of their little farms along the river and lake fronts, homesteads in which they or their fathers had lived happily ever since the days of the voyageurs and Bois Brulés. They seem to have felt, when the surveyors came to measure their farms, that their fears were about to be confirmed. The Rebellion was commenced by their walking resolutely up to the survey party and stepping on the chains. It is unnecessary to narrate the various incidents of the Rebellion. The Bill of Rights was passed by the people, and contained fifteen clauses. The first eleven clauses and the fifteenth covered the constitutional demands, and clauses thirteen and fourteen read as follows:—13. “That these rights be guaranteed by Mr. McDougall before he be admitted into this Territory. 14. If he has not the power himself to grant them, he must get an Act of Parliament passed expressly securing us the rights: and until such Act be obtained he must *stay outside the Territory*”—and stay out practically he did. He arrived at Pembina, on the International Boundary Line, October 30th, where he was handed a written notice not to advance any further. Nevertheless he moved his quarters to the Hudson’s Bay post, two miles across the forbidden line. On the morning of November 3rd he found the post surrounded, and Mr. Hallet who accompanied him tied up to the tail-board of a Red River cart. He yielded to the argument of circumstances and retired again to American territory.

In Mr. McDougall’s party was a gallant Captain whose deeds of valour were the cause of much amusement. Mr. McDougall himself says in the Dominion blue-book on this subject, that councils of prudence would not avail with him. He advanced as far as the River Sale where the rebels had erected a simple barricade across the trail. Seeing the obstruction, so the story goes, he arose in his cart, and with a Cromwellian sweep of his hand ordered the rebels to remove that “blawsted fence.” It is unnecessary to add that the ‘blawsted’ article was not removed. It had become very evident by this time that some, at least, of the Manitobans were not anxious to be “admitted” into Confederation—at least not without some understanding as to future treatment. The new authorities, however, were bound to “admit” them, and as the people continued to refuse the invitation even more firmly, Colonel Dennis was appointed “Conservator of the Peace,” with full power to “assault, fire upon, pull down, or break into any fort, house, stronghold or other place in which the said armed men may be found.” After the publication of this proclamation of war the Rebellion was at its height, and indiscretion on the part of the rebel party was to be looked for—and it came in the execution of Thomas Scott.

Regarded, then, in the light of a constitutional struggle, no one can refuse a certain amount of his sympathies to the rebels, nor can he blind himself to the fact that Canada blundered in attempting to frighten Manitoba into a forced Confederation. It took but a short time for the people to discover that the new Governor had several hundred rifles in his luggage, and the fulminations of the “Conservator of the Peace” did not render them more tractable. It is not unlikely that the present disaffection in the Province towards the Dominion is seasoned by a feeling of reaction against the way we were “admitted.” At any rate the existing difficulties have led many, who might not otherwise have done so, to look into the previous history of the country, and as a result, it seems safe to say that Riel is coming in for all the admiration he deserves, and perhaps a good deal more.

It seems certain that the rebel movement has not received its due in Ontario, and equally certain that it is being overestimated in Manitoba. A correct estimate of the causes at work in the uprising cannot be formed without a backward glance into the history of the Métis as employés of the fur companies. There it will be found that they were trained systematically to kill in its inception every attempt towards settlement. One cannot read the stories of the slaughter of Governor Semple and his party, of the burning down of the houses of Lord Selkirk’s settlers in old Frog Plains, now Kildonan, of the cold-blooded barbarities and privations which all settlers suffered at the hands of the fur companies and their employés, the Bois-Brulés, voyageurs, or Métis, without feeling that the same spirit would be likely to betray itself in the troubles of

1869 and ’70. Nor is it easy to read the evidence given at the Lépine trial, and the various historical accounts, without feeling that the local authorities of the Honourable the Hudson’s Bay Company were in the background, giving at least negative aid to the rebels. It appears certain that they were at loggerheads with the head-quarters in London. The local factors had been accustomed to receive a commission on all sales, as part payment for their services, and regarded this as a vested interest. To them the transfer meant the ruin of the fur trade, and a great decrease in their profits. They felt hurt at not being consulted in the negotiations, and considered that they were entitled to a portion of the purchase money for the lands in lieu of their commissions. This was refused, and taking the feeling of the local authorities along with the remarkable ease with which the Métis came into possession of Fort Garry, there are those who believe that the Fort was deliberately placed in their power, and that they were invited to resist the practical carrying out of the transfer. Clause 4 of the Bill of Rights, the demand that “all sheriffs, magistrates, constables, etc., etc., be elected by the people,” may point to the American influence which was lurking behind the scenes and appeared openly in the person of O’Donohue. Then there was the religious phase of the question, but enough seems to be known to show that the Rebellion did not by any means derive its full force from attempts to procure constitutional government alone. Riel certainly was not a hero, and no one has yet said he was a catspaw.

Further than this it is difficult to come to any very definite conclusions respecting him. It is now conceded that the Rebellion in the main was not unnatural—in fact that it was just—and no one deserves the credit of it more than Louis Riel. The murder of Scott cannot be forgotten, though, and Riel must assume the greatest share of responsibility for it. He must also forfeit admiration to that extent to which he was made a tool of by the Hudson’s Bay Company, Fenianism, and everything else except liberty and good government.

WINNIPEG, March, 1885.

FRED. C. WADE.

ECHOES OF THE INAUGURATION.

WASHINGTON.

It is now too late to make available to the columns of THE WEEK much of the information respecting the inauguration ceremonies gained through my having been exceptionally well placed to see and know all that went on, and yet I will venture to set down a summary note or two on matters intrinsically interesting, or which have been made so by current events.

More bigness ranks high among the virtues on this continent, and hence I may presume to simply place on record, in the pages of a journal meant to be indexed and permanently preserved, the facts that the ball which closed the inaugural festivities was held in a single apartment of such imperial dimensions as upwards of three hundred feet long, one hundred feet broad, and seventy feet high; that some eight thousand persons found locomotion and respiration possible in this not exactly boundless abyss; that, with true North American prodigality, this ocean-like space of wall and ceiling was as liberally surfaced with decoration as the reception room at your own Government House, for instance, might be upon a similar occasion; and that, as becomes the electric age, that subtle agent, electricity, was variously employed to light up the scene, to preserve the communications of the outlying and inlying parts, and to let the rest of mankind know what this particular part of creation was busy with at the moment.

There are two railway stations at Washington, and in these nearly one hundred and thirty thousand persons were received and subsequently despatched within the compass of a week. It is exceedingly doubtful if the administrative services of any Government in Europe or America could have rivalled the work of these railway staffs, done without the incentive of notoriety, decorations or other extraordinary reward. Not less than twenty thousand men marched in the inaugural procession and, excepting a small contingent of the standing army, these represented a voluntary expenditure of time, effort, and money, in organization, equipment and maintenance, that speak eloquently for the latent energy and spirit contained in a popular form of government, which but rarely helps itself along by means of outward shows and spectacles. But this line of moralizing has a reverse side, for, of the twenty thousand, considerably more than a tenth part stood for that locust-like army of tax-eaters that does the baser work of practical politics in a modern democracy—a mighty host of seemingly civilized men, upon whose barbaric natures literature, art and science (those factors of secular civilization) operate in vain.

The militant state of matters in Europe and its reflex action upon Canada give point to the circumstance that the single State of Pennsylvania, without disturbance to its industrial interests or oppression of its fiscal resources, has been able to recruit, organize, equip, drill and discipline a militia force of more than eight thousand men, which it mobilized at Washington on the day preceding the inauguration, so completely prepared for field service that it might have marched straight into a campaign. The Pennsylvanians were so alarmed and humiliated by the want of an efficient force to cope with the great riot at Pittsburg in 1877, that they resolved to create one for the future security of the community, and they have surpassed their own expectations.

The slender representation of the Democracy of the West at the inauguration of the first Democratic President since 1857 was much commented upon by those who were there from the East and South. There is, however, nothing regrettable in it, for the West has somehow become the stronghold of the worst political charlatanism of the day, on both sides of politics, and it would have been a bad sign if Mr. Cleveland had excited the enthusiasm of Western Democrats in anything like the measure in which Mr. Blaine evoked the support of the Republicans of that part of the country. Even the men of the East and South, present as they were in overwhelming thousands, had but a moderate welcome for the new President as he rode in procession to the Executive Mansion, after taking the oath of office at the Capitol; but Vice-President Hendricks, who rode just behind Mr. Cleveland, received an ovation all along the route, and did not scruple to make contrast with the quiet dignity of his nominal chief by rising constantly in his barouche, and plying the arts of the demagogue as he pivoted about from right to left, bowing and flourishing his hat. Mr. Hendricks believes heartily in the Jacksonian doctrine that to the victors belong the spoils, and well will it be for the people of this country if no half-crazed partisan shall succeed, within the next few months, in repeating the desperate act of Guiteau, in order to put the Vice-President into power.

Never statesman more needed than does President Cleveland the prayers and sympathies of all who wish well to the cause of righteous government, for, save his own convictions (howsoever deep and lasting they may be), he has little else than the almost expressionless support of the great majority who are opposed to making public employments the football of party, but have neither opportunity nor inducement to assail his eyes and ears as the politicians and placemen are doing. Of the seven members of his Cabinet, six appear to be alone with him in his reformatory aims, and the other may come into full fellowship in the end. Retrenchment in public expenditure is the work that lies readiest at hand, and which can be undertaken with least strain upon the party organization; and if, in the endeavour to find and suppress extravagant expenditure, attention should be forced to the comparatively unknown science of administration, an almost involuntary boon will be conferred upon the country. But so long as every head of an administrative bureau, or even the charwoman that sweeps out a Government office-room, is dependent upon a partisan tenure of office, cultivation of the art of administration in the sense that such art is cultivated in great commercial and industrial establishments is impossible.

From the Canadian standpoint, it is interesting to note that four of the seven members of the new cabinet are firm believers in the moral union of the Anglo-Saxon race, and it is highly probable that the three others, as also the President, are of the same way of thinking. Four of the Cabinet have definite opinions that the tariff should be sensibly modified in the direction of freer trade with other nations, but it is doubtful if any favour reciprocity with Canada as an independent proposition. On the question of the fisheries, there is every reason to believe that Secretary Bayard will be found reasonable, though cautious and perhaps hesitating, sharing, as he does, the belief that the United States were overreached in the last arrangement.

On the whole, the new administration is sure to be clean, capable, and, as to its exterior policy, neighbourly; but some changes in the Cabinet seem inevitable, unless the head of the administration is to shift ground.

B.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

THE week just closed has been uneventful, and the operations of markets extremely quiet, if not sluggish. The weather has maintained its mid-winter severity, and so prevented any movement in spring business. Beyond the most ordinary operations of day to day traffic, nothing has happened to disturb the peace of the investor, or to awaken the suspicion of the bank manager. The stock transactions have been few, and limited chiefly to actual needs. The calmer aspect of European politics has no doubt disappointed the wreckers and adventurers who had hoped to profit by the expenditure war would have entailed; but the amiable adjustment of differences has preserved to us a sober and normal condition. Bank stocks preserve their position and indicate a very limited range of quotations. As between highest and lowest sales throughout the week "Montreal" exhibits a difference of only two figures, and the number of transactions in Toronto and Montreal were but 35 shares, the lowest sale being at 192½. In "Toronto" the price was firm at 182, and the deals were 100. "Ontario" was quieter; the difference between the highest and lowest being 110½ and 110, respectively. In "Merchants" business was small, and was restricted to 20 sales, which indicated very little differences in price. "Commerce" was a trifle livelier, and 226 sales were made at 120½ to 121½. "Imperial" and "Dominion" were untouched, as were also the "Hamilton" and "Molsons." "Standard" was stationary at 112, and sales did not exceed ten shares. The general tone of feeling among bank managers is that of moderation and caution, neither enthusiastic or despondent, but inclining to hopefulness.

In the loan companies' shares there is no movement specially worthy of remark, and values remain practically undisturbed. The steadiness of character thus shown will be readily appreciated by a glance at the firm quotations, which are as follows: Canada Permanent, 211; Freehold, 126½; Building and Loan, 107½ and 107¾; London and Canadian, 139½ and 140; in the two latter there were 85 sales of each in the two cities of Montreal and Toronto. For Imperial Savings, 111 was a firm price, and the sales were only six; Canada Landed Credit shows a little more animation at the unvariable figures of 122, and National Investment, 106.

In North-West Land and Western Assurance there was apparently a little more energy, and the stock changed hands with greater freedom. Sales of the former ranged from 38 to 40, and the number of shares were 2,820. In Montreal there was some gossip indulged in when the report was circulated that an ex-director of the Canadian Pacific Railway had bought 2,000 shares of this stock. Those best informed denied the story and declared it to be mere guess. In Western Assurance there was quite a little bustle, and the quotations moved from 83 to 90 and receded to 86½. The position of this stock has strengthened appreciably since the close of February, when it stood at 78. As many as 618 shares participated in the business of Western Assurance during the week. In the miscellaneous there was a moderate trade, which was confined to Gas and Telegraph stocks. Consumers' Gas maintained a steady position, and one sale was reported at 152½. Montreal Gas stood firm at 184 and 186½. Dominion Telegraph was quiet at 87 and 25 shares changed hands. In manufacturers' stocks, as Cotton and Sugar Refineries, there is no business to speak of, and the outlook for this class of investment is not inviting.

Railways have little or no interest just now to the investor, and with commercial conditions as they are there is not likely to be any change for some time to come. The public are pretty well supplied with railway track, and rolling-stock and the value of produce and general merchandise have made their impression on freights. The strikers in the South-West have returned to work, and railroad business has resumed its ordinary status in that part of the country. With a quiet trade at lower prices, and barns and elevators filled with grain which cannot be marketed, the freight agent is not the most enviable person in the world. With the ever increasing tendency to reduction in freight rates railway securities are not likely to undergo a sufficient improvement as to become objects of desire with the ordinary investor. The complexity of interests involved as rail-roading develops will render this class of security less favourable, and confine operations in railway stocks to the more experienced.

Among the events of the coming week, operations may be anticipated in real estate and building, but it is not likely that they will be other than what is justified by present demand. Although prices are low, and money is easy, there is not much disposition to engage in speculation. Everything bears promise of quiet and steady trading for the approaching season, and the probability that emigration will be within rather than exceed last year's experience will render values steady and make investors cautious. Ability to distribute settlers over wide areas of land does not always bring the traffic sought for, and available land for grain growing will not determine cultivation. There is a limit to the capacity of markets to absorb grain and hog product, and if we have not already found it we have come very near the boundary. It is possible that the opening season will disappoint many who have laid themselves out for the business. To such it may be said the market will assert itself, and show no accommodating spirit to hopeful traders. One result of the wheat glut has been the ploughing up of fall wheat in the western part of Kansas. It may be that others will follow the example and so relieve the market at next harvest of some of the surplus.

In India there is likely to be a large extension of railroad building this year. One night last week proposals were submitted to the House of Commons by the junior Minister of India which if carried must lead to the long talked-of extension of railway policy. If such be the case, the already large wheat exports of that country will increase at a much higher rate than hitherto and so still further limit the demand for wheat raised here. The many points of excellence which Indian wheat has over competitors will promote its more extensive use in the European markets. The prospects for the North-Western grower are not seriously threatened by this contingency, but it cannot be denied that values must be affected and profits on wheat-growing limited. Latest advices from that country indicate much greater activity in the immediate future than in the past. In ocean freights matters are unchanged and almost devoid of interest except to shipowners, who are not a particularly happy class of people just now. The unprecedentedly low rates have had very little effect so far in increasing the trade, and the low bid made for emigrants has not tempted many to catch at the bait. The season's trade is likely to be a quiet one, and will be restricted to the necessities of shippers. The condition of the business is best illustrated in the fact that during last year British ship-builder's wages were reduced 17½ per cent., and in January a proposal to make it 7½ more was seriously contemplated.

ECONOMIST.

HERE AND THERE.

FORTUNATELY the exposure of the Niagara Railway Bill by the independent press, and the efforts of a few gentlemen who abhorred the proposed vandalism, have compelled the party press to voice its opinion, and the proposed measure has received a decided check. The Ontario Government has much to be thankful for in that public opinion has insisted on the shelving of a measure with which no patriotic Canadian could sympathize, but which party exigences made it impossible for Mr. Mowat to oppose.

It was almost a necessity that the Grand Trunk Railway should follow the lead of the Canada Pacific in the matter of providing sleeping accommodation for immigrants. At any rate the older company has now provided this much-needed improvement, and no doubt will be encouraged to continue the overhauling of their rolling-stock. So popular did the English Midland Railway Company become by reason of its abolition of the second-class coaches and the improvement of their third-classes, that other railway corporations were compelled to adopt the same system, and

the third-class accommodation over there is not far behind that provided for people who pay three times the fare. A similar reform happily appears likely in Canada. There is no reason why the means of obtaining sleep when upon long journeys should not be put within the reach of immigrants, more especially when it can be done at comparatively small cost. The Canada Pacific directors were the first to see this, and now the Grand Trunk has very commendably commenced the construction of several sleeping cars, all of which are to be ready in time for the opening of the immigrant season. The *Montreal Gazette*, describing one of these, says: "The woodwork is ash, which is nicely finished and decorated, and the arrangements for water, light and heat are very perfect. The seats are so contrived that they may be turned into sleeping berths at night, while overhead the arrangements are after the fashion of the Pullman cars, but bare, the immigrants being expected to provide clothing, etc."

THE attempt which is being made to remove the Toronto "Zoo" to a site near the Exhibition Grounds is most commendable. It is impossible that the animals should longer be permitted to remain within the city limits, and it would be a public misfortune if the nucleus of what we may hope will become an extensive collection were to be scattered for want of public sympathy.

THREE important changes in the postal rates of the United States will go into effect on the first of July next. The postage on letters after that date will be two cents an ounce instead of two cents a half-ounce as at present. The postage on newspapers sent to regular subscribers, and on sample copies sent out by publishers, will be reduced one-half. All cities having more than 4,000 inhabitants will be authorized to establish a special ten-cent stamp delivery service, by which letters can be hastened to their destination. Commenting upon these changes, the *Nation* says: "About the wisdom of the first two there is very little doubt. The ten-cent-stamp project is an experiment, and its wisdom is still to be tested. Provision is made for establishing this service on a separate basis from the regular delivery, and specification is made that it shall not be permitted to interfere in any way with the latter. There is no apparent reason why it should interfere. The argument that if more prompt delivery can be secured for ten cents than for two, it follows that the present system is very defective, does not bear examination. A special messenger with ten or a dozen letters can, of course, make better time than a regular delivery agent with a bagful of letters and papers."

COL. CARROLL D. WRIGHT, the able chief of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labour Statistics, has been called from Boston to Washington to take charge of the National Bureau of Statistics. Col. Wright has made notable advances in the science and art of gathering and interpreting statistics. His task during the year will be an elaborate investigation of the causes of mercantile depressions, his results being programmed for publication next January. Work such as this, planned and carried out with scientific acumen and impartiality, will be invaluable to every student of social progress. More than this, it will explode the baseless contentions of the labour-demagogue, and very probably emphasize the little-learned lesson, that property has duties as well as rights.

MR. EDWARD ATKINSON, the president of the Boston Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company, has recently been addressing the Merchants' Association of Boston on the true principle of underwriting. This he holds to be the prevention of fire by care in construction. His company and to others associated with it have been insuring mill property for thirty years, at about one-fourth the ordinary rates. \$375,000,000 was the total of the risks in force among these companies at the beginning of the year. An article detailing the methods of this form of underwriting, and pointing out its lessons to property-owners everywhere, appears in the April *Popular Science Monthly*. Mr. Atkinson believes it to be a city's duty to enact by-laws for the safe construction of buildings, and for the security from fire of those already built. He draws attention to the liability every American city is under of suffering from conflagration like Chicago and Boston. He would meet this liability by special piping over warehouses and large city blocks, provided with ample water supply. The "slow-burning" construction, he recommends, would in his opinion greatly reduce the risk of vast fires, and add importance to the work of quenching in its first and critical moments.

IF Captain C. G. Lundborg, a retired naval officer of New York, had his way he would almost revolutionize the present mode of building ships. At a recent meeting of the American Yacht Club he exhibited models, and made a statement defending his theory. On the principle that water offers the greatest resistance at its surface, Captain Lundborg would construct a ship that would have its least dimensions at the water line, and its greatest beam below the water, and the sides of which, instead of being constructed with somewhat convex vertical lines, as is the present rule, would have strongly defined concave vertical lines, and the bottom, instead of being nearly round or pointed, would be almost flat. The theory also includes safety. Under the present system any steamship without ballast or cargo would upset, while it was shown that the Lundborg model could not do so under any circumstances, as it rolls less, and will accommodate stronger machinery and waste less power by reason of the screws being more deeply set in the water.

PREACHING recently, the Bishop of Manchester made reference to the so-called "faith-healing" cases—the latest sensation of the Salvation Army—which have been duly reported over here as having occurred in

England. A craving for excitement, Dr. Fraser said, seemed to be the special weakness of the time, and religious excitement was one of the worst forms of this mischief: it was "not the best and fittest frame of mind in which to receive a message from God." In the midst of all "the fever and hubbub (of such movements as the 'faith-healing' exhibitions) the real essence of religion was lost sight of altogether." The gospel of conduct and sobriety appeared to him as being the necessary thing for these times. That there was necessity for this rebuke will be apparent to all who have read the accounts of "Major" Pearson's "cures" in Crewe and elsewhere. A large number of persons declaring themselves to be afflicted with various diseases are stated to have been perfectly cured. A crippled girl walking on crutches went to one of the meetings, received "the anointing," joined devoutly in the supplications offered on her behalf, and at the close of the prayer threw away her crutches and bounded across the room! The greatest sensation of all, however, was caused by the alleged restoration of sight to a blind man who was "anointed," earnestly prayed for, and rose from his knees professing to have received the long-lost sense of sight! In the case of certain similar "faith-healings" alleged to have been accomplished at Hanley by members of the Salvation Army there has been a medical investigation by Mr. W. D. Spanton, F.R.C.S.E. Of course the thing was found to be a "delusion." Mr. Spanton goes particularly into one case. A young woman was taken in a chair to a Salvation Army meeting. It was declared that she had been suffering from paralysis for two years and was unable to move herself. Both her medical man and her nurse told her it was a case of simple hysterical hemiplegia, and that she could walk well enough if she would only try. This, however, was simply what she would not do until, under the influence of the excitement of the meeting and the physical force used to drag her out of the chair, her will at last was made to overpower her emotional state, and she rose and walked. "To say that she was cured," writes Mr. Spanton, "would seem a false assumption, inasmuch as there was no physical disease to cure. Any other shock of a mental character would probably have effected a similar result." Mr. Spanton mentions three alleged cures of deafness. In one case it was found on examination that an old man heard no better than before; in a second that a young man was only deaf in one ear and slightly deaf in the other; while in a third case, when the question was put to a "deaf" girl "Are you deaf?" she at once replied, "Yes, I am deaf," which, of course, would not have been her answer unless she had heard the question. Summing up his observations, the doctor states that he has been quite unable to find one single case of "faith healing" which will bear the interpretation put upon it. "We are asked to believe," he says, "that the power to work miracles has been given to certain men and women in a manner, to say the least of it, repugnant to one's common sense. The Salvation Army officers are generally sufficiently wide awake to decline to undertake any real physical affection, such as a club foot, and yet even with the selection of cases they make, the only impression I have been able to learn as having been made on any is of a purely mental or emotional character."

"WHICH will go back?" asked Tenniel, some years ago, at the bottom of a cartoon in *Punch* showing the British Lion and the Russian Bear on a ledge of rock over the dread precipice whose depths were war. "Both," replied an American cartoonist, who showed the tail of the lion disappearing round a corner, while the tail of the bear disappeared round the other. "Both" it will be again.

OUR friends, the Prohibitionists, should take a leaf from history and reflect upon it. The first sumptuary law, issued on the highest authority, coupled with supreme penalties, was a failure. Has Eden no lessons for Maine?

THE placing of a bust of Burns in the Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey is an event which has given great gratification to Scotchmen in London and elsewhere. The list of subscribers—donations were limited to one shilling—embraces twenty thousand admirers of the poet in nearly every country under the sun, from the Prince of Wales downwards to multitudes of peasants as humble and as poor in this world's goods as Burns ever was. A fine glow of enthusiasm was shed over the unveiling ceremony by the zealous and public-spirited chairman of the Bust Committee, Proceptor Wilson, of Glasgow, who fairly gushed over with delight as he applied the poet's prediction, "We'll a' be proud o' Robin," to the proceedings of the day, and hailed the uncovering of the bust to the Scottish poet in the sacred precincts of Westminster Abbey as another presage of the coming day when "Man to man the world o'er shall brithers be." The ceremony was performed by Lord Rosebery. Dean Bradley, as the head of the Chapter of Westminster Abbey, referred gracefully to the deep admiration for Burns which animated his predecessor and himself, quoted the poet as glibly and patly as Proceptor Wilson himself, greatly to the gratification of that amiable and genial enthusiast. He thrilled the assembled Scotchmen by his remark that the songs of Burns are sung to-day by their brave countrymen on the banks of the Nile—

Where many dangers they must share,
Far from the bonny banks of Ayr.

The bust, the first impressions of which were disappointing, is placed on the stone screen, in the centre of which stands the statue of Shakspeare, and it is flanked by the memorials of Campbell and Thomson.

ALAS for the mutability of all earthly things! The little ivy-covered chapel at Godstow, near Oxford, which is associated with the name and memory of the fair Rosamond of the greatest of the Norman-English

Henry's, is now an enclosure for pigs! Out of the nunnery to which, according to tradition, if not history, Becket banished Rosamond, the British workmen of the nineteenth century appear to be ploughing up sundry ancient stone coffins. These they are apparently at liberty to break into fragments, with the curious result that the bones of the many high-born ladies who lived in that old religious house are now being used for the sport of the boys of the neighbourhood. It is not easy to get up enthusiasm over nameless graves, or to feel reverence for crossbones that no living antiquary is so learned as to identify. But death has its rights in all civilized countries, and the repose of the obscurest dead ought not to be disturbed even so far as the uprooting of their graves disturbs them. The antiquarian interest is something quite distinct from the sentimental interest. The remains of the old nunnery are curious, and might afford food for the archaeologist; yet not only are the shattered buildings given over to the cows and pigs, but the stone coffins that have lain centuries in the earth, and have points of historical interest, are being broken open and destroyed by men to whom the stones composing them are of no more account than was the yellow primrose by the river's brim to the subject of Wordsworth's poem.

MR. GLADSTONE has again been called upon to deny that he is a Roman Catholic. One did think that he had settled that question once for all by his pamphlets on the Vatican, by his article on Pope Pius IX., and by his energetic refusal to permit an infallible priest to dictate to him his conduct in seventy-five per cent. of his life. But a correspondent of the *Family Churchman* has announced authoritatively in a letter to the editor the other day that the Prime Minister had been privately baptized into the Roman obedience. The editor sent the charge against Mr. Gladstone's sincerity to Downing Street. Back came promptly the answer from Mr. Primrose, "Mr. Gladstone thanks you for your communication, and desires me to assure you that there is no truth whatever in the statement that he has been privately received into the Roman Catholic Church." It is a marvel that Mr. Gladstone takes the trouble to contradict over and over again these absurd calumnies. They are calumnies, and they are absurd; and nobody believes them who would accept Mr. Gladstone's denial. For if Mr. Gladstone were capable of posing before the world as an earnest Churchman, making bishops, appointing to cures, advising the Church leaders on matters of ecclesiastical procedure, and generally exercising the influence of the greatest living Anglican, while he was really a subject to the Pope, he would be a living lie, and his word would not be worth the breath expended in uttering it. With such a libel uttered against him, the Premier only says patiently, "I assure you it is not true."

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications intended for the Editor must be addressed: EDITOR OF THE WEEK, 5 Jordan Street, Toronto. Contributors who desire their MS. returned, if not accepted, must enclose stamp for that purpose. M. Your letter is too long, and merely traverses ground which has already been repeatedly gone over.

STOCK GROWING IN THE NORTH-WEST.

To the Editor of the Week:

SIR,—In the *Canadian Breeder* of February 13th is an article on "The Ranching Interest," which, if intended to apply to the cattle ranches of the Canadian North-West, has either been written without any knowledge of the facts or with a deliberate intention of depreciating the value of investments made in cattle in this country. "Stockholders in large ranches, when they come to learn what sort of a year's business has been done, will be eager to sell out at any price," predicts the *Canadian Breeder*; so far is this from being true, that I venture to assert that the general conclusion among cattle-men in the North-West will be that the winter we have just passed through (for we are practically through it) will be regarded as a very favourable one. The losses among range-cattle, from all causes, in this section are not expected by the most experienced and best informed cattle-men to average two per cent. This is not difficult to account for: The cattle entered on the winter peculiarly "fit," owing to the very prolonged warm autumn weather, which lasted up to the middle of December. It is true the latter half of December was bitterly cold, and the snow lay deep on the ranges; but the New Year was ushered in by a very welcome Chinook, and the month of January was by no means unusually cold. The snow almost entirely disappeared, except in the coulees and side-hills, early in February, and the month was characterized by an alternation of thaws and short cold snaps until about the 20th; since the 20th February up to-day we have had an uninterrupted succession of warm spring-like days. The snow in the coulees is rapidly melting into pools and streams, and the ice in the rivers is beginning to break up.

I have talked to many cow-boys, ranchers and others, in regard to the way cattle have stood the winter, and there is a general consensus of opinion that, except among the "Pilgrims," the losses have been nothing to speak of, and will not average above two per cent. These are the views of the range-managers of the Oxley, Wabron, and Cochrane Rancho Companies, the largest owners in the district, and are shared by all the other cattle-men with whom I have spoken in the country.

Fort Macleod, N. W. T., 7th March, 1885.

Yours truly,

C. C. McC.

THE WALCHEREN EXPEDITION.

To the Editor of the Week:

SIR,—In your issue of 19th inst. "Liberal" says: "It is incredible that the British Cabinet entrusted the secret of the expedition to a common spy," etc. That had Napoleon believed the news he would have immediately strengthened the garrison of Antwerp, and that all probabilities pointed out North Germany as the object of the expedition. Permit me to reply that the British Cabinet did not entrust any secret to Smasher, for the expedition had been long preparing, and it was given out that it was intended either for Spain or Holland, not North Germany. The Cabinet undoubtedly had other spies, as the

smugglers acted for both sides, but that Smasher was a special, in whom they thought they could trust, is all but certain. General Monnet believed it, and when thanking him for his good intentions, that he might more effectually deceive him, ordered his aid-de-camp Captain Rogue to give him twenty-five or fifty Napoleons (I forget which). Had Smasher arrived on his own account it would have been in his own lugger, for smugglers were freely admitted because they paid a bribe of seven guilders (to the Governor) for every keg of gin that they took on board, but he was believed to have been landed at night from a British cruiser, and the escort on leaving him on the coast a few miles from town concealed themselves according to orders, and reported that after dark he made a signal, and a fully manned boat, probably from the gun-boat, came for him.

As regards "Liberal's" remark that had Napoleon believed the report he would immediately have strengthened Antwerp, is it not likely that the Emperor may have thought that Flushing would be the first object of attack? In the before-mentioned memoir it is stated that "while the fleet was at anchor Flushing received a reinforcement of two or three thousand men, chiefly composed of newly-levied conscripts, badly dressed and accoutred. Twelve thousand more were sent from Paris, but could not cross the Scheldt on account of the British fleet. Napoleon was then at Vienna, with his army, which had almost drained the country, so that General Monnet's entreaties for more men were unavailing." When the crisis came, however, extraordinary efforts were made, as I Louis (Bonaparte), and the men were principally Hollanders; but to the King's disgust the Emperor sent the Prince of Ponte Corvo to take the command.

Had a Wellington been in command he would have followed his instructions and taken Antwerp, which could have been done in three days, as of the 2,500 men there at first only 1,500 were soldiers, the rest being artificers and invalids, and the citadel was not in good repair. He could then have easily taken Flushing. Chatham, however, appears to have been afraid to leave that fortified town behind him.

Toronto.

B. HOMER DIXON.

FLOWER-PIECES.

I.

I THINK in that far time when Gabriel came
And held short speech with Mary in sweet wise—
That when the faint fear faded from her eyes,
And they were lighted with a sudden flame
Of joy bewildering and wonderment—
With reverence the angel in her palm
Laid one white lily, dewy with the balm
Of the Lord's garden, saying: "This is sent
For thine espousal—thou the undefiled,
And it shall bloom till all be consummate:"
Lo then he passed—she praying where she sat
Felt her life moved in manner wondrous mild;
Then laying 'gainst her bosom the white flower
She bowed her head and said, "It is God's dower."

II.

Bring lilies to God's altar, it is meet—
I think when in Christ all things were complete,
And He had passed from out the sepulchre,
The angels who held watch where He had lain
And gave such loving greeting to those twain,
Who came while it was early yet—said unto her
Who after should see first her risen Lord:
"Into thy hand we give this blessed flower
In earnest of the new life born this hour,
In this poor earth. Thy prayers in heaven are heard."
Bring lilies to God's altar, it is meet!
God's angel sayeth, "It is Eastertide."
Thou too may'st find rest in His wounded side;
Thou too, as she, may'st rise to kiss His feet.

HORATIO GILBERT PARKER.

REJOINDER TO "A MOAN IN CHURCH."

(Written in a Vestry.)

AND art thou God's "beloved," thou sleepy hearer,
Thy head lolled sideways in thy discontent?
But say, were that lorn preacher's utterance blent
With life-hues richer, were his reasoning clearer,
His the warm tones of one whose soul clung nearer
To life's deep passion and its high intent,
What use, if all on thy pleased ear were spent,
Haply to make thee hold poor self the dearer?
Upon his heart does custom frost-like fall,
Thence on thine eyes? With both 'tis custom's cheat,
In making him thou hast some share with all
To form the pattern for his counterfeit.
He drones? Wake then! old Herbert's word recall;
God preach thee "patience," not Self self-conceit!

Spectator.

FREDERIC MANN.

PEOPLE ought to be very sure that they get hold of the right word. It is a fact that a lady went into a drug-store lately and asked for a bottle of "mutilated" spirit. The young man stared for a moment, but recovered himself (doubtless accustomed to mistakes of this kind). "Methylated spirit; certainly, madam." He was right. This lady had literally "mutilated" her English, and meant to ask for "methylated spirit!"

THE SCRAP BOOK.

GORDON.

THERE comes from the East, with its clouds of wrong —
Oh! keen as the lightning's dart —
The shaft of a pain that shall quiver long
In Christian England's heart.

There come from the East on the burdened breeze
Such voices of woe and wail,
That beyond the bounds of the barrier seas
The face of the world grows pale.

Aye! pale with a sympathy deep as tears,
And a sorrow of bodeful gloom;
For the splendid sun of a Hero's years
Death rounded in dark Khartum!

He carried the banner of England high
In the flush of the Orient skies,
And the fervors of antique chivalry
Outflashed from his warrior eyes.

'Twas a Cour de Leon's hand once more
Which the Lion flag led on;
But the soul of the dauntless soldier bore
The chrism of pure St. John.

O! hand of iron, but heart as sweet
As the rose's spring tide breath,
We dream that its pulses of pity beat
In the very grasp of Death.

And the outcast thousands for whom he poured,
In the pauses of toil and strife,
Afar from the glitter of lance or sword,
The waters of love and life,

They are looking with moistened eyes to-day
On the streets his footsteps trod;
"Shall we meet him again," they softly say,
"In that wonderful city of God!"

* * * *

He was left to perish by steel or shot
In the core of the savage lands,
And be thrust away in a desert spot
Of the bald Soudanian sands.

But the reckless at home, and the traitor abroad!
What matters it now to one
Who is resting at last in the peace of his Lord,
Beyond the stars and the sun!

Still comes from the East with its stormy wrong—
Ah! keen as the lightning dart—
The shaft of a pain that shall quiver long
In Christian England's heart.

Still come from the east, on the mournful breeze,
Low voices of woe and wail,
And beyond the bounds of the barrier seas
The face of the world grows pale.

—Paul Hamilton Hayne.

HOW BURNABY WAS KILLED.

MR. BURLEIGH, the special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, in a letter dated January 24, sends the following account of how Colonel Burnaby was killed at Abu Klea. He says:—"Colonel Burnaby himself, whose every action at the time I saw from a distance of about thirty yards, rode out in front of the rear of the left face, apparently to assist two or three of our skirmishers, who were running in hard pressed. I think all but one man of them succeeded in reaching our lines. Burnaby went forward to the men's assistance sword in hand. He told me he had given to his servant to carry that double-barrelled shot gun which he had used so well against the Hadendowas at El Teb, in deference to the noise made in England by so-called humanitarians against its use. Had it been in his hands Burnaby would easily have saved other lives as well as his own, but they would have been English lives at the expense of Arabs. As the dauntless Colonel rode forward on a borrowed nag—for his own had been shot that morning—he put himself in the way of a sheikh charging down on horseback. Ere the Arab closed with him a bullet from some one in our ranks, and not Burnaby's sword-thrust, brought the sheikh headlong to the ground. The enemy's spearsmen were close behind, and one of them suddenly dashed at Colonel Burnaby, pointing the long blade of his spear at his throat. Checking his horse and slowly pulling it backward, Burnaby leaned forward in his saddle and parried the Moslem's rapid and ferocious thrusts; but the length of the man's weapon, eight feet, put it out of his power to return with interest the Arab's murderous intent. Once or twice I think the Colonel just touched his man, only to make him more wary and eager. The affray was the work of three or four seconds only, for the savage horde of swarthy negroes from Kordofan, and the straight-haired, tawny-complexioned Arabs of the Bayuda steppe, were fast closing in upon our square. Burnaby fenced smartly, just as if he were playing in an assault at arms, and there was a smile on his features as he drove off the man's awkward points. The scene was taken in at a glance—with that

lightning instinct which I have seen the desert warriors before now display in battle while coming to one another's aid—by an Arab who, pursuing a soldier, had passed five paces to Burnaby's right and rear. Turning with a sudden spring, this second Arab ran his spear-point into the Colonel's right shoulder. It was but a slight wound—enough, though, to cause Burnaby to twist around in his saddle to defend himself from this unexpected attack. Before the savage could repeat his unlooked-for blow—so near the ranks of the square was the scene now being enacted—a soldier ran out and drove his sword-bayonet through the second assailant. As the Englishman withdrew the steel, the ferocious Arab wriggled round and sought to reach him. The effort was too much, however, even for his delirium of hatred against the Christian, and the rebel reeled and fell. Brief as was Burnaby's glance backward at this fatal episode, it was long enough to enable the first Arab to deliver his spear-point full in the brave officer's throat. The blow drove Burnaby out of the saddle, but it required a second one before he let go his grip of the reins and tumbled upon the ground. Half a dozen Arabs were now about him. With the blood gushing in streams from his gashed throat the dauntless Guardsman leaped to his feet, sword in hand, and slashed at the ferocious group. They were the wild strokes of a proud, brave man dying hard, and he was quickly overborne, and left helpless and dying. The heroic soldier who sprang to his rescue was, I fear, also slain in the mêlée, for—though I watched for him—I never saw him get back to his place in the ranks."

FROM one end of the Dominion to the other there is discontent and threatened recalcitration. The "National Policy" has been the cause of stirring up anew and intensifying former Maritime dislike of the Confederation. The unjust preference that has been shown Quebec has embittered Ontario. General corruption, mismanagement and "crass and incomprehensible" indifference have alienated the friendly feelings of Manitoba and the North West. Interference with her prerogatives, and total disregard of the wishes of her people have aroused bellicose British Columbia. In five or six years of misrule the present Administration has done more towards the disintegration of the Dominion than a very much longer period of good government is likely to counteract. —*Manitoba Free Press*.

THE course pursued by the Government and Legislature of Ontario in the Niagara Railway Bill matter is inexplicable. They have refused to undertake what the people of the State of New York have decided ought to be a public enterprise. They refuse to hand the work, which they decline to do and which all admit ought to be done, over to a company of reputable men whose ability to carry it on is unquestioned; and they give a company of men who are not known power to aggravate all the evils that now exist at the Falls of Niagara and in their vicinity. The most unsuspecting must see that the matter savours of corruption. And the reticence of the principal organs of public opinion in Ontario in a matter of such importance strengthens that suspicion. —*Montreal Herald*.

IF every public building in London should be destroyed by Irish dynamite, the result would be, not Irish independence, but Irish extermination. Carlyle's cynical suggestion that the true Irish policy would be to put the island under water for twenty-four hours would become the purpose of England. The atrocities of the French Revolution are explicable. They were the mad outbreak of a misery and brutality which the Government had fostered, and for which it promised no relief. But this kind of explanation is wanting to the dynamite terrorists. Their conduct might have been extenuated as at least not surprising during the height of the abominable oppression of the penal laws. But for nearly a century there has been a constantly advancing relief of Irish suffering and correction of injustice in Ireland, until now there remains no abuse or inequality for which constitutional agitation is not the surest remedy. —*G. W. Curtis, in Harper's Magazine*.

MR. BLAKE is a great lawyer no doubt, but his views will not commend themselves to the mass of moderate and reasonable people. Liquor licenses are granted for a year only; but so in many parts of Canada are licenses to auctioneers, packmen, market men and many other classes of business. Will Mr. Blake seriously contend that their livelihood may at any moment be put an end to, without a cent of compensation? Mr. Blake is a case in point himself. By the law of Ontario relating to barristers and solicitors, he must himself take out a yearly license and certificate. There are in every community a certain number of cranks who profess to believe that lawyers are an unmitigated evil. Suppose these cranks should unexpectedly find themselves in a majority and should make a law that after the expiry of the yearly license no one should practise law. Mr. Blake would be at a blow stripped of all advantage of his learning, of his long accumulated experience, of his wide reputation and high character. Would he admit that the popular voice could justly do this without compensation because he practises under yearly license? The true statement of the position of a license-holder is that the license is a convenient device for purposes of taxation and regulation, and that so long as he conducts himself with propriety and pays the tax, the understanding is that it will be renewed from year to year. —*Halifax Chronicle*.

AN old woman was speaking in high terms of a young doctor, whose father is a well-known physician. Said she: "Why, ma'am, the folks around here do say as the young fellow's 'most as *skilly* as his pa!"

MRS. M——, whose husband is a doctor, was standing at the window as a funeral passed. Her cook Mary was in the room. "Is that one of the doctor's, ma'am?" asked Mary. "I think not," answered Mrs. M——, "I've not heard the doctor mention any funeral." "Ah! ma'am," heavily sighed Mary, "I suppose the doctor *mostly* has one every day." This anecdote is a fact.

MUSIC.

THERE has been much Handelian dissipation throughout the musical world in honour of the composer's bi-centenary, in connection with which two interesting performances have taken place in London, one of which was given by the newly-established Handel Society, which gave a revival of "Saul," on February 21st, in St. James's Hall. Of all Handel's oratorios "Saul" is one of the least known in the present day. For many years it has not been performed in England, which neglect is accounted for in an English musical paper by the fact that it consists largely of solo numbers. Handel's songs have to a great extent become old fashioned, whilst his choruses have constantly increased in popularity. The Sacred Harmonic Society also gave a performance of Handel's oratorio "Belshazzar." Mr. C. Hallé conducted, and the vocalists were Miss Marriott, Miss Chester, Madame Patey, Mr. Edward Lloyd and Mr. Bridson. In Germany the occasion has been celebrated in various places with much *eclat*. At Halle, where the composer was born on February 23, 1685, the festival was munificently patronized by the local authorities and numbers of visitors from all parts of Germany. The work chosen for the first performance was the secular oratorio of "Hercules." Dr. Homeyer, the well-known organist of Leipzig, accompanying on the organ. The performance was perfect and produced a deep impression on the crowded audience. On the anniversary of the composer's birth a ceremony took place in front of Handel's monument in the market place, when some choruses from "Judas Maccabeus" were sung. The oration of the day was then delivered, and was followed by the march from "Joshua," for wind instruments. A grand performance of "The Messiah" was also given, the orchestra comprising the band of the Gewandhaus Concerts, of Leipzig, together with that of the City of Halle. Similar Handel celebrations have taken place in several other prominent German towns. Other celebrations are yet to come, notably the lower Rhine Festival, which will take the form of a commemoration of the joint bi-centenary of the birth of Bach and Handel, and the Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace, which will be given this year in honour of the anniversary.

Two entertainments recently given at Government House, Ottawa, claim notice in this column, as they are a step towards the recognition of the claims of music. They consist of *Soirées Musicales* given by their Excellencies Lord and Lady Lansdowne. At these delightful *réunions* high-class music has been performed by The Ottawa String Quartette Club, Mr. F. Boucher, the violin virtuoso, and leading amateur vocalists. The large hall which is connected in people's minds with many delightful balls and theatrical entertainments is now carpeted and handsomely furnished as a drawing-room, which with the rest of the house is open to the limited number of guests invited, to move about at will, the only restriction being that they are expected to listen in silence whilst the music is being performed. Unfortunately a few ill-bred persons occasionally transgress notwithstanding the respect due to the art of music and to their distinguished hosts; but all those who have performed have marked and appreciated the personal efforts of his Excellency Lord Lansdowne to ensure a proper appreciation of their efforts.

"SILVANA," an opera by Carl Maria Von Weber, which has been recently revived in Hamburg, was commenced by that great composer in his twenty-second year, and was first produced in 1810 in Frankfort; but did not achieve any great success in consequence of being wedded to a weak libretto, and was accordingly dropped for many years. In 1854 Mr. F. Langer, a composer of standing, and Mr. Ernest Paque, poet and *librettist*, undertook to revive the work. Mr. Paque wrote an entirely new libretto on a subject taken from Rheinish myths, which comprised four acts, whereas the old work had only three. The composer accordingly adapted music from the rich treasure of Weber's piano compositions and arranged it so cleverly that "Silvana" as it stands is a genuine Weber opera without a note of music from any other pen. It will shortly be produced in all the chief theatres of Germany.

The directors of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, have decided to undertake German Opera again next season. An attempt, it is said, will be made to obtain the services of Herr Hans Richter, of Vienna, as conductor. Mr. Walter J. Damrosche has been chosen assistant conductor in recognition of the services of his lamented father. Among the operas produced will be Wagner's "Meistersinger," "Gotterdammerung," "Tannhauser," "Lohengrin," "Walküre," Rubinstein's "Nero," Goldmark's "Queen of Sheba," etc.

The Philharmonic Society of London (England) recently gave the first concert of the season, under the conductorship of Sir A. S. Sullivan, in St. James's Hall, which was crowded on the occasion. Among the numbers performed were a new symphony by Brahms, overtures by Weber and Mendelssohn, and violin concerto by Beethoven, played by Herr Joachim. The novelties announced for the coming concerts comprise a specially composed symphony by Dvorak, a "Symphonic Poem" by Charles Wingham, and a prize overture by Gustave Ernest.

The chief topic of discussion in Hamilton musical circles is the Hamilton Musical Union. The promoters issued a circular asking for support, stating that their object was to form a musical society for the development and cultivation of local talent, and to provide agreeable recreation for the citizens. The Union is to be divided into operatic and choral branches, and active members may join one or both. Among those mentioned as patrons are Senator James Turner, J. M. Gibson, M.P.P., Judge Sinclair, R. A. Lucas, E. Martin, Q.C., and J. N. Travers. The new society is an outgrowth of the Hamilton Amateur Opera Company which, some weeks

since, gave good performances of the "Pirates of Penzance" at the Opera Houses of Hamilton and Toronto, under the direction of Mr. R. Thomas Steele. The promoters are for the most part men of wealth, and the organization will have the support of the best society. It is proposed to give two or more performances of light opera during a season, and possibly a cantata or short oratorio, with a programme of part songs for a third concert. Musicians, both professional and amateur, are much troubled to decide as to the probable result of the organization of this new society upon the cause of music in the city. The supporters of the Union claim that there is a field for their society, while the patrons and members of the Philharmonic Society, which, under Prof. Torrington, has done excellent work in performing "Naaman," the "Elijah," the "Messiah," and shorter works of the best order, assert that the city is not large enough to support two societies, and affect to see a spirit of factious opposition in those who have organized the Musical Union. Hitherto large musical societies in Hamilton have been unable to meet expenses. By close financial management the Philharmonic Society has this season been kept out of debt. There is considerable doubt existent as to Mr. Steele's ability to successfully manage a large choral and orchestral force so as to produce important works, and until this doubt is removed it is scarcely probable that musicians will leave a society under Prof. Torrington to work under an untried man. This may be merely an unfortunate circumstance for Mr. Steele; but it is one which he will have to battle against, and if he should prove able to overcome it, the greater will be his after success. The members of the Union talk of performing Sullivan's "Iolanthe" before the close of the season.

"Elijah" is soon to be given by the Philharmonic Society. Mr. Stoddard, of New York, is to be the bass soloist. Local talent is spoken of for other solo parts. The Arion Club (male voices) has taken up the study of a strong work for male chorus, soloists and orchestra—"Mila," by Robert Schwalbe.

Mrs. Martin Murphy, soprano, who has studied under good masters in New York, has accepted an engagement for next season with the Emma Abbott Opera Company. She has a voice of fair range, good quality, and that will enable her to do effective work in the lighter operas. Mr. MacDuff, one of the best violin teachers in Hamilton, gave his first annual concert in St. Paul's Church School-room in that city on Thursday, March 19. The programme was symmetrical (in a musical sense) and chiefly notable for the first appearance of the Hamilton Harmonic Quartette (brass), organized by Mr. Peel, leading cornet of the 13th Battalion Band. The quartette played some part songs with surprising smoothness and balance of tone, though there was a lack of promptness in attack. The most satisfactory number of the programme was the Allegro from Mendelssohn's Trio Op. 49, for violin, 'cello and piano, played by Mr. MacDuff, Prof. Parker and Miss Cummings. As a whole the trio was well played, though at times the piano was rather obtrusive and the 'cellist did not bring out as broad tone as could have been desired. But it is encouraging to see such a number on the programme. Mrs. Rosina Wilkinson, late of England, played an Andante and Rondo by De Beriot as a violin solo. Her fingering is rapid and clear, and she plays with dash and vigour, but lacks the intellectual quality which stamps the work of a really fine artist. She does not always play in tune.—*C Major*.

The promoters of the concert announced to be held in the Toronto Horticultural Gardens on April 10th are exceedingly anxious that the public should understand that it is Miss Clara Louise Kellogg—not Miss Fanny Kellogg—who is engaged for that occasion, along with Miss Huntington and the String Quartette of the Buffalo Philharmonic. The subscription list already includes the names of many of the *élite* of the city.

THE PERIODICALS.

THAT prince of sporting magazines, *Outing*, begins Vol. VI. with the April number, and comes out in a neat new wrapper; moreover, it is almost doubled in size, and other improvements entitle it to take place, as the enterprising publishers claim, in the foremost rank of American magazines. Four serials are begun in this number. Julian Hawthorne contributes four chapters of a strong novel, entitled "Love; or, a Name." "A Modern Tramp," by Mr. E. C. Gardner, is an illustrated serial in which the problem of summer homes is pleasantly and helpfully considered. "The Flag of the Seven Upright Ones" is a striking tale of Swiss democracy, by the famous novelist Gottfried Keller, translated by Miss Frances A. Shaw. The fourth serial is entitled "Across America on a Bicycle," and begins the story of Mr. Thomas Stevens' journey across the continent. Two bright short stories are given,—"Early Jim," a study of Lancashire character and dialect, and "How Mr. Podwinkle was Encouraged," a sketch by President Bates. A leading feature of the number is a strong group of letters on the preservation of the Adirondack Forests, Green Mountains is profusely illustrated by the author, J. R. Chapin, and a delightful article describing a vacation in Canada with birch and paddle is illustrated by the Frontispiece—a striking picture drawn by Henry Sandham, engraved by H. E. Sylvester, and Harbour," illustrated with an exquisite full-page engraving. There are also poems by Edith M. Thomas, Frank D. Sherman, and R. K. Munkittrick. Other features are an exciting description of an ocean yacht race, by Col. Stuart Taylor, a valuable paper on whist, by one of the best authorities in the country, and a plea for football, by Eugene L. Richards, jun'r, captain of the Yale eleven.

A CAPITAL portrait of Lincoln forms the frontispiece to the April number of *Harper's*. It is a striking piece of wood-cutting by Krull, from a photograph in the possession of W. P. Garrison, Esq. Equally good likenesses, almost as well cut, of the Prince and Princess of Wales accompany a paper on their favourite country-house at Sandringham, and other lovely illustrations assist to an idea of that charming Norfolk hall. Judged by the beautiful pictures which resulted from it, a more successful wild-geese chase could

hardly be imagined than that of F. D. Millet to Lubeck. The writer of an article on Chinese porcelains claims that the average collector is at any rate to be tolerated; certainly the possessor of the beautiful specimens reproduced in this magazine is rather to be greatly envied. Nine charming examples of the engraver's art assist greatly to understand how picturesque it is "Along the Rio Grande." Eugene L. Didier contributes one of the most interesting papers of the number: "Some Richmond Portraits," consisting of biographical comment upon eleven well-known Virginians. Some useful information in pleasant form is embodied in an article on "Fly-Fishing." Two complete stories, further instalments of the serials, poetry, and the editorial departments complete the issue.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for April is a remarkably good number. Its serials by Craddock, Mrs. Oliphant, and Miss Jewett progress admirably, and Dr. Holmes adds the attraction of a poem called "The Old Song" to his instalment of "The New Portfolio." The papers of on Madame Mohl are also continued, and an essay on "Time in Shakespeare's Plays," by Henry A. Clapp, forms a pendant to a former article on "Time in Shakespeare's Comedies." A delightful paper entitled "George Frederick Handel: 1685-1885," by John S. Dwight; "Political Economy and the Civil War," a study by J. Laurence Laughlin; a story called "Fate Dominant," by F. R. Stockton; "An Unclassified Philosopher," a sketch; and a paper on a sparrow, by Oliver Thorne Miller, are the other attractions of the number. The poetry comprises "Fiammetta," by Helen Gray Cone; "Cressid," by Nora Perry; "The Strange Guest," by Edith M. Thomas; and "Easter Lilies," by John B. Tabb. There are also reviews of recent poetry by Browning, Tennyson, and Swinburne, and Grosse's edition of Gray's Works, together with the usual Contributors' Club and Books of the Month.

With the approach of April and, it is hoped, of brisker trade, ladies "lightly turn to thoughts of" spring and summer fashions. *Godley's Lady's Book* will render yeoman's service in calming the perturbed spirit which yearns after "the latest" and "the sweetest thing" in woman's wear. It is not for the average masculine mind to offer a critical opinion upon such a matter, but, so far as is comprehensible to the male understanding, the numerous plates, coloured and otherwise, which are given in the April number appear to combine the ornamental and utilitarian to a greater degree than has been hitherto common. The departments of this model lady's magazine are as usual laden with information; several chapters of fiction give an agreeable flavour to the literary *menu*; a portrait of the new president is added; the musical selection of the number is a Spanish melody, "La Palowa," arranged for the piano; and the whole is preceded by a beautiful frontispiece, "at prayer."

Owing to the vagaries of the post, or to some other unexplained cause, the March number of *Godley's Lady's Book* did not come to hand until after the April issue was noticed. It is not too late, however, to add that a distinguishing feature of the March part is the excellence of a steel-plate frontispiece: "Time and Tide Wait for no Man," in which the dismay and despair of an artist overtaken by the tide are powerfully depicted. Coloured and other fashion plates will bring joy to the heart of many a fair reader, and whilst the clothing of feminine forms is properly assigned large space, "the inner man" is not forgotten, many useful cookery recipes being given.

The April *Lippincott's* opens with a chatty article entitled "Glimpses of Peking" which will be found an interesting contribution to the budget of writing upon China precipitated by the Franco-Chinese War. Another timely and very readable paper is that entitled "Psychic Research," in which the writer gives some very curious cases which have come under the notice of the English "Society for Psychic Research." Canadians will be almost as much interested as their American brethren in "Studies in Lake Port," under which caption is a capital descriptive and historical account of Buffalo. Some hitherto unpublished facts about the old "Stars and Bars" flag are collected in another paper, and a second account of the New Orleans Exhibition is a valuable contribution to the literature of that gigantic undertaking. Mary Agnes Tincker's charming story "Aurora," is continued. A number of short stories, poems, and articles of interest upon current topics also appear.

A GLANCE down the list of contributions to the current *Wide-Awake* reveals two very pleasant facts: first, it is evident that the proprietors have attained that commercial success to which their taste and energy are entitled, or they could not afford to engage so many talented pens and pencils; second, it is pleasant to know that Young Canada and Young America have a periodical entirely devoted to their instruction and entertainment of such great artistic and literary excellence. The weakness of many schemes for the elevation of mankind and youth is that, whilst condemning vicious systems of habits philanthropists have nothing to put in their place—no means of healthily employing moments hitherto wasted upon demoralizing pursuits. In magazines such as *Wide-Awake* lies material to hand for those whose minds have been poisoned by the perusal of penny dreadful literature, and who may thus be amused without being enervated, interested whilst involuntarily they are being taught.

The April *Eclectic* comes to hand with twenty-two articles, nineteen of them being judiciously-made selections from the leading English magazines. The list opens with Mr. Arnold's well-known paper upon America, then follows Mr. Harrison's review of the agnostic year, two poetic criticisms, "Stimulants and Narcotics," "Folk-Lore for Sweet-hearts," "A Romance of a Greek Statue," Mr. John Morley's opinion of George Eliot, Hayne on Tennyson, "In the Norwegian Mountains," "The Quandong's Secret," "De Banana," "Turning Air into Water," a paper on the longevity of the Jews, another on the Hittites, "Automatic Writing," notes on vivisection and "Popular English," and editorial comment.

The numbers of *The Living Age* for March 14th and 21st contain, "A word more about America," by Matthew Arnold, *Nineteenth Century*; "Gainsborough," *National Review*; "Jane Austen at Home," "The Upper Engadine in Winter," and "The American Audience," *Fortnightly*; "The Crofter Problem and M. Sardou's Theodora," *Contemporary*; "Experts in Handwriting and De Banana," *Comhill*; "A Week with George Eliot" and "A Crimean Snow Storm," *Temple Bar*; "A French Huguenot Village in Germany," "Boys in the Chrysalis," "Kilina-njaro, and Age and its Consequences," *Spectator*; "The Life of the Mahdi," *Telegraph*; with instalments of "A House Divided Against Itself," and "Plain Frances Mowbray," and poetry.

The *North-West*—dating from St. Paul and Minneapolis—devotes a considerable portion of its March space to a profusely-illustrated paper on St. Paul, which is practically an historical description of that city, with special reference to its progress during the past year. The editor contributes a most interesting article on the New Orleans Exhibition, also accompanied by many illustrations. Much further information of use to those interested in "Western Progress" is also given. Our contemporary bears evident signs of public appreciation.

BOOK NOTICES.

ROBERT ORD'S ATONEMENT. By Rosa N. Carey. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott and Company.

IN DURANCE VILE AND OTHER STORIES. By "The Duchess." Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott and Company.

ONE rises from the perusal of a book like "Robert Ord's Atonement" with a feeling of thankfulness to the author for restoring to us that belief in human nature without which life is so poor a thing, but which is apt to leave us in a high-pressure and somewhat frivolous age. Robert Ord is a sterling but most unlovable hero who wrongfully accuses his aunt's heir, Rotha Maturin (once her companion), of having induced the choleric old lady to disinherit her nephews. The story of Miss Maturin's consequent troubles is told in a fascinating style which has already earned for the author so many eulogiums. Of the five stories "bound together" in the second book, two partake of the nature of tract romances. The first, "In Durance Vile," gives a vivid conception of some miseries which result from the "patriotic" preachings of Mr. Parnell and other unscrupulous firebrands. In "A Fit of the Blues" an insight is given into the methods of some "blue-ribbon army" leaders. "Dr. Ball" and "Moonshine and Marguerites" are also very interesting; but of the quintette of novelettes, the palm must be given to a bright little romance of "Killarney"—in which the vagaries of a dangerous little flirt are the cause of much heart-burning.

WEIRD TALES. By E. T. W. Hoffman. A new Translation from the German, with a Biographical Memoir. By J. T. Bealby, M.A. In two volumes. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: Standard Publishing Company.

SHORT, good stories are in almost unlimited demand at present. Certainly the supply is not up to the wants of publishers, and it was a happy thought, therefore, which prompted the re-issue of Hoffman's fantastic romances. The selections given in the two handsome volumes before us are chiefly from the "Fantasiestücke," and are characteristic of the erratic and perverse, though entralling, style of their author, whose every line shows the artist instinct. His constant use of strong light and shade renders some of his situations weird in the extreme, and nothing more ghostly than Hoffman's ghosts could be desired by the most devout believer in mystery. The biography is not the least valuable part of this work; indeed, it reads more like one of his own romances. The translations, moreover, are most excellent, and copious notes further enhance the value of a pair of volumes which are amongst the most welcome of recently-published books of fiction. The print, paper, binding, and general "get-up" of "Weird Tales" are of the tastiest.

THE HEROES; or, Greek Fairy Tales for My Children. By Charles Kingsley. Illustrated. London and New York: Macmillan and Company. Toronto: Williamson and Company.

THE title sufficiently indicates the scope of this handsome little book, which includes five stories of Perseus, six of the Argonauts, and four of Theseus, and which has lost none of its popularity in a quarter of a century's constant use.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND Co. are about issuing another edition of Harriet Martineau's Autobiography, as edited and supplemented by Mrs. Maria W. Chapman, in two volumes at a reduced price.

THE latest literary sensation is that Charles Egbert Craddock, the author of many successful stories of Tennessee life, is a Miss Murfree, of St. Louis. Her publishers supposed from the manuscript and style that the writer was a man.

MESSRS. CUPPLES, UPHAM AND Co. will shortly issue a new and improved edition of W. H. Whitcomb's "Ancestral Tablets," a book of diagrams for pedigrees so arranged that eight generations of the ancestors of any person may be recorded in a connected and simple form.

CASSELL AND COMPANY will shortly issue Mr. Keeman's novel, "Trajan," an international story whose scene is laid in Paris, and whose principal characters are American; "Kindly Light," a dainty volume of selections for every day in the year; and the first two volumes in the "Fine Art Library."

CHARLES J. O'MALLEY, a poetical contributor to THE WEEK, is called by the *Current* "the John Burroughs of Kentucky." While a man of the highest education and culture, he is still one of the simplest and plainest of farmers and finds his inspiration while following his plough and tilling his own fields.

DR. BAIRD'S "History of the Huguenot Emigration to America," which was announced for publication last autumn, but was postponed, is to be issued by Dodd, Mead and Co. this month. It is the fruit of investigations that have been carried on in the United States, and in France and England, during the last ten or twelve years. The materials used have been found largely in unpublished documents.

MESSRS. S. C. GRIGGS AND COMPANY announce the fourth volume of their series of "German Philosophical Classics for English Readers and Students," to appear early in April. This volume will be a critical exposition of "Hegel's Aesthetics," by Prof. J. S. Kedney, S.T.D., of the Seabury Divinity School, and will contain in addition to Hegel's thought many valuable suggestions and remarks upon its applications and limitations—the author, Dr. Kedney, having made a specialty of this branch of philosophic study.

THE love letters of Keats to Fanny Brawne were sold recently by a London firm. They numbered thirty-five, and fetched high prices. The first letter was knocked down for £18 (C. Wilde); another of three 4to pages, £18 10s.; another four pages 4to, £27 (C. Wilde); a long closely-written letter of four pages 4to, £20; another, £20; one of 1½ pages 4to, £13 (Thibadeau); a letter of one 4to page, commencing "My sweet girl," £11 10s. (lot 8); a letter of 1½ 4to pages, £20; another £9 15s. (Waller); another letter, undated, but written from Wentworth Place, £6 10s.

MESSRS. LOTHROP AND COMPANY (of Boston) announce, amongst other forthcoming books: "In the Woods and Out," by Pansy, illustrated; "Couldn't be Bought," by Faye Huntington, illustrated; "Stories from the Pansy," fully illustrated; "A History of China," by Albert K. Douglass, carefully edited by Mr. Arthur Gilman; Miss Seidmore's much-talked of historical and descriptive book on "Southern Alaska and Sitkan Archipelago," which has been delayed in printing by the preparation of the engravings; and attractive reprints of J. Mortimer Granville's "Common Mind Troubles," "How to Make the Best of Life," "Secret of a Clear Head," "Sleep and Sleeplessness," and "Secret of a Good Memory."

WHAT IS CATARRH ?

From the Mail (Can.) Dec. 15.
 Catarrh is a mucopurulent discharge caused by the presence and development of the vegetable parasite amoeba in the internal lining membrane of the nose. This parasite is only developed under favourable circumstances, and these are:—Morbid state of the blood, as the blighted corpuscle of urticaria, the germ poison of syphilis, mercury, toxomocia, from the retention of the effeted matter of the skin, suppressed perspiration, badly ventilated sleeping apartments, and other poisons that are germinated in the blood. These poisons keep the internal lining membrane of the nose in a constant state of irritation, ever ready for the deposit of the seeds of these germs, which spread up the nostril, and down the fauces, or back of the throat causing ulceration of the throat; up the eustachian tubes, causing deafness; burrowing in the vocal cords, causing hoarseness, and the proper structure of the bronchial tubes, ending in pulmonary consumption and death.

Many attempts have been made to discover a cure for this distressing disease by the use of inhalants and other ingenious devices, but none of these treatments can do a particle of good until the parasites are either destroyed or removed from the mucous tissue.
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