

THE WEEK:

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The Week.

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY AND LITERATURE.

Edited by W. PHILIP ROBINSON.

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TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE driving of the last spike in the Canadian Pacific Railway, with a gracious telegram of congratulation from Her Majesty, will cause the public mind to travel backward and review the history of this enterprise from the time when the country was committed to it, with no survey or estimate, but with the explicit promise, recorded in an Act of Parliament, that the road should be completed without any addition to taxation. Whether the work will accomplish the political object for which it is intended—whether the last spike is destined to clench the Union of the Federated Provinces or to prove the first nail in the coffin of Confederation—the immediate future will show. The completion of the road is rather ominously attended by the financial failure of the political system, by a strong manifestation of the antagonism between the British and French elements, and by expressions of discontent, almost amounting to disaffection, among the people of the Maritime Provinces. Whether, as a commercial undertaking, the road is likely to be profitable to the Company it must be left to the Company to say: they have calculated the advantages of British Columbia, with its population of fifteen thousand whites, as a terminus, the chances of attracting the Oriental traffic as well as its value if attracted, and the proportion which the inevitable loss on the Lake Superior section will bear to the gains upon the other sections and the whole line. If the road will pay for its working at all, it will pay the owners a good interest on the sum which they have put into it, and which, apart from the subsidies, must be comparatively small. To Old Canada, at whose expense it has been built, the work is, commercially, a dead loss. The mere transit of produce, North-Western or Oriental, to a European market will be of no appreciable value. Of her hundred millions she will never receive back a cent, while the grain, which is her staple, and the farms upon which it is raised, cannot fail to be depreciated by the competition, prematurely and gratuitously brought down upon them, of the vast wheat-producing regions of the North-West.

RUMOURS are current of an approaching dissolution of the Dominion Parliament, and the Opposition appears to be furbishing its arms as if for an impending battle. It is difficult to see what could be Sir John Macdonald's motive for such a manœuvre. When last he used the prerogative of dissolution his motive was obvious enough: he wanted to take advantage of the popularity enjoyed by his Government during the flush of false prosperity which comes with the first days of Protection. But he can scarcely wish to take the opinion of the country on the blessings of a deficit combined with high taxation. Nor is it likely that he is in haste to encounter the wrath either of the Devil or the Deep Sea, between which he is placed in deciding the question of Riel. It is possible that by the lurid light of the deficit he may see bad times coming for his system, and that he may wish, before they come, to grasp a new lease of power. If, however, there is anything in the rumour, we cannot refrain from once more protesting against a palpable misuse of the prerogative. The people, in the exercise of their constitutional right, have elected their representatives in Parliament for a certain term of years. That term ought not to be abridged except when a constitutional necessity, such as is produced by a disagreement between the Executive and the Legislature, plainly calls for an appeal to the country. The stated term is necessary to the independence of the members, whose souls would not be their own if the sword of a final dissolution were always suspended over their heads, to be let fall at the Minister's discretion. The prerogative is not intended to empower the head of the party in power to throw the dice whenever he thinks that the chances are in his favour. It is intended to preserve the harmony between the two branches of the Legislature and between the Legislature and the Ministers of the Crown. To keep a party in power, the constituencies have been gerrymandered, and the franchise has been manipulated for the same end. This surely is enough without any further inroads on public right. There is no saying to what extent a corrupt Minister might prolong his tenure of office if he could always hold the election when he pleased. He is unwilling to appeal to the authority of the Governor-General; but if he has any real function it would seem to be that of guarding in the last resort the fundamental principles of the constitution against party violence or fraud. If he refused to grant a dissolution for a mere object of party strategy, he might possibly have some trouble, though we do not believe that Sir John Macdonald, in the present circumstances, would venture to try a fall with him, especially as Sir John's own endorsement of Sir Edmund Head's refusal to grant a dissolution merely for the purpose of enabling a Minister to fish for party gains would stand staring him directly in the face. But supposing the worst that is possible to ensue, a man of spirit, rather than be the figure-head of gerrymandering and corruption, would surely take up his hat and go home.

THE appointment of Sir Leonard Tilley to the Lieutenant-Governorship of New Brunswick denotes the withdrawal of a very estimable public man from any but a titular public life. In his departing ear sound the general praises of his integrity, industry and devotion to the public service, blended with the death-knell of his financial system. When a great increase of taxation results in a deficit there surely is no more to be said. The only thing to be said, at least, is that Sir Leonard Tilley is by no means the only victim of that revival of Protectionist fallacies which is one of the most curious phenomena of our time. He is not by any means the only statesman who believes that it is possible to increase the wealth of a country by taxation, and to make industry and capital more productive by forcing them out of their natural channels. "Sir Leonard Tilley," says Sir Thomas Farrer, "quotes certain figures, not undisputed, to show that in consequence of what he calls his National Policy, Canadian manufactures have increased in the number of hands employed by 50,000, in wages paid annually by £3,000,000, and in annual value of products by £16,000,000. He seems to think that this is a pure addition to the wealth of Canada, which but for his policy would have gone to foreigners or to Englishmen, instead of being, as it really is, a compulsory and artificial transfer of the labour and capital of Canadians from the industries in which they can produce more to the industries in which they can produce less, and a consequent diminu-

tion of the aggregate wealth of Canada and of employment for its labour—a wrong not only to the Canadian consumer, who has to pay more than he would have to pay if he bought in the open market, but a still greater wrong to the Canadian labourer and emigrant, who is prevented from producing what would give him the largest result and employ the largest quantity of labour at the highest wages." That anybody should fail to see that labour and capital when transferred to the artificial line of production must be diverted from the natural line, and that the wealth which they would have produced and the wages which they would have drawn in the natural line must be lost, seems almost incredible. But are there not people who still believe in sinking funds, and people who are thoroughly convinced that the wealth of the world at once would be enormously increased if all the Governments would only issue an unlimited number of bad promissory notes? Besides, in the case of Protection, "secret history" comes in, and the vision of the economist is clouded by sinister interests and their heavy votes.

THERE is a partial depression of trade in England at the present time, it is true; but where are the proofs that this is the consequence of the repeal of the Corn Laws? In a country with such a multiplicity of great trades some are sure at any given time to be less prosperous than others, and the local suffering attracts attention while the general absence of suffering does not. Depression exists to at least as great an extent in France, where recent legislation has been Protectionist, as in England; it exists in the United States, the model country of Protectionists; it exists in Canada, the National Policy notwithstanding. Where everything commercial is on so large a scale and so sensitive as it is in England, the ordinary fluctuations of commerce are enough to produce partial and occasional distress. The ship-building trade must be affected by nautical improvements which enable the same amount of freight to be carried in fewer bottoms. Whenever a trade is prosperous capital rushes into it, over-production ensues, and depression follows. Does anybody believe that the people of England would now be better off if there was still a heavy tax upon their food? That is the practical question to be answered. Mr. Colquhoun, whose letters to the *London Times* have been cited as testimonies to the failure of Free Trade, has not said anything which can bear that construction. On the contrary, the safeguard which he proposes against any dangers which threaten English trade is the opening of new markets. Open new markets obviously you cannot if you persist in keeping your own closed; for if you will not trade with the rest of the world the rest of the world will not, and cannot, trade with you: this again is a fact which seems not to present itself to the mind of the Protectionist, who never renounces export trade. As to manifestations of industrial discontent, if any one fancies that they are less common in the land of Protection than in that of Free Trade it must be because he never looks into the American papers; for there he would see continually announcements of strikes and quarrels with employers, actual or impending, a dozen in a row. Not for half a century has there been in England anything like the Pittsburgh riots or the Molly Maguire outrages and riots in Pennsylvania. The last Unionist outrages of a serious kind were those at Sheffield, which were on a comparatively small scale and took place twenty-five years ago. Protectionism, by the unnatural stimulus which it imparts, leads to over-production and to crises which are attended by sudden reductions of wages and consequent disputes. It also intensifies the spirit of Unionism, which is simply Protection extended to the workman, though the Protectionist master does not see it in that light.

It is never to be forgotten, however, when the issue between Free Trade and Protection is raised, and reference is made to American experience, that the United States is not an ordinary country, but a continent stretching from arctic to almost tropical regions, and capable of producing everything of importance except, perhaps, tea, for itself. The commercial prosperity of the countries included in Napoleon's Continental system has been cited in the same manner, but as an example it is equally fallacious. As against England Napoleon's system was Protectionist and exclusive, or rather such it was intended to be; for all the time smuggling was active, and the French armies were clothed with British goods; but for all the countries included in the Napoleonic Empire—that is, nearly half Europe—it was a system of international Free Trade. For Canada, with her uniformly severe climate, her limited range of production, and her lack, in the principal Provinces, of coal, Protection must be commercial ruin; and the time cannot be far off when the effects of artificially fostering certain favoured manufactures by misdirection of capital and industry will be generally as well as severely felt. When

that time arrives the only door of escape from ruin for our protected manufacturers will be Commercial Union with the United States, which would bring them under the American tariff. Tariff reduction in the United States will come. So intelligent a people cannot forever suffer themselves to be duped into bearing a heavy taxation for the personal benefit of a few hundreds of their number. But any abrupt change is likely to be prevented both by the fear of an industrial collapse, which is strongly present to the minds of many Free Traders, and by the political influence which the manufacturers with their compact vote will be able to exert so long as parties are evenly balanced. Thus the Canadian manufacturer might obtain a long respite: unless Canada has fallen into her dotage he can hardly hope for more.

THE Free Traders have been too theoretical, and have thereby exposed their flank to the attack of their opponents. They have fancied themselves in a world of abstract principles, whereas they are in a world of concrete necessities, to which principle, however sound in the abstract, must sometimes bow. Every nation, as things are, must have its tariff; every tariff must be an interference with freedom of trade; and the commercial circumstances of different countries being different, each country must be allowed to do what suits its own commercial circumstances best. This the purists of Free Trade have failed to recognize. They have also unreasonably repudiated the aid of retaliation, which, as its object is to force open markets, is virtually a policy of Free Trade. Here Lord Salisbury has them at an advantage, and is enabled to appear in contrast with their scientific pedantry as the advocate of practical justice to his nation. But the man who, not being a member of the Manufacturers' Association, can deny that, as a general rule, Free Trade is good, must have a curiously constructed mind. We should like to see our Protectionist friends present the opposite principle in a clear and definite form. Now is an opportune moment, when the state of the revenue seems to call for something to confirm their faith. Does their theory embrace all products, actual or possible, of native industry? If not, upon what grounds is the distinction made? Upon what economical grounds, we mean, for the political ground upon which large industries are favoured is obvious enough. If it is desirable to force manufactures into existence in a country which has no coal, why is it not also desirable to force the production of kinds of grain or fruits for which the soil and climate are comparatively unsuited? In each case, there being only a certain amount of capital and labour disposable, there is the same transfer from the easy and remunerative production to the less easy and less remunerative. Again, what constitutes the proper circumscription of a territory for the application of the Protective principle? Commerce being a different thing from politics, why should the political area exactly coincide for this purpose with the commercial? If Free Trade with Minnesota would be a commercial curse to Manitoba, why is Free Trade with New Brunswick a commercial blessing to her? We might ask also why Customs duties should be the only mode of guarding ourselves against the baneful irruption of imported plenty? Why do the same people who try to prevent importation by their tariffs proceed to facilitate it by promoting the construction of canals and railways? Will not diminution of freight operate just as fatally as reduction of duties? Mr. Henry Carey, of Philadelphia, bellowed nonsense in bad English; but his nonsense was at least consistent with itself. He avowedly hated international trade altogether; he hated international goodwill as well, and he would, if he could, have dissolved the commercial and the moral union of mankind.

To Mr. Martin Griffin and the other believers in Imperial Federation it must be conceded that more has been said about the Colonies in connection with the present elections in England than ever was said before. Time was when you might read through all the election addresses and speeches without finding the faintest allusion to the topic. But the reason why the subject has acquired a special interest for the British masses just at present is plain: they think that Imperial Federation would bring the Colonies back into the commercial unity of the Empire and secure to the British producer the Colonial markets. Now this is precisely what Mr. Griffin himself would probably allow to be most hopeless. The head of his own party in Canada has framed a Protective tariff against British as well as other goods, and has declared in almost defiant terms that he claims commercial Home Rule for Canada, let Englishmen, Scotchmen or Irishmen protest as they may. Imperial Federation "moves," if Mr. Griffin likes, but its motion is backwards, and backwards it is likely to be unless some strong arm is soon put forth to impel it in the other direction. It will hardly be the arm of Lord Salisbury, who can say nothing more comfortable of the scheme than that it is "formless and shapeless." Mr. Griffin boasts

that Imperial Federation is full of vitality compared with Anglo-Saxon unity, which he calls the dream of daring and ambitious minds. But Anglo-Saxon unity is not, like Imperial Federation, a political movement, and therefore cannot be called upon to report political progress. It is a sentiment, and as a sentiment it does grow, though fitfully and with interruptions caused by Anglophobic demagogism pandering to the Irish vote. Has there not been going on during the last twenty years not only a marked reconciliation of the two great sections of the race, but a fusion—social, ecclesiastical, literary, and of every kind? Twenty years ago who would have thought that the requiem of General Grant would be sung in Westminster Abbey?

As the *Globe* is engaged in re-forming the broken ranks of the Liberal Party for a fresh advance against the enemy, we cannot help respectfully calling its serious attention to the attitude of the Prohibitionist wing. The representatives of that wing have in regular convention resolved that its vote shall be cast in all elections—even in the elections of School Trustees—against any candidate who does not pledge himself to support the Scott Act, no matter what, or how Liberal, his political opinions may be. The *Globe*, it is fair to say, gave these Exclusionists a tap with its fan; but they have paid no heed to the playful admonition, and are proceeding, like consistent and conscientious people, to carry their principle into effect. We would ask the *Globe* seriously to consider what is the situation of a party of which one-half has resolved at all elections, political and municipal, to boycott the other half. Is it to be expected that the part which is boycotted will continue with touching self-sacrifice to vote with the other half and treat it as an ally? The power of names in keeping parties together is great, especially if the name has no meaning. But there is a limit to the influence of nomenclature as well as to those of custom and tradition. The term Liberal will not much longer hide the widening gulf between the fundamental principles of the two sections of the party. It has hitherto belonged and, if the meaning of words is to be regarded, must continue to belong to the friends of liberty. But by the side of these has arisen a school of politicians, one of whom spoke of liberty the other day as "barbarous, savage and sensual." Nominally marching under the same banner are a set of people who want to make a use of the suffrage not less arbitrary, though possibly more beneficent, than the despotism of the Stuarts, and another set of people who would as soon pay ship-money to the Stuarts as allow the spies and familiars of "coercive morality" to invade their private lives and homes. It may have been a part of Mr. Blake's difficulties in command that on questions which are increasing both in number and importance the word to advance would have been a signal to the two wings of his army for wheeling inwards and firing on each other.

WE are sorry to find that some words in our last number have been construed by one reader at least as a renunciation of University Confederation. Nothing could be further from our meaning. We are firm in the faith that a secular university with religious colleges is the true solution of the question between secular and religious education; and we remain just as convinced as ever that a combination of all our resources and a concentration of our academical life are necessary to enable the Province of Ontario to maintain an institution worthy of the name of a University, and capable in the long run of holding its own against wealthy rivals on the other side of the line. The University of Toronto has not at present one-quarter of the revenue requisite to keep it, in the scientific department especially, on a level with the requirements of the times, while its professors, instead of having any leisure for research and for the advancement of learning and science, are engaged without remission in turning the educational wheel like the teachers of a common school. Nor is there the slightest prospect of any further endowment so long as the great denominations stand aloof and give their political support to separate universities of their own. Moreover, this separation, which is inevitably attended by a certain degree of antagonism, stamps the Provincial University with distinctive secularism and thus makes it sectarian in that sense. The President may with perfect truth disclaim any opposition to religious education, but he cannot get rid of the appearance or indeed entirely of the reality. We would earnestly commend this last consideration to those members of the University of Toronto who are either openly opposing Confederation or tacitly contributing to the miscarriage of the scheme by cold approval and faint support. We should be exceedingly sorry to be misunderstood, because this evidently is the turning-point; the question whether the Province is to have a great university or not will soon be decided, and it will be decided once for all. If Confederation is finally rejected the religious universities will appeal to their friends, who will respond to the appeal, and the "one-horse" system will strike roots

such as no Minister of Education, even if he were much more like Hercules than party politicians are, would ever dream of attempting to pluck up!

A PROHIBITIONIST organ announces with a satisfaction which we heartily share that the last quarterly revenue returns in Britain continue to indicate the progress of the Temperance Movement. The *Times* ascribes the diminished Customs receipts to the decline of drinking habits among all classes of the community. The *Standard* chimes in with the remark that the Temperance Movement has, beyond question, affected the yield of the Excise. The *Telegraph* declares that not only is the consumption of spirits and beer still diminishing, but the virtuous zeal of the various local authorities in restricting the number of taverns and public-houses must be now telling seriously upon the proceeds of the licenses issued. Precisely so. Moral, prudential and medical influences, combined with a proper licensing system, are surely and rapidly doing the work of reform without prohibitive legislation: for no prohibitive legislation exists in the United Kingdom, saving in portions of Ireland and Wales, where a Sunday Closing Act has been introduced, and, so far, has proved much worse than a failure. The reform which has taken place in the habits of the wealthier classes of England in the course of the last half-century is by all allowed to be surprising: and it is in the fullest sense of the term voluntary, there having been not only no coercive legislation but no pressure of any kind, and a complete command of the most seductive liquors. All the evidence of those who have known Canada long goes to prove that there has been an equally great change for the better here. Considering then what spontaneous reform has done and is doing, it seems natural to ask why people should desire to supplant it by coercive legislation? The answer, in part at least, seems to be that these persons are afflicted with an incapacity for understanding that their fellow-men are endowed with sense and will as well as themselves. A Scott Act orator the other day said that he would as soon think of trusting a child with a knife as of trusting his fellow-citizens with access to wine. Supposing wine to be a knife, this benevolent gentleman's fellow-citizens are no more children than he is.

EVERY day we see the noxious influence which is exerted on British politics by the passionate love and equally passionate hatred of Mr. Gladstone. On one side are people whom no proofs of his unwisdom, however signal, no catastrophe of his policy, however disastrous, in Ireland or in Egypt, will convince that he is not absolutely to be trusted, or that it is not perfectly safe to be steered straight into a revolution so long as he is at the helm. On the other side are people whose hatred of him is little short of demoniac, and who lose sight of their duty to the commonwealth and every other consideration when their dominant antipathy is excited and there is a chance of its gratification. The other day we had an Anti-Gladstonian maniac trying to drive home against the fiend of his imagination the charge of having told a wilful lie about the time at which the news of Gordon's death reached him, in order to evade the imputation of indecent callousness in going to the play, as though any one but a political cannibal, full of party fire-water, could believe that a man of Mr. Gladstone's personal excellence would be wanting in common veracity or in common feeling. Now we have an Archdeacon adorning his office and illustrating the Christian religion by saying that having known Mr. Gladstone for thirty years he would not trust him with a farthing, and that people who cheered for him might as well cheer for the devil. The same demon of political and personal malignity has entered the writer of the article in the *London Quarterly* on "The Coming Election," and the result is about as disgraceful an exhibition of the lowest, narrowest and vilest spirit of party as ever was made by an educated man at a great and dangerous crisis in the destinies of his country. That the Crimes Act was "Gladstonian" is evidently in this man's eyes a sufficient justification for throwing it over and consigning Ireland again to a reign of terrorism, murder and outrage. That Mr. Gladstone may be prevented from returning to power is a sufficient justification for bidding for the Irish rebel vote, which the Tory writer in the *Quarterly* does in the most shameless manner, though not a year has passed since he and all his tribe were denouncing the Liberal Government for its treasonable slackness in putting down Irish rebellion.

It is a relief to see the *Pall Mall Gazette* case at last fairly launched on its course down the kennel to the common receptacle of things unclean. It was in spite of the most unscrupulous efforts to influence the jury by agitation that the verdict against Mr. Stead and his virtuous ally, Mrs. Jarrett, was pronounced. There can be no longer any serious doubts as to the facts or merits of this case. Every reader of the *Pall Mall Gazette*

must know that since Mr. Stead became its editor it has been trading on sensations. The blockade of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill amidst the general obstruction in the Commons furnished a cue, and the inquiry on which that Bill was originally founded is probably the only authentic source of information. Further information Mr. Stead sought, it appears, by going about and drinking champagne with the girls in the brothels, whose truthful tongues, set wagging by the wine, gave brilliant catalogues of their paramours, including some of the highest names in the land. No better warrant does the great champion of morality appear to have had for sowing the most infamous imputations broadcast over whole classes and even pointing them at defenceless men. But it was certain that the prattle of brothels would not be accepted as proof of the general indictment without a specific case. A specific case, therefore, was manufactured, with the aid of a vile woman, by the abduction of Eliza Armstrong, who had the honour thus to be sacrificed on the altar of social reform. The circulation of the *Pall Mall Gazette* went up by leaps and bounds; its disclosures were translated by prurient curiosity into all tongues; and its editor proclaimed the commercial success of his enterprise in the most blaring tones of exultant self-advertisement. Whether any higher motives mingled with those which were thus virtually avowed is a curious question of psychology which, not being familiar with Mr. Stead's moral idiosyncrasies, we must forbear discussing, but which we should be perfectly willing to determine on the charitable side. The one thing which it is important to note is that for the hideous suspicions with which society, not in England alone, has been filled, no basis of fact has been produced. Not only has no basis of fact been produced, but the absence of genuine proof has been practically admitted in the most emphatic manner by the recourse to a criminal fabrication. There are sores enough on the body of humanity, and sources enough of ill-feeling between classes without adding to them the phantoms of a disturbed or a sinister imagination. Suspicions of drunkenness have in the same way been scattered here by the enthusiasts of Prohibition, and we have been told that there are seven thousand, or even ten thousand, deaths from alcohol among us every year. To the new magazine entitled *Man*, which has just been brought out at Ottawa under the editorship of a medical man, are usefully appended mortuary statistics for the principal places in the Dominion. The total number of deaths in the month of September was: at Montreal, 1,220; at Toronto, 187; at Quebec, 193; at Hamilton, 58. The number of deaths from alcoholism was: at Toronto, two; at the other places, none.

THE election of Mr. Hill as Governor of the State of New York is a serious event, and looked at first like a catastrophe. As a Democrat, Mr. Hill belongs nominally to the President's party, but the two men are members of two different sections, whose conjunction is not less hollow and incongruous than that of the friends and enemies of liberty in the Liberal Party here. Mr. Hill is an old ally of William Tweed, and entirely worthy, as it appears, of that auspicious association. He was nominated by Tammany and the Irish Democracy openly and explicitly as an opponent of what they style "the humbug of Civil Service Reform." His opponent, Mr. Davenport, was a staunch Reformer, as well as a man of the highest personal integrity, and in every way fitted for the post. The contrast between the character of the two candidates was so great that the Democrats seemed once more to have saved their opponents by a blunder. The Independent Republicans, or Mugwumps, as party fanaticism christens them, were, of course, ardent in support of Davenport, and they confidently expected his election. Mr. Hill, however, is elected, and by a majority considerably larger than that by which, with the assistance of the Independents, Cleveland carried the State in the Presidential election. Corruption, therefore, appears to have triumphed. The explanation, however, seems to be that the Irish transferred themselves back from Blaine, for whom they had voted as an enemy of England, to the normal objects of their allegiance, Tammany and Spoils, while a number of Stalwart-Republicans stayed at home in dudgeon because Davenport was the candidate of the schismatic Mugwumps. The Prohibitionist vote also was large, as in slack tides of party it is apt to be, and it increases almost entirely at the expense of the Republicans. We may lay aside the fear, then, that political morality has suffered a serious relapse. In the meantime, the refusal of Stalwarts to go to the polls with Independents is another step in the break-up of party. "The Mugwumps," says their leader in *Harper's Weekly*, "will support no candidate merely because he is a Republican or a Democrat, but only because he is an honest and competent representative of their opinions." If they will stick to this they may rid their country, and perhaps help considerably to rid other countries, not only of the Spoils System but of the root out of which that and many another poisonous plant has grown.

AFTER reading the accounts of the French elections from France itself we are disposed to revert to our original view of the matter. One ingredient, no doubt, in the popular indignation against the Republican Government was the ill success of the filibustering operations in the East; their ill success, not their iniquity, for the announcement of a great slaughter of the Annamites has since been hailed with universal delight. The bad state of the finances may be taken also to have had its effect. But the main cause lay deeper than those. It was the reaction against the violence of Radicalism generally and particularly against the atheistical onslaught upon what is still the popular religion. The same thing has occurred before and has occurred elsewhere. It occurred in the first French Revolution, where the recoil from Jacobinical atheism helped Napoleon to mount the throne, and enabled him, with general acquiescence, to restore the Church; and it occurred the other day in Belgium. A mere reverse on a distant scene of action or a deficit which awakens no very serious alarm would not be enough to account for a change which almost amounts to a revolution. In the last election the Conservatives only polled 1,789,767 votes. In these they have polled three millions and a half. Some of the details are not less significant than the general result, and in Paris itself, the most whimsical of constituencies, and that in which the "Red Fool-Fury" reigns, there has been an immense Conservative gain. The emancipation of opinion from Jacobin terrorism is perhaps the most important consequence of all. The Conservatives elected are professed adherents of Monarchy under one name or another. It does not follow that the people in electing them wished to overturn the Republic. What the majority wished probably was that the Republic should be administered on Conservative principles, and that there should be an end of legislative attacks on religion and on social morality. They wanted, in short, not a Monarchical revolution, but a breathing-time from revolution altogether. It was a protest of society, the family and industry against the violence of demagogism and faction, against incendiary ambition and an anarchy of chimeras. The result of the supplementary elections, which has been disappointing to the Conservatives, seems to be an indication on the part of the people that what they desire is moderation, not a Monarchical revolution. The Republicans will still have a very large majority in the Chamber if the two sections can manage to combine. But the Radical leaders are such maniacs that combination will be difficult, and having come out of the elections better than the Opportunists, they are not likely to be moderate in their demands. A Jacobin is violent, arbitrary and sanguinary, or he is nothing.

THE descendants of the Huguenots have been celebrating the bi-centenary of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. It is an old story, but it was a terrible one in its day, and even the annals of the Church of Rome contain few worse. By the monarch whom Rome delighted to honour, under the instigation of his devout wife and his Jesuit confessor, thousands of the best and most industrious citizens of France, guilty of nothing but of not being of the same religion as the King and Pope, were slaughtered, tortured, sent to the galleys, pillaged of all they possessed; and hundreds of thousands were driven into exile. "Forbidden," says the writer of a good paper in an English journal, "to assemble in public worship under the penalty of torture or death for the men and imprisonment for women; or to worship privately under the penalty of being sent to the galleys for life; precluded from singing their psalms or hymns by the threat of fine, imprisonment or the galleys; forbidden to instruct their children in the faith; commanded to send their boys to Jesuit schools, their daughters to nunneries, at their own expense; their churches demolished; their pastors ordered to leave the country within fifteen days on pain of death; themselves forbidden to pass the frontier or to attempt to escape from France; their marriages by their own ministers declared to be illegal; refused burial for their dead; their Bibles and books of devotion burnt; forbidden to exercise any profession, to fill any public office or even to work as servants or artisans without a certificate that they had become Catholics;—the Huguenots who determined to be faithful to their convictions were hunted like wild beasts." This persecution was nearly contemporary with, but prior to, the enactment of the Penal Laws against Catholics in Ireland, and Irish Catholic troopers served in the persecuting armies of Louis XIV. as they had served in the persecuting armies of the House of Austria. If anybody is to be held responsible for the past all must be held responsible alike. The present rulers of France would be surprised if they were called to account for the Revocation of the Edict and the Dragonnades. Is it less unjust to call the British Government or the British people of the present day to account for the intolerant severities of the Penal Code? The Penal Code was after all only a ruthless act of

self-defence on the part of those whom the Irish Parliament of James had doomed to confiscation and death by a sweeping Act of Attainder; whereas the French persecution, which exceeded it a hundred-fold in cruelty, was totally unprovoked: had the Protestants dealt with the Catholics as the Catholics dealt with the Protestants there would now be no Irish Catholics to complain of the Penal Code.

IS CONFEDERATION A SUCCESS?

IN a former article I endeavoured to show that no Province of this Dominion was gaining by the existing Confederation, and, in detail, explained the actual working of affairs so far as the Maritime Provinces are concerned. It will now be proper to speak of the position of Ontario under the Confederation, and see how the system of forced inter-Provincial trade affects her interests, and in what direction her true interests lie.

The latest Blue-books accessible at present are those giving the trade returns for the year ending June 30th, 1883. In that year the exports of Ontario amounted to \$32,890,000. Of this, \$26,234,000 went to the United States and paid heavy duty. Only \$6,347,000 went to Great Britain, with no duty at all. It is quite manifest from these figures that the adjoining States west and south of the Province of Ontario are its natural and best markets. Taking the matter more in detail, it is found that Ontario sent of lumber to the United States 445,304 M., of the value of \$6,092,576. All this paid a duty of \$2 per thousand feet. It is scarcely worth while to enter into a subtle disquisition as to who pays the duty: that is ruled in the main by the simple incident whether the export from the particular place is sufficiently large to materially affect the price in the consuming country. In general it may be safely affirmed that Customs duties are an injury and an impediment to both producer and consumer, exporter and importer, buyer and seller. But in this case it is tolerably manifest that the export of lumber to the United States from Ontario, or from the whole of Canada, does not materially affect the price in that country. If this be so, then Ontario paid a tax of \$900,000 for the privilege of selling lumber in the United States. Is that a sound policy? What would be the effect on the lumbering industry of Ontario if the duty were removed, and free access to the markets of nearly sixty millions of people at our own doors were afforded?

Ontario sent \$6,131,000 worth of barley to the United States, and paid a duty upon every bushel. Of agricultural produce Ontario sent to the United States \$9,844,000; to Great Britain, \$3,652,000. In the one case duties were paid; in the other none. Of animals and their produce Ontario sent to the United States \$4,108,000, and paid a heavy duty upon every animal and every article; to Great Britain she sent \$3,652,905, and paid no duty. Of the produce of the forest she sent to the United States \$7,821,885, and paid heavy duties upon it; to Great Britain, \$3,428, with no duty. It ought to be stated here that the official trade returns, on the face of them, do not probably exactly represent the actual exports of Ontario. Much of her produce, no doubt, is shipped at the St. Lawrence ports and credited to Quebec. But, making all allowance for this, it is still clear that the United States are, beyond all comparison, the greatest markets which the people of Ontario possess; that free access to them would be the greatest commercial boon which could, by any power or possibility, be bestowed upon them; and that want of such access is a tax and an incubus upon every productive industry of the Province.

Consider the Maritime Provinces as a market for Ontario produce. Flour is sent there and some manufactured goods; but in the great staples of Ontario—barley, lumber, animals and agricultural produce generally—how much is sent to the Lower Provinces? Let us thank heaven that no more is sent, for every dollar's worth of produce which Nova Scotia brings from Ontario she buys at a loss. In the nature of things, and by the eternal laws of trade, it is not the interest of the Maritime Provinces to buy from Ontario, for the obvious reason that they have nothing to send in return. The few articles which the people of the Maritime Provinces are forced to buy from Ontario they have to pay for in cash, and that cash has to be obtained by means of a fettered trade with the New England States. How much does Ontario buy from the Maritime Provinces? Scarcely anything; and whatever it does obtain it could buy with greater advantage from its neighbouring States. It is an axiom of trade that the people from whom it is advantageous to buy, in general, are they who purchase from us. Let this be applied to Ontario, and what moral is derived?

Those who have resolved that inter-Provincial trade shall be forced by the iron arm of the law have attempted to decree that Ontario shall buy her coal from Nova Scotia. How has the experiment worked? An enormous tax has been imposed upon the people of Ontario for coal, while no market of any practical value has been created for

the coal of Nova Scotia. God and Nature have decreed that the people of Ontario shall obtain their coal from Pennsylvania; and if prodigious and burdensome tariffs ever succeed in overriding this high decree, the people of Ontario will pay the penalty as bitterly as the people of the Maritime Provinces are paying the penalty of being compelled to buy their flour from a country with which they have no natural trade.

This reasoning will apply with equal force to Manitoba and the North-West. Their interests are inexorably bound up with the cities of St. Paul, Minneapolis and other American towns. Their being compelled to trade with Ontario is a perpetual burden, and their forced expulsion from the markets of the American States south of them is paralyzing their industries and impeding their prosperity. It is impossible to name any two sections of this vast Dominion which have any natural commercial interests with each other. And all the sentiment, all the fine talk about this "Great Dominion," "this Canada of Ours," cannot permanently affect the ultimate logic of these tremendous facts.

If Canada was surrounded by savage races, or even by an alien race with whom it could have nothing in common or could not amalgamate, the attempt to bind together the English-speaking people of British North America would be worthy of great effort; indeed, it might become a political necessity. But the fact is we are simply part of a great civilized, enlightened, well-governed and progressive English-speaking continent. The population of Canada is about five millions. Beside us are fifty-five millions of just such people as we are. Is Ontario a great, free, self-governing State, foremost in education, social refinement, and moral elevation? Is not Ohio the same? Is not New York, Pennsylvania or Illinois equally progressive, enlightened and well-governed? Is there not as large a moral element in—say, political matters—as in Ontario? No reason worth a moment's consideration can be given for the erection of commercial barriers upon the mere artificial and imaginary boundary lines which separate the two countries.

One of the tests of commercial interest between countries is the intermingling of the people. How does this affect the argument as to the commercial unity of the various portions of this Dominion? In Nova Scotia there is scarcely a family which has not a son or a daughter in some part of the New England States. Tens of thousands of our young men and women go thither every year. It is said, on fairly good authority, that there are more Nova Scotians in Boston than in Halifax. How many Nova Scotians ever go, or ever dream of going, to Ontario? The idea would be regarded as pure nonsense. Not because Ontario is not as fine a country as Massachusetts, but simply because there is no natural commerce or connection between the two Provinces; whereas between Nova Scotia and Massachusetts there is a natural connection. Tens of thousands of Americans visit Nova Scotia every year. Hundreds of them are settled here, working our mines and operating our lumber fields. How often have we the pleasure of beholding a fair specimen of the genuine citizen of Ontario? The same reason is applicable in the case of the Upper Provinces. Tens of thousands of the sons and daughters of Ontario have gone to the Middle and Western States. Tens of thousands of Americans flock to Ontario every summer. Quebec has sent out hundreds of thousands of its French population to the States, and the hotels of Montreal are crowded with American guests. These things prove clearer and more eloquently than all the orations which empty sentiment has inspired where each portion of this great Dominion finds its natural complement. It is not too much to say that the New England States are more to the Maritime Provinces than the rest of the world. Blot out the trade of New England from Western Nova Scotia and the result would be despair. Give free access to the markets of New England, and remove all barriers to trade, and prosperity follows instantly. The brightest page in the history of the Maritime Provinces was between the years 1854 and 1866. Then there was progress and abundance. The darkest page—and sooner or later every sane man will see it—dates from 1879, when special efforts were made to crush out the best and most profitable trade the Maritime Provinces ever had or ever can have. It is not too much to say that the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois are more to Ontario than the rest of the world. Blot out the trade of those States from Ontario and the result would be despair. Give free access to the markets and remove all barriers to trade and the value of every farm in Ontario is increased within one year.

Geography alone makes the formation of a consolidated nation within the boundaries of Canada impossible. If a man should start from Halifax for Toronto in a straight line he would make three-fourths of the journey through the territory of the United States. He would traverse the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York. If he should start for Montreal in a straight line two-thirds of the journey would be on

American soil. If he should start from St. John, N. B., for Toronto nine-tenths of the journey would be on American soil. The definition of the Dominion of Canada stated accurately is this: "A collection of splendid Provinces, without any natural identity with each other, and destroying themselves and retarding their progress by trying in vain to form a Union."

The Separatist policy—that is, the policy of trying to form a nationality of the disjointed and scattered Provinces of British North America cut off from the rest of the continent—is a palpable failure. We can forgive the sentiment which prompted the experiment, or the disappointment which its inevitable failure may have occasioned; but we can have but poor respect for the enlightened statesman who would shut his eyes to the plainest facts, and counsel the perpetuation of the folly in the name of patriotism.

The people of every part of this Dominion are more identified with their own continent than with any other portion of the globe. They cannot, if they would, shake themselves clear of their manifest destiny. Whatever the past may have been, for the future no section of Europe can be to the people of Canada what the sixty millions—soon to be hundreds of millions—of enlightened, free and progressive English-speaking people of the other half of North America must be. Politicians may conjure by appeals to sentiment to-day; but the verdict of to-morrow will shatter all mock ideals and give place to invincible realities. Is this treason? Then John Bright is a traitor. Towards the close of 1861 that eminent public man, speaking of the proposition that it would be better that the continent of North America be divided up into a number of separate States, as is the continent of Europe, used these words:—

"I should say that if a man had a great heart within him he would rather look forward to the day when, from that point of land which is habitable nearest to the Pole to the shores of the great Gulf, the whole of that vast continent might become one confederation of States—without a great army and without a great navy—not mixing itself up with the entanglements of European politics—without a Custom House inside through the whole length and breadth of its territory, and with freedom everywhere, equality everywhere, law everywhere, peace everywhere: such a confederation would afford at least some hope that man is not forsaken of Heaven, and that the future of our race may be better than the past."

Since uttering these memorable and prophetic words, John Bright has been twice a member of a British Cabinet—a sworn adviser of the Crown. If Mr. Bright can speak freely of the destiny of this country on a British platform, I, a citizen of this country, more affected by its fortunes than Mr. Bright can be, claim at least equal freedom to speak of its destiny. John Bright, when he used the words just quoted, was loyal to British interests. So am I when I solemnly declare that British interests are indissolubly bound up in the closest union and friendship between the English-speaking people of this the great English-speaking continent of the world. With a full knowledge and appreciation of all that the proposition means and involves, I declare for Commercial Union with the United States as a substitute for the National Policy. J. W. LONGLEY.

NOTES FROM QUEBEC.

A most unusual, but very hopeful, incident occurred in Quebec on Thursday last; and we are much mistaken if it does not mark a very important departure in the shipping interests of this port. The incident to which we refer was nothing less than an amicable and temperately conducted conference between the lumber merchants and members of the Board of Trade on the one side, and the Quebec Ship Labourers' Benevolent Society on the other. The meeting was largely attended—managed throughout in an admirable spirit, and ended in a manner creditable to all concerned. A few words will help to explain the position of matters here at present; and, in the first place, we may say that it would be difficult to find a parallel for the rapidity with which Quebec has sunk from a position of commanding eminence in the marts of commerce into a place of small account commercially or otherwise; and yet, with some manifest disadvantages, there is hardly any other city on the American Continent—certainly none in Canada—possessed of so many natural facilities for a great and prosperous trade. Her great ship-building industry has disappeared entirely, and the same thing may almost be said of her timber trade; how to conserve what remains, or to win back what has been lost, is the question to which she is now for the first time seriously addressing herself. It is worthy of note that while the tonnage has steadily diminished in the port of Quebec it has not less steadily increased in Montreal; indeed it may be said that Montreal has grown at the expense of Quebec, and that, too, under conditions commercially unnatural. The sharp business men of Montreal were not slow to take in the situation, and hence they have been a unit in urging upon successive Governments the necessity of keeping open at enormous expense the great mud-channel between their city and Quebec, on the specious plea that it was a national necessity that steamships should reach, not the natural head of deep-water navigation, namely Quebec, but the palpably fictitious "sea-port" of Montreal. One Finance Minister after another found it to be in the best interests of his party to

help forward the delusion. If the arguments advanced on the part of Montreal were sound, they were, if possible, still more applicable to Toronto or Ottawa, and these cities might with equal propriety claim to be made "sea-ports" of the Atlantic. But commerce finds its own level ultimately, and those who seek to crush it into an unnatural channel will sooner or later discover that they have made a mistake. Two rival parties in Quebec itself, aided by other interests to which we need not refer at present, helped more than probably any other cause to popularize the great mud-channel and to make Montreal temporarily what it never can hope to be permanently—a sea-port. When capital had its own way in Quebec it ruled things with a pretty high hand, and the labourer was far too often treated with a harshness that could not be distinguished from positive barbarity. Then followed the epoch when labour began to assert a co-ordinate interest with capital, and finally a time when the autocratic tyranny of capital was replaced by the democratic tyranny of labour. Unfortunately it was at this juncture that other influences began to make themselves felt on the trade of the port: new competitors had entered the field. Steamships and iron were beginning to replace wooden ships and timber generally, and altogether it was a critical period, and all the more so that the old conditions were giving place to new ones with many deeply-marked features, including a rapidity of movement hitherto thought to be unattainable. This was manifestly a critical time and one that demanded on all sides moderation and concession; but both were alike conspicuously absent, and from that day to this a fight has been going on between interests not really antagonistic, to the detriment of the port and to the injury of the labourers themselves.

The large annual timber fleet of twelve or fourteen hundred has dwindled down to about three, with a prospect of a still further reduction. In the face of such a state of things it is not surprising to see labour and capital at last moving in the direction of their common interest; the surprise is that the movement has been delayed so long. It is nothing short of incredible that the parties to this unhappy conflict should have permitted it to proceed so far without reaching a compromise of some sort, and now that a conference has been held, and the difficulties of the situation squarely met, there is hardly anything needed but common sense to reach an understanding mutually advantageous to all the parties concerned. The outside public has been labouring under the impression that the chief difficulty was to be found in the excessive charges of the ship labourers; but this impression has been knocked on the head by Mr. Dobell, who said that the merchants did not complain of the amount paid in wages, but of the additional cost imposed by a number of vexatious regulations enforced by the Ship Labourers' Society; he complained, however, that eight hours was too short a day for working purposes in face of the short season which they had for shipping in Quebec. Mr. Dobell also pointed out the hardship inflicted upon steamships in refusing them permission to use their own steam winches in taking in cargo; and he also pointed out the inconvenience to trade by insisting upon the observance of the rather numerous holidays which the ship labourers of Quebec are compelled to keep *volens volens*. But if any argument were needed to convince the ship labourers of the fatuity of their present course, it was supplied by the information incidentally elicited that Quebec merchants actually found it more convenient to pay for the shipment of their lumber from Quebec to Montreal, and from Montreal to the sea, than to ship direct from Quebec. It was admitted on all sides that the ship labourers of Quebec had no superiors in doing their work; but Mr. Rae, of the Allan Line, said that labour was cheaper in Montreal and Boston than it was in Quebec, and if the ship labourers persisted in their present arbitrary restrictions, it was merely a question of time when every sea-going vessel would refuse cargo at this port. On the part of the ship labourers, it was contended by Mr. Dinan that the blame did not rest with them so much as with "the middlemen" or stevedores; and, in proof of this, he referred to a case where out of every \$1.50 paid for loading a ship only ninety-five cents was paid for actual labour: if this state of things is fairly representative, it simply means that the captain and stevedore have taxed the labour of the workman and the trade of the port to the extent of about sixty per cent. for their share of the work; and such a condition of affairs is simply outrageous. In New Orleans, Pensacola and Savannah, ship labourers are paid \$6 per day, while in Quebec they only earn \$4, so that any difficulty on the subject of high wages may be considered as definitely out of the discussion; but the port has obtained a bad name abroad, and Mr. Dobell mentioned that for three weeks he had vainly endeavoured to have cases shipped in Antwerp for Quebec, and that though he offered twelve-sixths in Newcastle for freight to this port per 1,000 of birch, seven-sixths was in preference taken for a cargo to Montreal.

Mr. Carbray, who took part in the conference, said that they could have had this year more than fifty additional steamships if it had not been for the restrictions imposed by the Ship Labourers' Society, and Mr. Macpherson, of the Dominion Line of Steamships, who is sincerely anxious to promote the trade of the port, also referred to arbitrary regulations which had prevented men working between the hours of eight and nine to discharge the cargo of the steamship *Oregon*, just arrived from sea, and which was in consequence compelled to proceed to Montreal rather than wait and lose a tide. In this case the company offered to give the men breakfast on board the steamship.

The whole question is one that presents but few real difficulties, and hardly any that cannot be overcome by mutual concession. To no small extent the future of the port hangs on the result of the movement inaugurated on Thursday last. Those who represented the Ship Labourers' Society asked what return was to be made them if they dispensed with the restrictions complained of, and the merchants promised to make all their shipments from the port of Quebec; for, as Mr. Dobell said, it was in their own

interest to do this rather than pay three cents per foot to send cargoes to be shipped from Montreal. It was finally agreed "That a joint committee be named to confer as to the propriety of amending or repealing certain by-laws of the Ship Labourers' Society, said committee to consist of Messrs. Dobell, Rae, Burstall, Hans Hagens, R. H. Smith, F. Carbray and W. M. Macpherson, representing the Board of Trade and shipping community; and Messrs. Dinan, Fitzgerald, Roberge, Dube, Guenard, Fortin and Shanahan, representing the Ship Labourers' Benevolent Society."

On the action of the above committee much will depend. Commerce is keenly selfish, and, indeed, can hardly be anything else in these days of sharp competition; and there is no reason in the world why Quebec may not secure and hold the carrying-trade if those who control her destinies have only the wisdom to see the direction in which her true interests lie. She has unrivalled water accommodation for every kind of ship, and miles of wharfage practically useless at present. If the movement just inaugurated is not interfered with by somebody working in the interests of Montreal it will result in permanent good to Quebec; but this is just what thoughtful people dread, notwithstanding the severe lesson that has already been taught to the ship labourers of this port.

THIS winter promises to be one of no ordinary severity both here and in Montreal, and it requires no prophetic eye to discern trouble ahead for us in this Province. The small-pox has so far made no lodgment in the city: it is true there have been a few bad cases imported from Montreal, and these have terminated fatally, but the disease has not obtained any foothold; and yet we have no quarantine against Montreal, nor for that matter are we likely to have, and it is more than probable that the rapidly approaching winter will drive hundreds in this direction from the plague-stricken city. The mayor and corporation take things very quietly, but their general incapacity even to keep the streets clean is so glaring that we have not much hope for protection from small-pox in that direction. They have thought well to start an opposition Board of Health, and as this action on their part has involved them in a lawsuit, and as the average city councillor is not burdened with any surplus brains, the lawsuit will give him about all the excitement he can safely bear. Mayor Langelier is not a bad fellow at bottom, but he is a confirmed politician, and by far too busy a man to attend to such hum-drum duties as seeing to keeping the streets in a healthy state, and he has besides no undue anxiety about the small-pox, so that altogether we have good reason for serious apprehension. We have two Boards of Health, but as matters stand we might as well have none, for neither Board appears to be making any serious effort to prevent the introduction of the disease from Montreal. To the citizens generally it is a matter of absolute indifference which Board does the work provided it is done efficiently. We can ill afford a lawsuit for the amusement of two rival Boards; but if they must have the pastime let them first give us a strict quarantine against Montreal. There is no disguising the fact: Montreal is rapidly becoming a danger to the whole Dominion, and in all directions the quarantine is insufficient. NEMO.

EDUCATION NOTES.

It was hoped when the Education Department took in hand the preparation of selections from the Bible to be used in schools that these would be so strictly in accordance with our non-sectarian system of education that they could be used without any restriction in enforcing moral teaching in our schools. That they should be of this character was the main reason for making the selection. The book of extracts prepared and authorized by the Department is now in the hands of our teachers, and while they are permitted, and, indeed, encouraged in the intelligent and unrestrained use of text-books authorized for mental training, their lips are sealed with regard to the book specially put into their hands for moral teaching. By Regulation 250 of the Department they are told that "The portion of Scripture used shall be taken from selections authorized for that purpose by the Department of Education and shall be read *without comment or explanation.*" What practical good any one, who is not a monomaniac on the subject of Bible reading, hopes to follow from such daily automatic performance before children, whose attention is prone to wander from the most attractive lesson, in the absence of intelligent effort on the part of the teacher, we fail to see. But we do see how the adoption of such a book of garbled extracts, hedged by the restrictions placed upon its use, will drive the Bible altogether from our schools. Not only are the extracts garbled but the teacher is hindered from securing the reverence that should accompany the reading of any portion of the sacred volume by the omission of any reference to the particular part of the Bible from which the extract is taken. Of course this makes such a useful exercise as responsive reading practically impossible, unless the scholars as well as the teacher are supplied with the text-book. In view of these defects it is not to be wondered at that already teachers and trustees are beginning to ask why such a text-book, with the restrictions attached to its use, has been authorized for use in our schools. It would be interesting to know if the clergy-men who approved of this book were representatives of the various denominations.

By the Regulations recently issued the Education Department assumes control of the copyright of all public school text-books that shall hereafter be authorized. The Minister no doubt feels this measure necessary for a variety of reasons, amongst others that it will be a means of protecting the public against the extortion of booksellers, from which there will always be danger until the number publishing text-books in this country is large enough to secure reasonable competition. In this connection it is pleasant to know that Mr. Ross is inclined to look with encouragement and approval upon the efforts of home talent in the production of school books.

UNIVERSITY Consolidation has advanced another step by the affiliation of Knox College, Toronto, with the Provincial University.

THE next High School Entrance Examination will take place on December 21st, 22nd and 23rd.

THE Board of Governors of the Industrial School Association, of which Mr. W. H. Howland is president, have decided to proceed with the erection of a main building for the educational and industrial training of two hundred boys, and a cottage to accommodate forty boys, on their grounds at Mimico, which are the gift of the Ontario Government. The main building will be devoted to the daily occupations of the lads, and will contain school-rooms, work-rooms, dining-room, etc., while the cottages, which will be under the charge of matrons, will serve as homes to which they will retire in the evening, and where they will be under the beneficent influences of judicious home training. The buildings in contemplation will cost \$26,000, of which \$15,000 has already been subscribed. This includes \$6,000 given by a benevolent Toronto lady for the erection of a cottage. We know of no Association whose objects more strongly commend themselves to the benevolent and patriotic feelings of our wealthy citizens than this one. Not only will the neglected and forsaken children it takes charge of be prevented from becoming a burden to the country as criminals in our gaols, but they will be made to contribute to its prosperity, by being taught some useful employment. A good deal of the success of this institution, however, will depend upon the person the Association can secure to act as superintendent. He should be skilled in the management of children as a successful teacher, and at the same time be able to exercise intelligent supervision over their manual employments, and above all, he should be thoroughly in sympathy with the Association in the aims it has in view.

A COLLEGE near Philadelphia has secured, as mathematical professor, Miss Charlotte Scott, D.Sc., who was eighth and the first woman wrangler at Cambridge in 1880. Girton College, where Miss Scott was very successful as a mathematical lecturer, presented her, on leaving, with academic robes and an illuminated address in token of admiration and esteem.

Two of the great English public schools, Eton and Harrow, have changed their head masters recently. In the former Dr. Warre succeeded Dr. Hornby, and the Rev. J. E. C. Weldon, late head master of Dulwich College, near London, succeeded Dr. Butler at Harrow.

THE present Parliamentary contest in England is not without its humorous incidents. It is interesting to know that several teachers are in the field as candidates, amongst them Mr. George Collins, a leading teacher under the London School Board. At a recent meeting held in Dulwich to further his candidature a gentleman, evidently opposed to Mr. Collins, asked, "Who killed General Gordon?" Before Mr. Collins could reply, another person in the audience showed his estimate of the question by asking "Who killed Cock Robin?" This was followed by peals of laughter.

FROM statistics of Switzerland recently published it is ascertained that the German language is spoken by 71 per cent. of the inhabitants, French by 21 per cent., Italian by 5 per cent., and the Romanic language by the remainder. It is also found that in the examinations for recruits, to which all young men who reach the age of nineteen must submit, the written exercises of those who use the French language are inferior to those who use the German. This is accounted for by the greater difficulty of the French orthography. The German orthography is so easy that the time occupied in the endeavour to master the mysteries in the spelling of French words can be devoted by the German student to composition, analysis, and other exercises of greater intellectual value. CENSOR.

AN ESTIMATE OF GENERAL McCLELLAN.

WASHINGTON, November 9, 1885.

THE sudden death of General McClellan has, for the moment, arrested so much of the busy and rushing world as finds its habitation here, and set it to thinking and talking, during the pause, of the burning questions once associated with his name. Without ever coming into personal contact with General McClellan, it has been the fortune of the writer to serve in the army organized and for a time led by him; to form intimate relations with some of those chief among his friends and his enemies, and to study, for official and professional purposes, some of the leading topics of the great controversy connected with his military career.

General McClellan was less than thirty-five years of age when called to Washington and placed at the head of the military affairs of a government with a gigantic war on its hands, and nothing with which to meet it but an abundant supply of patriotic enthusiasm and the raw material of armies. The political and military situations were inextricably blended. The Government itself was not a unit in respect of its policy, but the dominant sentiment in it was that the war should be so conducted as to leave unshocked the autonomy of the several States of the Union, and to disturb as little as possible the institution of slavery in both the insurgent and the doubtful States. This policy was accepted in principle by all parties, but in respect of details the factions responded definitely to all the varieties and shades of what in modern parliamentary groups are known as Right, Left and Centre. Sympathetically, the young generalissimo belonged to the party of the Right and, with calm deliberation and purpose, set himself to the work of organizing and disciplining an army so numerous and efficient as to be absolutely irresistible when set in motion, intending thereby to summarily end the rebellion with as little bloodshed and uprooting of civic and social relations as the circumstances would possibly admit. To this end his earlier measures were admirably chosen. Advantages were taken of the public fervour to enroll volunteers as fast as the

administrative work of organization could be done, and these were at once assembled in the vicinity of Washington and other suitable places contiguous to the seats of war, East and West, and industriously employed in learning the duties of military life, from squad drill to the grand manœuvres of entire divisions. Frequent inspections and reviews promoted the *esprit de corps* of the troops, and a series of general orders, promulgating and reviewing the proceedings of the numerous courts-martial indispensable to the discipline of the crude mass constituting the army, served the double purpose of control and instruction in respect of men so lately called from the looser habits of civil life. Expeditionary forces seized and occupied favourable strategic points on the Southern coast, without violence to the policy of conciliation or the plan of an ultimate combined advance.

Except as it might bear upon the question of the professional standing of General McClellan (which is a matter that can only especially concern his immediate friends or military critics and instructors), it would be idle to stop to consider now whether the plan outlined would have succeeded had it been carried forward to execution. The attempt to execute it required a fulness of time and an absolute initiative which did not remain to the General-in-Chief long enough to test the qualities of his strategy. His government compelled him to premature movement and to the execution of a military policy which did not command his confidence. In this President Lincoln was possibly right and possibly wrong; much is to be said in support of either view, but not now or herein. As for General McClellan, he would have been completely justified in throwing up his command, upon patriotic equally with logical grounds. That he did not do so indicates an unconscious lack of confidence in himself that showed itself afterwards in his indecisive movements against and combats with the enemy. He saw that the "forward" party were in control of the Government, and he feared that his retirement might close instead of renewing a career so full of high fortune and promise thitherto. He permitted himself to be made a puppet in hands that he believed to be incapable, and from the moment of his decision his fate can be seen to have been inevitable. Nearly fifteen years afterward Mr. Bristow, Secretary of the Treasury under President Grant, lost the successful nomination to the Presidency by a similar error of judgment, and was similarly destroyed by the hands into which he had delivered himself.

If General McClellan had been permitted to carry out his own plans it is probable that he would have succeeded in ending the rebellion without the necessity of subjecting himself to the test which he was least fitted to endure—the direct command of large forces on the actual field of battle. Had he refused to lend himself to the execution of designs which he believed from the first to be impracticable it seems probable, from all that we know, that he would have been recalled to the head of the army under circumstances which would have made him truly independent, and he would then have had a full and fair opportunity to reap the imperishable renown which, missing Halleck and Burnside and Hooker and Rosecrans and Meade, settled upon the unsuspected brow of Grant.

But however the things that were might have been, we may feel assured that when this country has grown old enough to value its past, the memory of the true soldier and gentleman that has just passed away will not fail of high appreciation. B.

HERE AND THERE.

OTTAWA, it is said, is about to "steal" the Montreal Carnival. If, as is feared, the small-pox-afflicted city will not be able to shake itself free of the dread epidemic before Carnivaltide, by all means let us wish success to the Capital in its endeavours to amuse winter visitors and to induce them to circulate their shekels. It is too late now to object to such entertainments as a reflection upon the climate. Canada is known as an arctic country by her southern neighbours, and she may as well philosophically pocket with the reputation the dollars which in this way it brings.

THE present occupant of the post is yet to be heard from: otherwise it seems to be generally accepted that "ere long" the office of Chief Constable in Toronto will become vacant. Whatever may be thought of Major Draper as an administrator, every one will regret that failing health should have rendered his retirement a possibility, if not a necessity. Whether the date of his resignation be near or remote, it will be in order to discuss the question of a successor. The growth of Toronto is so rapid, and its police requirements are growing so swiftly that none other than an experienced officer should be put in command of her guardians of the peace. The applications of amateurs should not be encouraged, nor, let us hope, will the appointment be made a reward for political services. Competent judges declare that the right man may be found amongst the present chief's lieutenants. Others are of opinion that only by the selection of some one not of the city can an incoming chief keep clear of cabals and avoid the suspicion of favouritism. With the latter, Chief Stewart, of Hamilton, is *persona grata*, and without prejudice to the claims of others it is to be said of that gentleman that our neighbours of the Ambitious City have paid him the great compliment of objecting to part with him. He is said to be possessed of that *suaviter in modo, fortiter in re*, which are so essential in a Chief of Police. Meanwhile it may be hoped that, relieved of the onerous duties attaching to the office, Major Draper will soon be restored to health and strength.

If Mesdames Gowanlock and Delaney, whose experiences in the recent Rebellion have just been published in volume form, may be taken as voicing the general white opinion of the Indian, it is not difficult to understand that there must be danger wherever the two races come in contact. Loath-

ing and contempt, such as is freely expressed in their joint "Two Months in the Camp of Big Bear," must inevitably at times have demonstrated themselves, and just as necessarily engendered hatred and scorn in the untutored breast. It is no doubt quite true that a few years of instruction at the hands of their conquerors have failed to civilize a people who for centuries lived a savage life; the evidence is only too irrefragable that as yet Christianity has not marked the red man for her own; but it is not quite so certain that the fault lies altogether with the aborigines. Have there been no shortcomings on the part of those who now squat on the erstwhile hunting-ground of the Indian? Has justice ever been dealt out with blind impartiality? Have the wrongs all been inflicted by Indians? Have that charity and that truthfulness which missionaries have declared to be the very foundation of the Great Mother's religion ever characterized the dealings of white settlers with their red customers? If they have not, then is the responsibility for occasional Indian outbreaks not rightly apportioned when it is put solely upon the shoulders of the red man. Through all the pitiable narrative told by the ladies who suffered so severely in the North-West it is apparent that the white man's eyes are more widely open to the vices and ineptitude of the Indian than to his present good points or future possibilities.

THAT Mr. James Macdonald Oxley, of Ottawa, is one of our most graceful Canadian writers readers of THE WEEK know; that his abilities are winning generous recognition from our neighbours they will join us in applauding. The following appeared in the last issue of *Chicago Life*:—"James Macdonald Oxley, of Ottawa, is one of the rising writers of Canada. He was born at Halifax, Nova Scotia, October 22, 1855. He graduated B.A., Dalhousie University, in 1874, and LL.B., Halifax University, in 1878. Was a leader writer on the *Halifax Herald* in 1876. He was admitted to the Bar of Nova Scotia in 1878, contributing occasionally to the daily press. His first contribution to a magazine was an article on "Abandonment," published in the *American Law Review*, St. Louis, for July and August, 1883. He has since contributed "The Canadian Capital," and "The Friend of the Dyak," to *The Continent*; "Reporting in Parliament," and "The British Association," to THE WEEK, of Toronto; "Facial Revealment," and "An Unappreciated Work," to *The Current*; "The Premier of Canada," in *Lippincott's*; "The Mediterranean of Canada," in *Popular Science Monthly*; "Convictions vs. Opinions," *Canadian Methodist Magazine*; "Camping Out at Cole Harbour," THE WEEK; all of which show wide observation, careful arrangement of materials and great skill as a writer, particularly in descriptive work. He has at present accepted MSS. with *Outing* and *Wide-Awake*, besides two articles, accepted in advance, but not yet finished. Mr. Oxley at present fills the position of Canadian Legal Adviser to the Marine Department, Ottawa."

THERE were twenty-four failures in Canada reported to Bradstreet's during the past week, against twenty-one in the preceding week, and thirty-two, thirty-two and twenty-two in the corresponding weeks of 1884, 1883 and 1882, respectively. In the United States there were one hundred and fifty-six failures reported during the week as compared with one hundred and seventy in the preceding week, and with one hundred and sixty-six, two hundred and nineteen and one hundred and forty-nine, respectively, in the corresponding weeks of 1884, 1883 and 1882. About eighty-six per cent. were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000.

WITH remarkable unanimity the disgraceful maltreatment of a dissecting-room "subject" on Hallowe'en in Toronto was laid at the doors of local medical students, one professedly comic journal even going so far as to give an imaginary portrait of the culprit. Although the perpetrators of the outrage were found in quite another direction, the "med" has earned for himself so bad a name the world over that no surprise can be felt that his order was in this instance wrongfully blamed. He is popularly supposed to be capable of any enormity, and to be endowed with powers of skylarking which no other class of youth possesses. It is difficult to assign a reason for the fact, for fact it is, that young men who are studying a profession which has constantly before it the ills of humanity, and who are also continually viewing disease and death in their most depressing forms, should exhibit such wonderful spirits. Perhaps it is only a kind compensating Providence that provides them with this exuberant jollity, or their studies would be too much for them. But there is no doubt about it, that when released from the operating theatre, the lecture hall, or the dissecting room, they so often disgrace themselves that their title to the name of gentlemen becomes doubtful. It must have been an idea of this sort which was floating in the mind of a newspaper reporter when, in giving an account of a recent case in which a young Irishman was charged with marrying a Ward in Chancery without the sanction of the Court, he says that the prisoner was "described on the charge-sheet as a gentleman, but stated to be also a medical student." Oh, the sting of that *but*. "But me no buts," says Shakespeare. Medical men are acknowledged to be gentlemen, yet in the embryo stage of studentship, landlords, keepers of restaurants, managers of promenade concerts, and bobbies, know from a painful experience that there is a great deal of hidden meaning in the words "but also" a medical student.

THE Springfield *Republican* thinks that if the celebration of the fourth centenary of America is not a success it will not be the fault of that devoted Italian, Chevalier Baldi. For twenty years the Chevalier has carried about in his breast a great secret, but now for the express purpose

of "stimulating interest in the celebration" he lifts the curtain. Baldi has in his possession the "identical chains with which Bobadilla loaded the wrists of Columbus when the latter was sent back a prisoner to Spain in the year 1500." In order to secure these relics Baldi made a long and expensive journey to Spain and America, and for twenty years he kept the matter a profound secret for "personal reasons." These chains ought to draw.

OUR American cousins have peculiar tastes in jewellery. Some time since rattlesnakes were voted quite *chic* or *v'lan*. Now quite a new idea has been invented by Mr. William E. Curtis, Secretary to the South American Commercial Committee. He had been exploring in Peru, and brought back with him a collection of petrified human eyes. These he handed over to the famous jewellers of New York, M.M. Tiffany & Co., to mount in gold and set as a *collier*. Only fancy a belle of the period with some dozen petrified eyes hung round her neck, staring stonily at her lover. The idea did not prove a success. Three workmen one after another became ill, all presenting symptoms of having been poisoned. Mr. Curtis said to the physician who was called in that he found the eyes in old Peruvian sepulchres belonging to the Incas, who were embalmed with strong poisons. So it remains doubtful whether this gruesome fashion will ever obtain with the Knickerbocker belles of New York.

APROPOS of the Prince of Wales's birthday just past—H. R. H. was forty-four years old on Monday—a queer custom was observed during his recent visit to Norway. The Prince is accustomed to have his health drunk with many strange observances, including "Highland honours," but certainly never in a quainter fashion than at the dinner of the Royal Swedish Yacht Club. This mode is called with "flying topsails." At a given signal every one present threw up his napkin into the air, and topsails, or their representatives, were really made to fly. This introduced in the British possessions would give a flavour of novelty to the repasts of yacht clubs from Cowes to Cork, from Kingstown to Newhaven, from Toronto to Sydney.

It begins to look as if Professor Huxley's working days were indeed over, as if that intensely busy brain had worn too fiercely its stout tenement, and rest were now compulsory for an indefinite period—perhaps a condition of prolonged life. He has been compelled to resign the presidency of the Royal Society, and will be succeeded by Prof. George Gabriel Stokes, the discoverer of the change in the refrangibility of light, who has been a secretary of the society for thirty years.

AN English contemporary has been instructing its readers in the sensations of hanging, as experienced by a member of a sort of "Suicide Club." The narrator tells us that he consented to the "experiment," presumably in the cause of science. When suddenly left dangling, he felt a violent pain in his neck; then he lost consciousness of this nether sphere, and was transported into a new world, more beautiful than anything imagined by the poets. He then began to swim in oil, easily and naturally. Afar off he noticed a glorious emerald isle, for which he made; the oily sea changing, chameleon-like, its hue—at one instant gold, then a vivid blood-red. As he approached the isle, there sprang out from the ground a number of people strangely transfigured, whose faces were known to him, and a magnificent chorus of human and bird voices burst forth. He closed his eyes in ecstasy, and floated on to his bourne, till suddenly opening them the Elysian dream was dispelled, the harmony ceased, and the faces that peered down on him were those of the Club. The pain in his neck was great. His friends had cut him down just in time; but, notwithstanding his glowing description of his ecstatic sensations, not one would follow his example: he looked so ghastly, they said. The experiment may have a consoling effect on subjects about to be operated, finally, on. It is said that the sensation of drowning is equally delightful.

"WHAT would the British Army be without Irish soldiers?" is constantly and triumphantly flourished in the faces of bloody Saxons who dare to hint that Ireland is not Paradise and that her sons are not saints. The recently-published Army returns will be instructive reading to all who hold these opinions. It seems that seventeen years ago the proportions per thousand men in the British Army were as follows:—English, 593; Irish, 308, and Scottish, 94. At that date, certainly, Ireland was very prominently represented in the forces; but the figures are very different now. On the first of January, this year, the proportions per thousand were:—English, 730; Irish, 178; and Scottish, 78. The numbers on this date were respectively:—English, 128,021; Irish, 31,133; and Scotch, 13,720; whereas in 1868 they were 106,810, 55,583 and 17,011. Have the Irish lost their old martial spirit in these degenerate days of Land Leagues and boycotting? or is the London *Globe* correct in assuming that the falling off in the numbers of the Irish is due to their ever-increasing hate of the "Saxon oppressor"? Whatever the explanation may be the matter is sufficiently striking to warrant something more than passing notice.

WITH English-speaking people religious revivals too often mean hysterical appeals from unreasoning enthusiasts, set to an accompaniment of brazen music, and, in some cases, emphasized by the pounding of big drums. Add to these peculiarities a tendency amongst the more vulgar to don some distinctive garb or uniform, and to offer up praise in the strains of "Old Bob Ridley," and the result is not one that commends itself to the sympathies of sober-minded worshippers. How much more admirable, says a writer in a London journal, is the method adopted by certain godly

Russians! These people, we are told, when determined on penitence, betake themselves to the solitude of their kitchens or back-gardens. They bear with them no manner of music, and their sole companion is a large and very savage dog. Arrived at the scene of his penance the solitary digs for himself a suitable grave, covers it in with a coffin lid, enters and takes possession. If he is very particular, and his "nest" is out-of-doors, he hedges it in with thick bushes. These and the ferocious dog keep the over-curious at a distance, while the hermit abandons himself to the pangs of hunger and the contemplation of the saints who come to visit him. Sometimes the devil makes a call instead; but it is all one to the solitary, so long as prying mortals are kept at bay. When he has had enough of it he emerges in an emaciated state, and wisely says as little as possible to his neighbours. We have, it is said, more sects amongst Englishmen than all the world besides. But there is still more room for the "Folk of the Godly Nest;" and the public would sincerely rejoice if some of our fanatics would set up their coffins amongst us and convert the noisiest of their competitors.

WE are assured by experts who have given attention to the matter that coffee has for some unknown reason of late years lost ground in public estimation. Some curious evidence on this point was given at a meeting of importers, buyers and brokers connected with the coffee trade to consider the advisability of alterations of the terms for the sale of coffee in London. In the course of the discussion which took place it was stated that since 1860 the consumption of tea had "gone ahead" with enormous strides, and the consumption of cocoa had also very largely increased, while that of coffee had diminished very much. The imports of coffee, which in 1861 were 69,000 tons, had fallen off to 41,000 in 1884. "This decrease in the popularity of coffee is all the more remarkable," says one, "inasmuch as since the growth of what is known as the temperance movement there has been an ever-growing demand for non-alcoholic drinks, some of which are, to put it mildly, of a most nauseous description. Coffee has, moreover, from a medical point of view, certain advantages over tea, as containing less of the astringent principle; and it not only produces on those who drink it an exhilarating and refreshing effect, but is also credited with the quality of diminishing the amount of wear and tear or waste of animal tissue which proceeds more or less at every moment. Probably the reason why it is not appreciated as fully as it deserves is because so few persons know how to prepare it properly for use; whereas tea can be made into a drink without any complicated apparatus and with comparatively little trouble."

THE whale is said to live 500 or 1,000 years (thereabouts); and he is a young crow that dies before he reaches his one-hundredth birthday. But how long do donkeys live? According to an English contemporary, an authenticated story comes from the Scotch Highlands to the effect that a donkey died the other day, the property of Mr. Ross, of Cromarty, in whose family it has been for 106 years. It can be traced back to the year 1779, when it passed into the hands of the then Ross of Cromarty; though what was its age at that time no one can say. Furthermore, its death was the cause of an accident; for it was "hale and hearty" when a kick from a horse ended its career. There seems no reason to doubt the story. We thus had, until the end of last week, a donkey among us that was born about the same time as Sir Walter Scott, and whose parents, if as long-lived as itself, may have been flourishing at the time of the plague.

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.

THE APPOINTMENT OF Q. C.'S.

To the Editor of The Week:

SIR,—In bygone days the obtaining of these two magic letters at the end of a barrister's name was the object of his highest ambition next to a seat on the Bench. What is the state of matters now? The fearful incubus of political partisanship which is sapping the foundations of our best interests in other matters has gradually found its way to the root of what was once the prize of professional eminence; and, whilst many of the more recent appointments are beyond question, no one with open eyes can fail to see that the political rag-tag and bob-tail are forging to the front. The principle is being gradually introduced that if a barrister thinks anything of what is now a questionable honour, he has only to become a prominent ward politician, or country school-house orator, with a not too decided disinclination to take part in the dirty work of a political campaign, and the tacit compact is made under which, without reference to standing at the bar, or professional ability, the traditional silk gown and red bag are bestowed on the neophyte, and his precedence on the very few occasions when his talents are called into requisition is forthwith guaranteed. The result is that at our Division and Magistrates' Courts it is very rarely that you cannot now rub shoulders with one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the law.

If the shades of the Macaulays, Hagermans, Blakes, Vankoughnets, Robinsons, Mosses and Harrisons of past days have cognizance of the recent appointments, how they must sympathize with the Blakes, Mowats, Mosses, McCarthys, Hagarty's, Wilsons, Armours and Merediths of the present day in their badly concealed disgust at the recent appointments.

Yours, etc.,

DIAGENES.

London, Nov. 2, 1885.

BALLADE OF SUMMER'S SLEEP.

SWEET summer is gone; they have laid her away—
 The last sad hours that were touched with her grace—
 In the hush where the ghosts of the dead flowers play.
 The sleep that is sweet of her slumbering space
 Let not a sight or a sound erase
 Of the woe that hath fallen on all the lands:
 Gather ye, dreams, to her sunny face,
 Shadow her head with your golden hands.

The woods that are golden and red for a day
 Girdle the hills in a jewelled case,
 Like a girl's strange mirth, ere the quick death slay
 The beautiful life that he hath in chase.
 Darker and darker the shadows pace
 Out of the north to the southern sands,
 Ushers bearing the winter's mace:
 Keep them away with your woven hands.

The yellow light lies on the wide wastes gray,
 More bitter and cold than the winds that race
 From the skirts of the autumn, tearing away,
 This way and that way, the woodland lace.
 In the autumn's cheek is a hectic trace;
 Behind her the ghost of the winter stands;
 Sweet summer will moan in her soft gray place:
 Mantle her head with your glowing hands.

(Envoi.)

Till the slayer be slain and the spring displace
 The might of his arms with her rose-crowned bands,
 Let her heart not gather a dream that is base:
 Shadow her head with your golden hands.

A. LAMPMAN.

EXTRACTS FROM "A DIARY OF TWO PARLIAMENTS."

GLADSTONE'S POMATUM-POT.

It was an odd thing to see Gladstone taking advantage of the pause occasioned by the ringing cheers his eloquence drew forth to seize a short, thick-set pomatum-pot, remove the cork, and proceed to refresh himself. Doubtless, in years to come, when a future Froude, a successor to Kinglake, or a heritor of Hallam, shall sit down to write the history of the debate just closed, we shall hear something of the cabals that preceded it. We shall have set forth in rounded periods the enormous interests at stake. We may have sketched in bold figures in the background the armies of Russia and Turkey clutching each other by the throat on the banks of the Danube or in the mountainous passes of Asia Minor. We shall hear of the outburst of popular sympathy which made it possible for an Opposition feeble in numbers to make a gallant and not unsuccessful stand against a Ministry powerful beyond precedent. We shall hear of the speeches that were made and of the excitement that prevailed; of the disdainful silence of the Opposition when the figures were announced, and of the ringing cheers of the Conservatives. But history will scorn to mention that modest pomatum-pot, oval in shape, four inches in height, and supplied with an ill-fitting cork that baffled the frenzied efforts of the orator to replace it. And yet peradventure without the assistance of this glass bottle, with its mysterious contents that looked like melted pomatum and might have been egg and sherry, we should never have had this great speech, with its broadly based arguments, its towering eloquence, and its subdued tone of triumph proclaiming the accustomed scorn which minorities have for the brute force of numbers.

Members who aspire to oratorical success have wasted much valuable time in the endeavour to ascertain the precise qualities of the substance with which Gladstone lubricates his vocal organs during the delivery of his orations. There are some conscientious Conservatives who believe it is obtained by boiling down a healthy infant selected from the bosom of the family of a Conservative elector. But this is evidently the outcome of prejudice, and of an inclination to believe anything bad of Gladstone. Whatever the bottle contains, it is carefully brought into the House and cautiously deposited on a corner of the table where it is likely to be free from the sweep of the orator's arm. Thence at convenient intervals it is produced, and Imperial Parliament looks on in wonder as Gladstone, putting the stout neck of the ungainly bottle to his lips, draws in the nourishment, and starts again like a giant refreshed; but not before he has carefully corked up the bottle and replaced it in a situation of security on the table.

DISRAELI TRANSLATED.

LITTLE did I think, when I somewhat impatiently listened on Friday week to Disraeli winding up the debate on the Turkish iniquities in Bulgaria, that this was the last speech he would make in the House of Commons. Forty years has Disraeli dwelt in this wilderness of talk; and now his voice is forever hushed as far as we may listen, and we shall see his face no more. It is a pity for his fame, though it may be a just retribution for his faults, that his last recorded speech in the House should have been such a poor one. It was occasioned by a blunder, the outcome of the weak side of his political character, and it was marked by all those littlenesses of composition and manner that mar his speeches. Not being

of a grand nature he would probably have failed had he taken leave of the House in a set speech, such as that in which Sir Robert Peel announced his retirement from office. To do that well a man must be of a genuine nature, and capable of unaffected speech. Disraeli, charged with such a mission, would certainly have soared on the wings of magniloquent phraseology into the empyrean heights of sentiment, and might have brought tears into the eyes of John Manners. But he would not have touched the hearts of men as Gladstone or Bright would under similar circumstances. We can well have dispensed with a set oration, but it would have been a happier dispensation of events if Disraeli might have gone out amid an accidental pyrotechnic display of epigram and banter. The actual speech, when the writer of history comes to study it as throwing a light on the character of this remarkable man, will satisfy Justice, as it marks the level reached by Disraeli when he has had to grapple with the serious side of political events. But no one would have grudged the effect that would have been gained if, in recurring to "Disraeli's last speech in the House of Commons," the student of history had found a finished specimen of the skilful fence, the light satire, or even of the crushing invective with which the Premier in these later years has charmed the House of Commons. What he will actually find is so many words full of sound and fury signifying nothing—except that the Premier had by reckless dealings with facts been led into a hole, and that, lacking the largeness of nature which prompts a man who has made a mistake frankly to acknowledge it, he had for half an hour condescended to quibble in order to prove that he was standing on level ground, and that the person in the hole was Forster.

CHAMBERLAIN'S FIRST APPEARANCE AS AN M.P.

It would be interesting to know exactly what impression Walter Barttelot formed of Chamberlain's probable appearance and manner before he had the pleasure of meeting him face to face in the House of Commons. He had evidently evolved some fancy picture, for his surprise to-night at seeing the junior member for Birmingham in a coat, and even a waistcoat, and on hearing him speak very good English in a quiet, undemonstrative manner, was undisguised. It is reported that Sir Walter expected that this fearsome Radical would enter the House making "a cart-wheel" down the floor, like ragged little boys do adown the pavement when a drag or an omnibus passes. The good baronet's acquaintance with the forms of the House convinced him that there would be no use in Chamberlain's presenting himself in his shirt-sleeves and with a short clay pipe in his mouth. But on the score of waistcoats there is no Standing Order, and the Radical might, if he pleased, have paid the necessary homage to respectability by buttoning his coat across his chest, whilst he gratified his natural instincts by dispensing with the superfluity of a waistcoat. When, therefore, there arose from a bench below the gangway opposite a slightly-made, youthful, almost boyish-looking man, with a black coat fearlessly unbuttoned to display the waistcoat and disclose the shirt-collar and necktie, Sir Walter began to stare and to cast side-glances at that other great legislator, Colonel Corbett, in the startled endeavour to "know what he thought of *this*?" Moreover, the Radical wore, not spectacles with tin or brass rims as Felix Holt would inevitably have done had his sight been impaired, but—an eyeglass! Positively an eyeglass, and, as far as one might judge looking across the House, an eyeglass framed in precisely the same style as that which Colonel Corbett himself wears when his good-humoured face is turned toward a distant object. Surprise deepened when the Radical in a low, clear and admirably pitched voice, and with a manner self-possessed without being self-assertive, proceeded to discuss the Prisons Bill, opposing it on the very lines which Sir Walter himself had made his Torres Vedras when he besieged the Bill last Session.

STORIES.

THERE is a curious story afloat about Lord Beaconsfield's visit to the Queen on Saturday week. It is said that the proposal he submitted for the approval of Her Majesty involved prompt action, which appeared to be the immediate prelude of British participation in a great war. Whilst the Sovereign and the Premier were discussing the matter there suddenly burst forth a tremendous thunder-storm. Beaconsfield, who has long been accustomed to pyrotechnical displays, was wholly undisturbed by the pealing thunder and the flashing lightning. But Her Majesty, though by no means prone to superstition, was not able to regard the coincidence with the same equanimity, and refused to give the necessary authorization. The audience then terminated; but Beaconsfield calmly waited till the thunder-storm was over, when the interview was renewed, and Her Majesty approved the spirited foreign policy submitted to her.

If any historical painter would occupy himself with placing on canvas a scene in the life of one of the most illustrious British statesmen, here is a subject:—Scene, division lobby of the House of Commons; date, 12th April, 1878; time, 9.20 p.m. Gladstone is walking along the lobby, having recorded his vote against a hasty proposal to conduct the business of Parliament in secret. The Conservative majority in the other lobby observe him through the glass door, and suddenly set up a yell of execration which could scarcely be more violent if the murderer of Lord Leitrim, flying for sanctuary to Westminster, were discovered skulking in the lobby. The crowd increases till it reaches the proportion of forty or fifty English gentlemen, all well educated, many of good birth, who, with hand held to mouth to make the sound shriller, howl and groan, whilst some even shake their fists. Gladstone, startled at the cry, looks up and sees the crowd. He pauses a moment, and then, advancing close up to the glass door, calmly surveys the yelling mob. On the one side the slight figure drawn to its full height, and the pale, stern face steadfastly turned toward the crowd. On the other the jeering, mocking, gesticulating mob. Between them the glass door, and the infinite space that separates a statesman from a partisan.

placards, hospital vans or other evidences of pestilence. He will see ladies shopping, children going to school, markets thronged, warehouses shipping innumerable bales and boxes, vessels dumping out freight and taking it aboard exactly as of yore. "Where is the epidemic?" we can imagine him muttering with fast returning confidence. Where indeed but in the streets and lanes of the suburbs, where the vaccinator is not welcomed, and where, at a distance from every point which a stranger needs or wishes to visit, the pest holds sway. Two facts must impress a visitor in addition to the restrictedness of the small-pox area, and its easy avoidance, namely, that the plague is abating, and that from the first to young children its ravages have been largely confined.—*Montreal Star*.

It now remains for the authorities of the Dominion to decide upon Riel's fate. His life is twice forfeit to that community against whom he has committed the gravest offence which a private citizen can commit; and had he not also been guilty—as once, at any rate, he has been—of murder he would still richly deserve the supreme penalty of the law. It would be of the last and weakest inconsistency to treat homicide on a large scale as less worthy of capital punishment than a single example of the same offence; and a rebel ringleader of rebellion, more especially when his crime has been committed in the manner and under the circumstances of Riel's, is simply a murderer in a wholesale way of business. Lenity to Riel would, in fact, be pure injustice to Riel's dupes. Nor have they only the past to consider; it is their duty to look to the future also. They owe it to the safety of society in Canada, dependent as it is on the due control of the ill-assorted mixture of races which owe allegiance there to the British Crown, to show all political adventurers of Riel's type that the Government which he has been encouraged to attack a second time is not so possessed with the modern doubt of its right to exist as to shrink from the sternest assertion of those laws of self-preservation which individuals in danger of their lives at the hands of others are accustomed to act upon without scruple and without blame.—*Saturday Review*.

THERE could hardly be a better illustration of the dangerous effects of great preoccupation with a certain class of social questions than the figure which Mrs. Josephine Butler cut on Monday in the Stead trial in London. She is one of the best and purest of her sex, who has devoted her life to the rescue of fallen women, but has now, like some of the Prohibitionists about intemperance, reached such a state of mental exaltation about sexual immorality that she evidently thinks anything which is likely to stop it or expose it is allowable. She testified in court that she had actually joined Stead in employing the wretched creature Mrs. Jarrett to "put up jobs," as our police say—that is, get up sham cases of abduction in order to show the world what the wicked rich men were doing to the children of the poor. They accordingly took an unfortunate girl of thirteen away from her home, which they now say was a vicious one, but not for the purpose of placing her at a school or with a good family. They carried her to a house of ill-fame, chloroformed her, and subjected her to the most shameful indignities, so that she has become a heroine of one of the most disgusting criminal cases on record. Stead vouched for the genuineness of the case in his paper, published pictures of it, and has made much money out of it, his total investment being \$2,000 only. But think of a woman like Mrs. Butler being the confederate of such a wretched humbug. And she is not alone in her present position. Plenty of other good women and clergymen are hallooing Stead on what he calls his "new crusade."—*Nation*.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

WE have received the following books and periodicals:—

- NATURAL THEOLOGY; OR, RATIONAL THEISM. By M. Valentine, D.D. Chicago: S. C. Griggs and Company.
 THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTER. By "Vera," Author of "Honor Edgeworth." Ottawa: A. S. Woodburn.
 TWO MONTHS IN THE CAMP OF BIG BEAR. The Life and Adventures of Theresa Gowlock and Theresa Delaney. Parkdale: "Times" Office.
 THE BROOKLYN MAGAZINE. New York.
 OUTING. Boston.
 LITERARY LIFE. Chicago.
 OVERLAND MONTHLY. San Francisco.
 ANDOVER REVIEW. Boston.
 LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. Boston.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

MR. JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL will, it is reported, return to England next spring and remain during the summer and autumn.

MACMILLAN AND Co. will shortly issue a small volume of essays by Mr. Frederick Harrison on the Choice of Books and kindred subjects.

A NEW work, entitled "English Political History, 1880-85," by Mr. William Pimblet, of the *Bolton Guardian*, is announced by Mr. Elliot Stock.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES'S brief roundelay, "The Last Leaf," has been selected by a little group of American artists for illustration. The designs, twenty in number, are to be reproduced by phototype. The poem itself will be printed in the handwriting of the author from fac-simile plates.

UNDER the title "Poems from Nature," Mr. J. G. Whittier has selected fourteen of his idyls for illustration, the designs being engraved by Mr. Elbridge Kingsley. The studies are made and engraved on the spot, Mr. Kingsley's aim being to produce a finished engraving without the interposition of a finished drawing. The volume will form one of the illustrated gift-books of the Christmas season.

L. PRANG AND Co. have in preparation an interesting souvenir of General Grant, consisting of a portrait surrounded by vignettes representing various episodes in his military career. The work is designed by Mr. De Thulstrup, whose battle-pieces in the *Century* have attracted much attention.

THE *Academy* states that two lives of the great Duke of Marlborough are announced for immediate publication; the one, an elaborate estimate of his military genius, upon which Lord Wolseley is known to have been long engaged; the other, a volume by Mr. G. Saintsbury, in the series of "English Worthies."

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON has returned to Messrs. Appleton and Co. a cheque sent by them as his share of profits in the volume of essays by him and Mr. Herbert Spencer, recently published by that firm, and regarding which there was a somewhat heated controversy between the joint authors of the essays.

MR. JULIAN HAWTHORNE has written a story of souls—in which a *planchette* is made to act the part of a medium between the world and certain spirits in the unseen. The story is written in the form of question and answer, and relates to a graphic account of a series of terrible events—murders, suicides and madness.

HISTORICAL students will be interested in the announcement of a new quarterly, the *English Historical Review*, the first number of which will appear January 1. It will be edited by the Rev. Mandell Creighton and Reginald Lane Poole, with a corresponding editor and several contributors in the United States.

MR. WILKIE COLLINS has just completed a new novel, the plot of which appertains to the highly developed culture of the nineteenth century, with a flood of action from the depths of the lower strata of society. The story, in order to secure copyright, has been dramatized by the writer, and will first be presented to the public in its dramatic form.

THE *Athenaeum* says:—"The reading public will be disappointed if they expect any new information in the promised American edition of Carlyle's 'Reminiscences.' Its chief feature will be the correction of a swarm of small *errata*, including some alterations and omissions, and it will throw light mainly on the surprising inaccuracy of the first editor."

MR. MURRAY, the London bookseller, will publish the life of the Rev. William Carey, D.D., the great Anglo-Indian missionary, who, beginning life as a shoemaker, attained eminence as a professor of Sanscrit and Mahratti, and as one of the most successful propagators of Christianity among the Hindoos. Dr. George Smith has been long engaged upon this biography, which will take its place with his previous lives of Duff and Wilson.

FOR some years now it has been the practice of *Harper's Magazine*, without stepping aside from its standard of general interest, to make the December issue one of special fitness to the Christmas season. Each year, accordingly, editors and publishers combine to present a number which touches the high-water mark of the year, and each year's high-water mark proves to be a little higher than that of the year before. This year, it is announced, the special Christmas feature will be the reproduction, in the best work that American engravers can do, of the great pictures of the Nativity by the old masters and by modern painters.

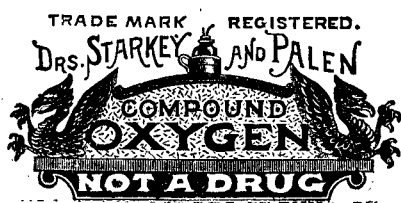
HERMANN GRIMM'S recent series of remarkable articles on subjects connected with modern literature, which have attracted the attention of scholars throughout Europe, have been translated by Miss Sarah H. Adams, and will shortly make their appearance from the press of Cupples, Upham and Co., under the general heading of "Literature." The topics embrace such subjects as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Voltaire, Frederick the Great, Macaulay, Bettina Von Arnim, the Brothers Grimm, Albert Dürer, Dante, etc., etc. It is seldom that an author stands so completely alone in his greatness as Hermann Grimm in Germany to-day. Like Goethe, in his generation, he stands forth the single, solitary man of genius left to modern German literature.

THE claim of the Chinese to being the discoverers of America is again being discussed in New York. Mr. Edward Vining, in his new book, "The Discoverer of America; or, an Uncelebrated Columbus," reiterates the story from the original Chinese sources of the landing of Hwni Shin and a party of Buddhist monks on the coast of Mexico about the year 500 A.D. The spot marked out is about 20,000 Chinese miles east from Kamtschatka. There is also a record that the indigenous populations reached a high degree of civilization. The houses were small, and of wood; stone dwellings were not known. The people knew how to write, and used a paper made from cotton-wool. They wore garments of fine linen. There was no iron, but copper, gold and silver existed in large quantities. Also the fact is on record of the Spaniards finding at Quivisa the wrecks of large ships, which Mr. Vining feels assured were of Chinese origin. The Hurons also had a tradition that ages ago their ancestors were visited by beardless men clad in silk and wearing pigtails.

"MAN," which, it may be remembered, was started as a fortnightly broadside early in the year, has been transformed into a monthly, and has assumed the regulation magazine form. It is still, we are glad to see, under the editorial management of Dr. Playter, and, as would be imagined from its title, the greater portion of its space is devoted to matters scientific, with a special bent for physiological subjects. As before, also, *Man* is printed and published at Ottawa. The editor announces that he has secured the assistance of many prominent Canadian writers, and, as developed, *Man* appears to accentuate the promise of usefulness given in the earlier issues. No. 1, vol. i. (new style), has an opening story by Mr. John E. Collins; a quaint and well-done fairy tale by Mr. A. Lampman; an unsigned paper on Sir William Dawson; some advice on breathing by the Editor; a charming poetic sketch, "Out of Pompeii," by Mr. Charles G. D. Roberts; a number of valuable selections from contemporary literature; and editorial notes—amongst others, some very useful mortuary statistics. We wish our contemporary every success.

MESSRS. ESTES AND LAURIAT, of Boston, announce a number of limited editions of holiday books which will be published immediately. Among others will be:—"Lalla Rookh," a vellum edition, illustrated with about one hundred and forty photo-etchings. The illustrations are printed in a variety of colours on vellum paper, and the text of the poem is set in with the illustrations in artistic style. "American Etchings," a series of twenty original etchings by American artists, with descriptive text printed in red and black, and biographical matter. "The Modern Cupid," *édition de luxe*, a bright, attractive series of verses illustrative of "Love on the Rail," with dainty drawings reproduced in photogravure plates and printed in tints. "Lenore," a new edition, richly illustrated by H. Sandham. "The Eve of St. Agnes," uniform with the *édition de luxe* of "Lenore," with new illustrations by Edmund H. Garrett. The same house will also issue limited editions of standard works, including a "History of Rome and the Roman People," by Victor Duruy, translated by M. M. Ripley, edited by Prof. J. P. Mahaffy, and containing nearly four thousand illustrations; "Carlyle's Works," vellum edition, containing a series of illustrations; "The Works of Samuel Richardson," with a prefatory chapter by Leslie Stephen, and edited by Dr. Mangin; and "George Eliot's Complete Works," *édition de luxe*, together with biographical and critical notices by a distinguished essayist, illustrated with etchings and photo-etchings from original drawings by well-known artists.

Chambers' Cyclopaedia says that the Lentil (*Ervum Lens*) is the basis, if not the whole substance, of *Revalenta Arabica* and *Ervalenta*, so much advertised as food for dyspeptic patients; and the *Toronto Globe* of 29th Sept., 1885, states that one of the strongest men in the world is the Chilean miner, who lives principally on the Lentil, the cheapest and most nutritious food known for it, weight. A very fine kind of Asiatic Lentil, known as "Dal," has lately been introduced into Canada from India by Major-General Pees, and is procurable at the *Himalayan Tea Office, 58 Church St.,* and from *Henry Lindsay, 60 King St. West.*



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Its attractions for November are varied: "The Wadsworth House at Genesee," superbly illustrated; "The Burning of Washington in 1814," told in the most agreeable style; "Witchcraft in Illinois," a surprising revelation; the second paper on "The Campaign of 1861-2 in Kentucky—unfolded through the correspondence of its leaders," a brilliant presentation of many hitherto unknown facts; "A Ride with Sheridan," a most entertaining sketch from the note-book of a surgeon; and the "Bombardments and Capture of Fort McAllister," from a Southern officer's point of view, are its leading features. The scholarly authors of the above articles are, respectively: Frederic G. Mather, Hon. Horatio King, John H. Gunn General W. F. ("Baldy") Smith, A. D. Rockwell M.D., and Colonel Charles C. Jones, Jr., LL.D., C.S.A.

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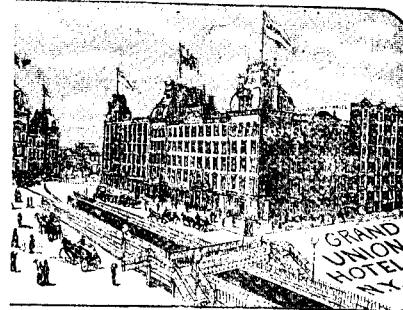
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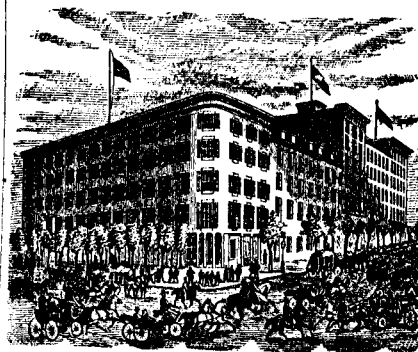


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