

THE WEEK:

A CANADIAN JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY, AND LITERATURE.

Vol. I., No. 48.

Toronto, Thursday, October 30th, 1884.

\$3.00 per Annum.
Single Copies, 7 cents.

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The Week,

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL OF POLITICS, SOCIETY AND LITERATURE.

Edited by W. PHILIP ROBINSON.

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

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C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Publisher.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

IN rectifying a technical error regarding Mr. Blake's attitude on the coal and "breadstuffs" duties, THE WEEK did not feel called upon to make a general retraction. It is possible, by going back to forgotten speeches, to show that he at one time condemned both; but it still remains true that an impartial observer of Mr. Blake's course will have failed to get the impression that he has specially brought the thunders of his artillery to bear on these duties. A running fire of criticism on the whole line of the enemy's front is Mr. Blake's ordinary mode of attack; but, as he bestows little more attention on Senate reform and the abolition of the coal and "breadstuffs" duties than on any minor topic on which he touches, there is a singular want of political perspective in the scene he brings before you. The dead level of the oration, which is good throughout, prevents any point on the line of assault becoming conspicuous. Mr. Blake may have mentioned the coal duties in terms of condemnation at "the pit's mouth" in Nova Scotia, though we have failed to find the record; but what impression he would be likely to make on his audience may be judged from the fact that in his manifesto to the electors of Durham, May 22, 1882, he dismissed the two duties with half a dozen words. If anything more emphatic was at any time said on Senate reform, it might be looked for in the Aurora speech. But to go back ten years for proof of the opinions which a public man holds to-day would always be inconvenient and often unjust. A few instances will make this evident. Anyone who should to-day quote Mr. Blake's Aurora speech to show that he is an advocate of Imperial Federation, would have to take the risk of palming off a possibly obsolete for a current opinion. And if he pursued the same course towards the mover of the resolution of 1882 against the coal and "Breadstuffs" duties, he would represent that gentleman, very unfairly, as a full-blown protectionist and the chief speaker in support of the motion as an advocate of the National Policy. What emphatically goes by the name of Free Trade in England is free trade in grain and flour. Mr. Blake gives the words a wider meaning when he says, as he did in his manifesto of 1882, "Free Trade is impossible for us." In that manifesto he encouraged the moderate protectionists to look to the future without misgivings. "It results," he told them encouragingly, "as a necessary incident of our settled policy that there must be a large and, as I believe in the view of the moderate protectionist, an ample advantage to the home manufacturer." A similar opinion he has frequently expressed. When Mr. Gladstone has made up his mind to extend the franchise, nobody is

left in doubt as to his intentions. If Mr. Blake had opened a regular campaign against the coal and bread taxes, nobody could have been in doubt as to the fact. That he has not done so is certain. It would not be just towards Mr. Blake to represent him as playing a part which he has not played, and it is difficult to conceive that a high-minded public man could desire to be described as a special advocate of Senate reform and the abolition of the coal and bread taxes when the facts do not warrant such a description. THE WEEK thinks better of Mr. Blake than to believe without clear evidence that he has any such desire.

DR. TUKE'S formidable impeachment of the management of the Asylum at Long Point, receives its answer in the bold assertion that "the Sisters of Charity are the incarnation of the providence of God." Dr. Tuke thinks the practice of the Government in farming out the lunatics is a mistake, and the defenders of the Sisters profess to have found the reason of his objection: *Les sœurs, c'est bien l'incarnation de la providence de Dieu.* This is a defence which, its validity being admitted, should end all parley; but around the citadel numerous defensive works of a minor character are erected. Against Dr. Tuke all sorts of crimes are charged. He is a Methodist, and as such must be a fanatic; he is a man of science, with the speciality of an alienist, and therefore should not assume to understand the management of lunatics. The denials are so numerous as to cover nearly all Dr. Tuke's charges; and to ascertain the true state of the facts an official enquiry becomes all the more necessary. Whether this Asylum be an earthly paradise or a veritable pandemonium is a question to which a decisive answer will have to be given. If the goodness of the motives of the Sisters be admitted, it does not follow that the efficient administration of an over-grown asylum for the insane falls within their vocation, or that they possess the necessary qualifications for so onerous and difficult a task. It is quite possible that, in their desire to do good to their suffering fellow creatures, they attempt too much, and that the fiscal economy which is the chief boast of their administration leaves many needs unsupplied. For each of the nine hundred and twenty-six patients the Sisters receive from the Government one hundred dollars a year, one-half or one-third of what it would cost to support them in an institution under the control of the Government. This is the defence set up to show that the nuns are not justly liable to the charge of selfishness; but it is open to the suspicion of proving too much. The small proportion of cures and the large proportion of deaths are not causeless, and nothing could be more unwelcome than the discovery that they are in some measure due to this vaunted economy. Does this religious order, in one form or another, make a contribution of one hundred thousand dollars a year towards the maintenance of these lunatics? If it does not, the apparent economy must represent some unsupplied wants; and this alternative is made probable by the report of the observations of Dr. Tuke. It is impossible to believe that Dr. Tuke could have any motive for misrepresenting what he saw, and of his competency as a judge of the deficiencies and the maladministration of the institution there is not a reasonable doubt. That he may have made some minor mistakes is probable; but he has not set up an impossible standard of perfection for the purpose of denouncing a departure from it; he does not go so far as Dr. Buck and other alienists in Ontario, who report that in actual practice they have for some years been able to dispense with physical restraints: all that he insists on is that such restraints should be sparingly used. A single resident physician is a small allowance for nearly a thousand patients, and the value of a medical visitor will depend not only more upon the nature and extent of his duties than upon the way in which these duties are performed. Of the inspectors, two of the three being medical men, the old question must once more be asked: Who inspects the inspectors?

IF Sir Charles Tupper has found means to secure a treaty between Spain and Great Britain to regulate the trade between Canada and the Spanish colonies of Cuba and Porto Rico, the British West Indies will find in the fact a new cause of discontent. In the course of last summer, when a rumour reached British Guiana that the Government of Canada contem-

plated such an arrangement as is now reported to have been made with Cuba, not only with Cuba but also with Brazil, the Board of Trade of Georgetown, Demerara, entered a mild protest, suggesting that a British sugar colony ought to have the preference. This year the market of the United States, in which the sugars of British Guiana had previously found a ready sale, did not offer the usual inducements, and the prospect of revived demand in the future was not bright; the British West Indies being denied the benefit of the most favoured nation clause in the commercial treaty between the United States and Great Britain. Commerce, when left to itself, obeys laws of its own; but the true solution of the West India question, so far as Canada is interested, is to be found in the suggestion of the Georgetown Board of Trade. A commercial arrangement, founded on an acceptable basis of reciprocity, would involve no political complications and would be beneficial to the trade of both countries. Politically, neither has anything to gain by a union which could only add to their mutual weakness. Any rational desire which can exist in the West Indies for a closer union with Canada must have for its object increased facility in the exchange of products. Neither country can afford any political protection to the other; and the ligature by which the two would be united would be so attenuated by the distance to which it would be drawn out that it would give way under the slightest strain. But by reciprocity in commercial exchanges Canada and the West Indies might mutually benefit: it is here and here alone that they can have anything in common. The only rational reply to an overture from Jamaica for annexation would be a proposal for commercial reciprocity.

Less than a year ago the leading politicians of Quebec avowed the conviction that the hostile parties ought to lay down their arms and unite in a Coalition for the common good. We may thank the Jacques Cartier Commission for lifting the veil and giving us a clear view of the negotiators. M. Mercier, whose moods were somewhat fitful, prayed for extrinsic aid to enable him to crush the *canaille* and the fanatics of both parties (*à écraser la canaille et les fanatiques des deux parties*). Of a frame of mind akin to this, but usually divested of the destructive element, coalitions are born. The disorganization of the Bleus constitute a double danger, now threatening one party and now the other; and it is impossible to say on whose head the final stroke may fall. The revolt of the Castors caused the Bleus to look for extraneous support. A menace of disqualification hung over the head of the Provincial Premier. M. Tarte, seeing that disqualification would involve the loss of all the labour that had been expended in preparations for a Coalition, hastened to Montreal to avert the double catastrophe. There he entered into consultation with politicians who counted for something in the opposing camp: M. Mercier, M. David, and M. C. Langellier, some of whom would be available in the proposed Coalition. M. Tarte had taken the precaution to get the sanction of the supreme authority in Québec, the Episcopate, to the formation of a Coalition on a given basis. He entreated M. Mercier, M. David, and M. C. Langellier not to press for disqualification, and he settled the basis of the Coalition in accordance with the episcopal authority with which he was armed. M. Langellier, who was to be the chief of the Liberal section, reduced these conditions to the following written form; and it was perhaps deemed sufficient that his handwriting should attest their authorship without his signature, for he did not sign the paper which he drew up and left in the possession of M. Tarte:—"Maintain as they are the laws which give exclusive control of the religious and moral books in use in the schools to the ministers of religion who have the spiritual direction of the schools. Maintain the composition, the present powers and attributions of the Council of Public Instruction." Two days after the consultation in Montreal disqualification was abandoned, and M. Langellier, after paying a visit to M. Tarte's house, in Québec, handed to M. Tarte the above declaration of submission to the demands of the Episcopate. Armed with the document M. Tarte went directly to the bishop under whose authority he was acting, and whom the commission would not permit him to name. By this time, and perhaps encouraged by the success he had met with, the bishop had resolved to ask for something more: he dictated and M. Tarte wrote: "Uniformity of books. Withdrawal of the \$100 per 2,000, chosen by the Department, which will send the books itself. Never, at any time, to present [to the Legislature] a law without first submitting it to the Council" of Public Instruction. When this had been written down, M. Tarte, not wishing to take any step without spiritual advice, asked the bishop if he had anything else to suggest. The (arch?) bishop repeated, what he had said before, that there were men in the ranks of both parties of doubtful principles, and that the project of an alliance, founded on the declaration of M. Langellier, would be an immense benefit. M. Mercier was to stand in the background, at

least for some time; and the Bleus were to have a majority in the Cabinet. The evidence of M. Tarte was given under oath, and the written, though unsigned, declaration of M. Langellier is strong corroboration. Mutual distrust smothered the Coalition in the womb. But the incident is exceedingly instructive. It shows, in the clearest way, with whom rests the ultimate authority in Québec; and that the rebellion of the Castors came near being compensated by an accession of strength from the opposite party.

In the County of Peel Local Prohibition has met a defeat. During the present campaign under the Scott Act there have been three victories. Alternations of successes and defeats may be expected so long as the present fit of enthusiasm lasts. Thirty years ago a similar movement extended to several States of the American Union; but in most cases the period of prohibition proved transitory, and in the State of Maine, where the law was not repealed, drunkenness was very far from being suppressed. Where the use of alcohol was lessened, other and more dangerous narcotics too often took its place. The American experiment in prohibition is far from justifying the belief that man is about to undergo a change of habit such as the world has so far had no experience of. It would be difficult to find a nation which has not from the earliest times sought solace in some narcotic as a means of dispelling care and allaying pain. The eight hundred millions of men who use tobacco never consumed so much as at present; the four hundred millions who are addicted to the use of opium are, it is to be feared, receiving accessions to their numbers; intoxicating hemp, in its various forms, still counts over a hundred millions of devotees, and betel a hundred millions. From wine to opium, the road on which many are now travelling, is a change for the worse. De Quincy had the courage to defend the use of opium by way of preference; but his experience, as told by himself, would deter ninety-nine persons out of a hundred from adopting a choice which opens a way to the inconceivable horrors he depicts. So far as the substitution is being made in the United States and Canada, a fatal custom of the Chinese is being followed, with results which any one can get a glimpse of by finding a proxy to open for him the door of a San Francisco opium den. The millennium is not to be brought about by the restraint of law; if evil is ever to be banished from the world, it will be by means of a moral change. Prohibition does not give the moral strength necessary to resist injurious excess in that of which the moderate use is harmless or beneficial. That is not its method; it substitutes external restraint for the more vigorous virtue of self-control; and when opportunity returns, the power of resistance if originally weak is found to offer no safeguard against temptation. Besides prohibition does not and cannot fulfil its promise; but it can and does make an injurious change both in the quality of the drinks consumed and the character of the persons by whom they are dispensed. Prohibition will run its course in municipal by-laws, but the extent to which it will prohibit will be limited; the good it will do will be balanced by the more injurious substitutes for what it restricts the use of; and, when its deficiencies and failures become patent, the great panacea for the cure of intemperance will be abandoned in despair. Then may be tried the experiment of building up the moral stamina which can make possible rational enjoyment without the penalty of injurious excess.

THE Ontario millers are not satisfied with the present duties on flour, and they have resolved to petition the Government for an increase to \$1 a barrel. They complain that the duty on as much wheat as will make a barrel of flour is greater than that on the barrel of flour when it is manufactured, and they have repeatedly asked for a re-adjustment. There is, of course, a question of fact to be decided: do the duties really discriminate in the way the millers allege? It has been a puzzle to many why, if they do, Sir Leonard Tilley, with his well-known mode of dealing with such complaints, has not decided upon re-adjustment. The fact seems to be that Sir Leonard, having promised the farmers a certain measure of protection, which many of them in their delusion believe to be real, he cannot re-adjust by reduction. The millers, in this state of the facts, petition for an increase of the duty on flour; and just because the Minister of Finance objects to reduce the duty on wheat, there is some danger that he may propose to increase the duty on flour. Such a movement would be, not only in the wrong direction, but it would aim to increase a duty which ought never to have been imposed, and which ought to be abolished with the least possible delay.

MR. VAN HORNE, Chief Engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has predicted that the road will be completed from Montreal to the Pacific Ocean by the 1st September next. Mr. Schriber, the Government Engineer, more cautious, puts the date at November, 1885. According to these

two authorities, the road should be about ready to be opened the whole distance a year from to-day. The rapidity of construction, since the contract was made with the Syndicate, is perhaps unparalleled. And all authorities agree that the work is well done. Meantime, the Company is bestirring itself with the view of securing steamboat connection between the Pacific terminus and China and Japan. And arrangements have been completed for building elevators for the use of the Company at Montreal. The six months which the Legislature allowed to ascertain whether the Canadian Pacific Company would acquire the North Shore Railway have about expired; and if no arrangement has been come to, a third line between Montreal and Quebec is to be built. Nothing has been said about negotiations looking to the acquisition of the North Shore Railway; and presumably the alternative of building a new road will be acted upon. The construction of branch lines north of the main Pacific has recently received encouragement from the Government. Several companies chartered to build such lines will receive grants of public lands practically free, the only cost to them being a charge of ten cents an acre for surveys. Some of the promoters are in England trying to make financial arrangements to enable them to commence construction; and on the success they may meet the present fortunes of these enterprises depend.

"BYSTANDER" ON CURRENT EVENTS AND OPINIONS.

THE immediate prospect of a municipal expenditure of something like \$600,000 has turned the thoughts of Toronto ratepayers to the question of municipal government, and it seems likely that a special effort will be made to return good men, irrespective of Party politics, to the Council at the next election. This, besides meeting the exigency of the moment, might be the first step towards a more permanent reform. Our system of municipal government generally both in England and on this continent is a survival from the Middle Ages. Since the era which gave it birth circumstances have entirely changed. In those days the city was a political community by itself, asserting its franchises now against the lords of the neighbouring country, now against the crown, exercising through its officers the functions of general legislation and government over those within its pale, and forming, fully as much as the nation at large, the object of allegiance and patriotism to its citizens. Its chief men all dwelt within its walls and took personally the leading part in its affairs. Election was then the natural system, though practically the people at large had, as a rule, not much to do with the government, which was usually in the hands of a burgher oligarchy or of a dominant guild. The city walls have now fallen down, and the population of the city is blended in one political community with that of the country. What was once a little industrial republic beset by the jealous and encroaching powers of feudalism is at present little more than a densely peopled district, requiring, particularly in sanitary matters, a special and thoroughly skilled administration. By far the most important function of its government consists in levying and expending an annual fund. But the constitution is still political, while the burgher oligarchies of former days have been abolished, and the chiefs of commerce have for the most part ceased to reside within the precincts or to hold municipal offices; even the office of Lord Mayor of London, so exalted in former days, and still so grand in the imagination of Frenchmen, being disdained by the merchant princes of London, and left to traders of the second rank. Cities have thus fallen into the hands of the ward politicians, whose unbeneficent activity is aggravated by the influence of Party politics, which have now thoroughly instilled their virus into municipal elections and affairs. The results all over the continent have been maladministration and debt. Nor have the classes from which the money is chiefly taken suffered more than the poor. In New York and other cities, where demagogism has been most rampant and the plundering of the property holder by the demagogue most unbounded, the quarters of the poorer classes are most wretched and their interests are most neglected. There can be no doubt that the administration of the fund under the effective control of those who contribute it would be not only the most economical but the best for all sections of the population. Actual corruption we may hope is now not common; jobbery, perhaps, is more so, nor is its existence very wonderful when onerous offices are unpaid. But apart from either, an administration elected annually on the political system is almost inevitably an administration without skill and without plan, both of which deficiencies lead to waste as well as to miscarriage. The same street will be taken up three times in five years to do what a stable and forecasting administration would do at once. Scarcely is the election over when re-election comes in view and begins to influence the policy of each alderman; popularity must be kept up, and for that purpose the present

must be preferred to the future, and the showy to the substantial. It is not to be expected that the people will consent at once to a radical change; but they may consent to important improvements, such as election for longer terms, and overlapping, so as to give more continuity and steadiness to the administration. A council willing to co-operate in such reforms and to promote the necessary legislation is the first requisite, and this by an effort may be obtained.

THE death of Sir R. R. Torrens has closed the career of a man who in an unobtrusive way was no small benefactor of society, and whose work, it may be confidently said, will live. It was the sight of a friend drawn into what he calls the maelstrom of Chancery that led him, as he says, to turn his attention to the reform of the law concerning the title to, and the transfer of, real property. The law of personal property is the rational offspring of civilized times; but that of real property is or was, when Sir R. R. Torrens commenced his beneficent efforts, the dark progeny of the feudal ages. In the Saxon period the tenure of land was simple, and the mode of transfer, by open sale in the local assembly before neighbours whose memory served as the register, was reasonable and convenient for an unlettered age. But the Conquest brought the system of feudal tenures; and further complications without limit were superadded in consequence of the Statute of Mortmain and the Statute of Uses by the rival ingenuity of conveyancers, ecclesiastical and lay; till, what with Fines, Recoveries, Leases and Releases, and other tortuous inventions of secret conveyancing, the system which even by the time of James I. had become "manifold, intricate, chargeable, tedious and uncertain," was by Blackstone described as a wonderful tissue of "metaphysical subtleties, serving no other purpose than to show the vast powers of the human intellect however vainly and preposterously applied." "My Lords," said Sergeant Manning, "I must not trust myself to touch the subject of Contingent Remainders, for on that flowery field I should expatiate for hours." The practical result to suitors was that a Chancery suit lasted before Lord Eldon for twenty years. Cromwell attempted law reform in regard to the transfer of land, as well as in regard to Chancery procedure and other departments; but "the sons of Zeruah were too strong for him," and all that he could do was to use Ireland "as a white paper" for the trial of some of his reforms. Sir R. R. Torrens would have found the sons of Zeruah too strong had he been compelled to adopt England as the scene of his efforts. But colonization is an exodus from the traditions and prejudices of the Old Country. Moreover, grievances affecting land in the Old Country touch only a class: in a colony they touch the people. In Australia, Sir R. R. Torrens was able without much resistance from rooted custom to introduce a system of land registration and transfer under which dealings with land are as simple as dealings with shipping, on the analogy of which his plan is based, and thus to fulfil the aspiration of Mill, who said that to "make land as easily transferable as stocks would be one of the greatest economical improvements which could be bestowed upon the country." In the Australian colonies the Torrens system has thoroughly taken root, and, in the case of small lots especially, a Torrens title is an essential part of an advertisement for the market. It is needless by facility of dealing with it, while the manifold and gross injustice arising from uncertainty of title, and from the discovery of flaws in the titles of innocent purchasers, is avoided. Everywhere the principle, in one form or another, is making way, as its benefits are felt. "In the Canton Vaud," says a recent writer, "the system of land transfer is an example of the successful working of the record of title system. The ownership of every parcel of land and all charges affecting it are matters of public record. The owner's title is not, as in the United Kingdom, doubtfully inferred from a mass of deeds, of which the meaning can only be explained by the united labours of counsel and solicitor, but is entered as a fact in the public records of the State, and is always ascertainable without delay and at trifling expense." In Canada, the improvement is still struggling for recognition, and here it is still possible for a mechanic who borrows a small sum on his lot to have nearly half the loan swallowed up by the cost of investigating the title. But reason will prevail; and the lawyers, if they feel any professional misgivings, will perceive that their interest cannot be much affected by a change which will come into operation very gradually and the introduction of which will, itself, give a good deal of employment. A simple land law is to be desired on political as well as on economical grounds: the best antidote to agrarian Socialism is facility of purchase.

THE growth of the Sons-of-England Benevolent Society is a fact interesting to all, and perhaps not least to the politicians. It has been said that in the United States all the immigrant nationalities go into the hop-

per and are ground at once into Yankee. The assimilating powers of the Union are no doubt immense, and the system of public schools is about the most powerful mill ever invented for the purpose of crushing out peculiarities and reducing all the grains of humanity to a perfect uniformity of character. Yet even in the Union the work is beginning to be too much for the machine. To say nothing of the unassimilable negro, both the German and the Irish nationalities are now pretty sharply defined; each has to be reckoned with politically as a substantive power; the Germans to a large extent retain their language; while the Irish avowedly pursue political objects of their own, to which they treat those of American citizenship as secondary and subservient. British Canada is necessarily inferior in assimilative power, as in bulk, to her colossal neighbour; physically she is so, and morally she lacks a sentiment of nationality to supersede that which the immigrant brings with him from his native land. Instead of absorbing the French element she is in some danger of being absorbed by it, and she is certainly governed by it to a very undesirable degree. Next to the French element in sectional influence is the Irish; which, though it does not like the French form a compact mass or retain a language of its own, is intensely clannish, and is held together by its priesthood and by its separate schools. To these two nationalities all the politicians pay their court. The English are not clannish, and therefore they are weak and despised. That they should be clannish is not to be desired, but neither is it to be desired that they should be above all others weak and despised. They are not the lowest of all the nationalities nor that which has done least for civilization on this continent. The best thing of all would be entire absence of sectionalism, the next best thing is equality between the sections. We want no nationality or religion to be in any way deprived of its rights, but at the same time we want none to domineer. This thought probably was not absent from the minds of those by whom the Sons-of-England Benevolent Society was founded. The first object of the society, as its name imports, is mutual assistance in case of need, but incidentally it serves as a bond and rallying-point for Canadians of English birth and extraction. It now numbers upwards of thirty lodges, and its recent rate of increase has been large. Party politics are excluded, and it is vitally essential to the character and well-being of the society that the exclusion should always be maintained. But if politicians should again take into their heads to angle for the Fenian vote by assailing England in the rear when she is struggling against insurrection in her front, it is not unlikely that the members of the Sons-of-England Society may offer them some arguments on the other side.

MR. LOWELL has been entertaining Birmingham with a display of rhetorical fireworks, of which he is no mean artist, in praise of Democracy. His success was assisted by circumstance, as Democracy in England is just entering on its final struggle with Aristocracy and Birmingham is the realm of Mr. Chamberlain. The American Ambassador tops his part when he puts Abraham Lincoln foremost among the statesmen of a generation which produced Bismarck and Cavour. Flattery is not exactly the tribute of which Democracy as "the Coming King" is at present most in need, or which would be offered to it by its sincerest friend. There is, or used to be, a ceremony called the Adoration of a newly-elected Pope. It was just before its performance that a Cardinal whispered in the ear of the newly-elect, "Remember that you are ignorant, self-willed and arrogant. This is the last word of truth that you will ever hear from me: I am going to adore you." Hereditary government is gone. Democracy has come. This is the moral of the century. It is doubted by no calm student of the political situation. Nor do many doubt that where adequate capacity for self-government exists the change is fraught both with elevation of character and with increase of happiness for the masses of mankind. Certainly he is not a Christian who, whatever his station in life, will recoil out of selfish fear from a new and better dispensation. Still Democracy, as all reasonable men think, has its perils and needs its safeguards. Its perils are the greater and it needs its safeguards the more because its advent coincides with a general decay of religious belief, a consequent disturbance of the morality of which hitherto religion has been the basis, and the opening of social questions, the agitation of which, blending with the political revolution, shakes as with volcanic force the foundations of the social system. Hearty acceptance of Democracy, combined with a clear perception of the necessity of so regulating it in the interest of all classes alike as to make it a government of reason and not of passion, must be the basis of statesmanship at the present day. A Democratic government of passion, such as Jacobinism, is of all tyrannies the most intolerable and the most destructive to civilization. Power, unless mated with duty and intelligence, can only work mischief, whether it is held by a despot or by a mob. The American Ambassador points to his own Republic, and he is warranted in

the appeal. The state of things there is, in the main, sound and hopeful. But the observation is not less true than trite that the American experiment has been tried under economical advantages not shared by old and crowded countries, which, in their transition to Democracy, have given birth to the Communist, the Intransigent and the Anarchist. It has been tried, moreover, with the very flower of a race peculiarly fitted and trained for self-government. Mr. Lowell can guess what a Republic of Irish and Southern Germans, to say nothing of the Negro, would be. Perhaps the coming generations may see the thing itself; for that Anglo-American element, in which the reserve force of wisdom and patriotism depicted by Mr. Lowell resides, is apparently decreasing, while the foreign and negro elements increase. Even at present Mr. Lowell may note that the best representatives of public morality, and those with whom he may be presumed to sympathize, are struggling, with a doubtful prospect of success, to keep immoral magnetism out of the chair of State. Electoral corruption on an enormous scale, the ascendancy of wire-pullers and ballot-stuffers, and the general exclusion of the best citizens from politics by the tyranny of organized faction, are not reasons for despondency, but they are reasons for moderation in hallelujahs; and the same may be said with regard to the prevalence of lynching and the scandalous impunity of crime, to which lynching owes its existence. Of the Civil War the cause was Slavery, for which Democracy assuredly had not to answer: but it might perhaps have been averted if the public characters produced by the demagogic system had been less worthless, or if the frenzy of faction, excited by a Presidential election, had not set the match to the mine. Let it not be forgotten that Democracy is liable to suicide as well as to excesses. Twice, under the fatal guidance of public sycophants who made the people a god, it has committed suicide in France; nor is it yet secure against self-destruction. To Anarchy society will always prefer a government of force; and there is more force in one battalion of disciplined soldiers than in the undisciplined Democracy of London or New York.

MR. PARNELL'S speech at the opening of the British Session has at all events defined the situation. That the policy of conciliation for Ireland could succeed must be the wish of every right-minded man; that it has succeeded no man who has not closed his eyes to facts can believe. Conciliation in truth is not the right name for the policy which has been pursued; kindness, liberality and justice would have been not less but more conciliatory had they been combined with the firmness that ensures respect. What has brought things to the present pass is the tampering of faction or selfish ambition with rebellion. The result, however, is not doubtful. The spirit of Mr. Parnell's speech is the spirit of his Party. The streets of Dublin are renamed after rebels as an insult to the British Government and the people. Moral filth with which no civilized man would ever pollute his fingers is raked with savage delight out of the sewers of Dublin vice, in the hope that the foul stain will adhere to British character. The tale of an Irishman who accuses himself of having falsely sworn away the lives of other Irishmen is welcomed, and the infamy of him who tells it is overlooked because it impeaches British justice. In the last few years an incessant stream of the most brutal and venomous calumny has been poured by all Irish speakers and writers, not only upon the British Government, but upon the whole British race and name. A savagery passing the savagery of the Red Indian has been displayed in the open collection of subscriptions for the wholesale murder by dynamite of British men and women guiltless of any conceivable connection with Irish wrongs. What was the cause of all this fury and atrocity? What enormous act of tyranny or grinding system of oppression provoked the outbreak? This is the question which a reasonable posterity will ask. The answer will be that Parliament had just passed the Land Act and the Arrears' Act, and was known to be preparing to pass a measure of Home Rule, while a hundred Irishmen had seats in the Legislature, numbers of them were filling offices in all departments of the public service and in every portion of the Empire, and more than two millions of them were finding employment and bread in the cities of Great Britain. What benefits could not avert, benefits will not remove. It is mournfully manifest that with the Irish Disunionists, no terms can be made; their hatred is not of the kind which any concessions can allay; it will be necessary at last, however regretfully, to accept their enmity, to deal with it as what it is, and prevent it from wrecking British civilization. Great Britain must see that an independent Ireland, if she were to consent to its creation, would be always a deadly foe and a rankling thorn in her side. Stern necessity, apart from any thought of honour or dominion, constrains her to uphold the Union, and the British statesman who abandons it, let his previous achievements be what they may, will, to use the words of Cromwell, be rolled with infamy into his grave.

At last the world seems sick of centenaries. The Mayor of Litchfield meets with no response when he sends out proposals for a celebration of the Centenary of Johnson. It may be doubted whether Johnson himself would have responded to a proposal for a centenary. He would perhaps have asked, in his rough way, why he should be expected to feel more enthusiasm about a man in the hundredth year after his death than in the ninety-ninth or in the hundred-and-first? However, we might all celebrate Johnson's Centenary well by reading over again Boswell's life of him and his own "Lives of the Poets," and by "attending" once more to "the Story of Rasselas Prince of Abyssinia." The *Rambler*, though there are good things in it, is laid in its long sleep. Few can fail to improve in sense and self-knowledge by intercourse with this great moral nature. With searching insight into character, ruthlessness in tearing the mask from hypocrisy, and a somewhat obdurate contempt for fanciful woes, Johnson combined genuine sympathy with the weaknesses as well as with the real sorrows of humanity. His sad and solemn view of life presents the most marked contrast to the monkeyish levity of Voltaire. In religious philosophy, his orthodoxy may seem narrow and rigid, but like Butler, with whom he has not a little in common, he was asserting the claims of religion to serious attention in an age of careless and sensual scepticism—scepticism not of the scientific inquirer, but of the scoffer and the libertine—when shallow minds, fancying that Christianity was utterly exploded, were punishing it with insult and derision "for having so interfered with the pleasures of the world." Certainly he had experienced religious doubt, and perhaps he had rather fled from it to faith, as Pascal did, than vanquished it. His superstition has been grossly over-painted by the antithetical rhetoric of Macaulay. His Toryism was redeemed by an attachment to legal liberty, and it may be partly forgiven when we remember that liberalism presented itself to him in the person of Wilkes, and popular agitation in the form of the Gordon riots. As a talker, in which character he has happily been most perfectly preserved to us; he is the giant of an extinct race; for conversation is no longer an art, and nobody now prepares himself even "to meet Thurlow." His style has a worse reputation than it deserves; he uses too many Latin words; but his sentences are seldom involved; his meaning is never doubtful, and he is always nervous and strong. As a critic he is not deep, nor was it deep poetry, for the most part, that he was called upon to criticize. But he is always sensible, and his object is always the elucidation and appreciation of his author, not self-display. It is sometimes refreshing to turn to him from critics whose object is self-display, not the elucidation and appreciation of their authors, and who, together with their intellectual kinsmen, the composers of sensational but semi-mythical biography, may, perhaps, hereafter be discarded, while Johnson's criticism, being genuine, preserves its humble place.

RÉVILLE'S Hibbert Lectures on the Native Religions of Peru and Mexico, translated by Mr. Wicksteed, are a valuable addition to our means of forming an opinion as to the origin and growth of religion. Nor is the direction in which they point doubtful. The theory confidently advanced by Mr. Herbert Spencer, that all religion is traceable to a belief in ghosts, especially the ghosts of dead chieftains, and that with the belief in ghosts it declines and departs, finds in this volume no support whatever. The mythologies of Mexico and Peru were evidently like other mythologies, physical. The greatest of Gods to the Mexican, as to other primitive races, was the Sun, which was worshipped under the two-fold aspect of Huitzilopochtli, or the Sun of the fair season and Tezcatlipoca, or the Sun of the cold and sterile season. Wind, Rain, Fire, Cloud, the Fertilizing Power were also divinities. In the Peruvian Pantheon the Sun was still more supreme than in that of Mexico. The religious sentiment was first excited by the great objects of nature; but it must have been there, in however low and rudimentary a form, or the impression could not have been made. That man projected his own mind and feelings into the Sun and the other objects of his worship is of course true; but this is a widely different thing from a worship either of ghosts in general or of those of dead chiefs. Animism it appears existed in Peru, especially among the lower orders of the people, as a belief in ghosts, fairies, and sprites existed in the Dark Ages; but it occupied quite a subordinate place, nor does there seem to be a shadow of reason for believing that, in its origin, it preceded the worship of the Sun, or that the worship of the Sun was in any respect its offspring. Ancestor-worship appears to have its root not so much in dreams or in ghost-seeing as in that intense veneration for the father of the family which is characteristic of the primæval period, when, the commonwealth not having been developed, the family is all in all, and which in certain conservative races, such as the Roman, has lingered into more civilized times. The practice prevails especially among the Chinese, whose deference for paternal authority is extreme, and who regard their Emperor as their father, while they are extremely unimagina-

tive, or, to use the philosophic term, "positivist" people, and by no means given to seeing ghosts or apparitions of any kind. It is not with the scythe of the dream-and-ghost theory, then, that the Agnostic is likely to succeed in mowing down religion. That theory, as has been said before, is borrowed from Dr. Tylor, by whom it is applied only to the savage races. Transition from the worship of the Sun and of nature to a rational religion is curiously marked by the theory of the sceptical Inca, who observed that the motion of the Sun was too mechanical and too unresting to be voluntary, so that evidently there must be another Power beyond, by which the motion was commanded. It is long before religion and morality became one, before man learns that the true worship of his Maker is virtue; and, in the meantime, the religious sentiment is liable to frightful perversions, as is shown by the human sacrifices which were practised by the Aztecs, on a scale so hideous that we but half deplore the triumph of the Spanish conqueror, though it brought the Inquisition in its train. Sacrifices, M. Réville explains as offerings to the Deity of the viands and other things which the votary himself likes best, and he extends the explanation to human sacrifices by supposing the primæval votary to have been a cannibal, to whom human flesh seemed the choicest food. This is not the whole account of the matter; other ideas, connected with the suffering of the victim, gather round the rite, as M. Réville sees, though it is difficult to formulate precisely, with reference to gross and barbarous natures, the idea designated by us as atonement. M. Réville remarks with truth, that the close similarity of the Mexican and Peruvian religions to those of the other continents, not only in the main features but in details, such as the regulations respecting the Vestal Virgins, the hypothesis of derivation or imitation being out of the question, is a striking proof of the unity of human nature, whatever theory may be held respecting the unity or plurality of stock.

INCIDENTALLY M. Réville has offered us solutions of a twofold historical enigma. How came it to pass that the powers of the Aztecs and the Incas fell like a house of cards before the onset of a mere handful of Spanish invaders? Due allowance being made for the effect of firearms and of horses, the Spanish victory still seems miraculous, especially in the case of Pizarro, a common soldier, with a band of less than two hundred men. The Aztecs were a conquering race, and the army of the Incas had just triumphed in war. The explanation in the case of Mexico M. Réville finds in the pressure upon Montezuma's soul of a superstitious dread which prevented him from putting forth his force and crushing the invaders as soon as they had landed. The belief prevailed that Quetzalcoatl, the special deity of the conquered race of Toltecs, would some day return from the ocean and from the East to resume his ancient power; and when Montezuma's couriers announced to him the appearance in the fatal quarter of strange and terrible beings with six legs and wielding thunderbolts, the king concluded that Quetzalcoatl had returned, and descended to negotiation instead of arming himself for war. In the case of Peru the solution is found in the excessive centralization of the theocratic government, which, when Pizarro with perfidious daring had seized the Inca, there being no initiative anywhere else, collapsed at once and left nothing but confusion and helplessness. The same consequence, though in a less degree, may be said to have followed the seizure of Montezuma by Cortes. The political moral is not confined to Peru or Mexico. Such is the inherent weakness of all highly centralized governments. If the Russian despotism were struck down by the hand of the Nihilist, total confusion would ensue through that vast empire, and society would be at the mercy of a small but organized and determined band of assassins. Almost a parallel to the fall of the Incas is the catastrophe of the Bourbon monarchy in France, which left no political force in the country capable of making head against the domination of so despicable a crew as the Jacobins, with no following but the mob of Paris. This accounts for the abject submission of a people not wanting in spirit to Carrier, Couthon, and the other vile and murderous emissaries of the Convention. It accounts for the stupor of Paris while the September massacres were going on. It accounts also for the ease with which absolute power was afterwards grasped by Napoleon. If the central government of England or the United States were struck down, every part of the body politic, being instinct with local life, would at once be a government to itself. The flight of James II., though he threw the Great Seal into the Thames and destroyed the writs for the calling of a Parliament, caused one night's alarm in London and nothing more. Nor is it only theocratic or despotic centralization that would produce this feebleness of character political and general in the community at large. Socialistic centralization would do the same. Under any regime substituting universal regulation by authority for free industry and open competition the result would be a flock of human sheep like that which was produced by the ultra-paternal government of the Incas. A BYSTANDER.

HERE AND THERE.

HAD Hanlan's career been entirely free from suspicion he could not have received more loyal support from his admirers and the Canadian sporting fraternity generally. Not content with maintaining that it is impossible for any living sculler to beat him on his merits, Hanlan's champions have the courage to claim that the idea of his having sold the race is not a contingency that can be entertained in discussing the Australian *fiasco*. If it was not the "foul," it was the "climate," he was "not fit," he had "eaten plum-pudding the day before the race"! To clinch the whole, it is triumphantly pointed out that Australian papers are content to accept the foul as a sufficient explanation of the result. But this only shows that if fraud were resorted to the antipodean journalists were as badly deceived as other people. It is not to be supposed that a sculler of Hanlan's repute dare trust to a transparent device for gaining his ends, supposing those to be dishonest. He carried too much money to risk discovery. It is possible to prove that letters written in Australia before the Hanlan-Beach race by brothers of the Canadian to whom they were addressed announced that Beach would win. The object of the writers was to give the recipient of the letters an opportunity of making money by betting against Hanlan. The exact words used in the first epistle were: "I had conversation with Hanlan. Be not surprised if Beach wins. I stand to win thirty guineas on Beach winning." The writer states that he knew Hanlan in Toronto in 1877, and that the champion went up to him in Australia, recognized him and fraternized—the implication being that the "tip" was a result. The writer of a second letter "stood to win fifteen guineas" by Hanlan's defeat. Both correspondents appear to be "well posted" in sporting matters, and are men of repute and substance. All this gives colour to the suspicion that the foul—if that were the means used to lose the race—was preconcerted. This may be matter for regret, but it can cause no surprise. Athletic competitions for money stakes almost invariably end in chicanery. Hanlan is known to be a needy man, fond of money, given to gambling, and his only chance to make a considerable sum was to lose the race and lay against himself—a device which it is only too apparent he resorted to.

THE advocates of Prohibition who, under the intoxication begotten of the success which has in some counties attended the submission of the Scott Act, are in danger of losing sight of the rights of property and of the individual would do well to pause and ponder the words of a great and popular Temperance leader—John Bright, than whom it is impossible to name a more consistent upholder of social and political morality. In the current number of *Lippincott's Magazine* is a paper on "John Bright as a Temperance Reformer," in which occurs the following passage: "Mr. Bright does not believe in legislation as a cure for the drinking and drunkenness which still prevail among Englishmen to such an alarming extent." Speaking of the friends of the United Kingdom Alliance—who advocate a measure in some respects resembling the Scott Act—he said "their mode of proceeding was not likely to attain the end they had in view."

"I think," he continued, "there would be in all probability sudden, capricious, and unjust action under this bill, which would have a very unfortunate effect upon the interests of those immediately concerned. And I think it might also create throughout the country violent discussion on the question, and I am afraid might even produce a great and pernicious re-action against the very honest and good objects which my honourable friend desires to carry out."

These words were spoken in the House of Commons in 1864. How well might they have preceded the passing of the Scott Act, and how amply the results of that measure where put into operation justify the great reformer's predictions, is known by every unprejudiced Canadian. It is deeply to be deplored that the mistaken zeal of a pronounced party should have so blinded it to the lessons which he who runs may read from all past endeavours to make men sober by Act of Parliament. It is still more unfortunate that badly-informed advocates should have been put forward to make incorrect statements in order to catch the suffrages of unthinking if well-meaning voters. For the result is that the adoption of a sumptuary measure is obtained to some extent by false pretences; and when law-abiding citizens discover—as discover they must—that the Act they were persuaded into voting for has deprived them of a comfort without checking drunkenness or bringing about the social millennium promised, their awakening will bode evil to the men who led them astray.

THE poetic desire to be in England in April has become incorporated amongst the stock phrases of many modern writers. Unquestionably the fresh-budding beauties of Old Country meadows and hedgerows have a charm all their own after a murky winter; but an English Autumn is not without its beauties, favourably contrasting with the Canadian Fall in its reluctance to suddenly part company with all that makes Summer lovely.

Bright berries in the hedgerows, the ripening acorns, the falling leaves "like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing," the robin's sweet and sober song, the crisp morning air, and the waning harvest moon, are usually the premonitory signs of a break-up of summer, and this year has been no exception to the rule, albeit there, as here, the first snow of the season has appeared—bulky, well-developed flakes, no starveling summer visitant—emphasized by incisive hailstones, driven along under the impetus of a roaring nor'-wester. These things are not at all strange to "chill October," which is really as changeable as the "month of many-weathers." It is thought that in England, as in Canada, a hot and dry summer will be followed by a milder winter than usual. Severe cold is much more likely to follow on months of rain. But the prudent will be ready for whatever comes. Those who have luckily escaped catarrh with the downward rush of thirty or forty degrees in the thermometer will need no other reminder that warmer clothing must be worn if chills are to be avoided. In both countries, thanks to the bounteous harvests, when winter actually arrives it will find the masses able to buy the staff of life at a cheaper rate than most of us remember; but with this exception the outlook for them is none of the best. That large class which is able to look forward with more than complacency to the next four or five months, knowing how pleasantly the dark season of the year is lit up by the attractions of city life and the pleasures of social intercourse, will do well at this time not to forget their less fortunate brethren. The biting wind, the driving snow, and the keen frost, only nerve the strong and well-clad to their task. But to the half-starved denizens of our city courts and alleys these ministers of winter must add unimaginable wretchedness.

As having provided considerable discussion upon the values of foods in common use there is no doubt that the English Vegetarian Society has scored a great success at its restaurant at the Health Exhibition, London. A dinner was given chiefly for the benefit of journalists, over which Dr. Richardson, of hygeia fame, presided. The doctor confessed to still hankering after the fleshpots, and cannot quite content himself with the onions and the garlic. But he acknowledged that he had almost been persuaded to become a vegetarian on the strength of the very satisfying meal he had eaten. What was more important, he gave his evidence as a medical man that there is a growing desire among his patients to rely more on vegetable diet and to avoid strong meats and stimulants. The conference which followed Dr. Richardson's speech revealed the existence of very remarkable differences of belief and practice among vegetarians themselves. Incidentally the Chairman had praised a dish of curried mushrooms and rice and advocated the cultivation and consumption of bananas—mushrooms and bananas having, in his scientific opinion, the closest chemical affinity to flesh and fish. This tacit admission of the value of meat as an article of diet was too much for a strapping old soldier who believed that bread and apples are sufficient for the food of man, and rather thinks bread a superfluity; and he attacked Dr. Richardson with a vehemence befitting a religious zealot. Incidentally this gentleman declared that he did not even wear anything that had ever been on another animal's back. His suit was made of cotton velveteens, and he put his foot on the table to show that his shoes were of sewed canvass.

IF we may place reliance upon the gossip of "society" journalism in England, the reign of plates is over. Jugomania (pronounced Jew-gomania) is the latest craze, and very soon everybody who aspires to be anybody must have their walls fitted for the display of innumerable jugs. These useful and sometimes ornamental articles are usually "published" in sets of three, consequently the great aim of Jugomaniacs is to acquire an unbroken series of any particular pattern; and as the Mary Anns and Betsy Janes of previous generations have been guilty of fearful massacres among the crockery, there is a wide field of amusement open for the busy idlers. Hunting high and low, writing to friends, attending sales of household effects, keeping watchful eyes upon every little girl who is sent to the public house or the milkman's, will give occupation to the numerous devotees of the latest fad, while to aid in their collections a periodical will be published to be known as the *Jug Journal and Swapper's Medium*.

THE following extract from the letter of a journalist who has just completed a "tour through eleven English counties," will be read with especial interest by those whose acquaintance with the Mother Country ceased a couple of decades since:—

The thing that has impressed itself upon our minds is the increasing comfort in England. Twenty years have made a remarkable change, even in the cottage, life of the country. In the remotest hamlets the strains of the harmonium—generally the harmonium, not the piano—came from rooms which seemed too small to hold both an instrument and a table. In the poorest cottage evidence of a higher taste in art, of

greater refinement, of a growing appreciation of beauty was to be found. The old horrible picture is gone. Its place is taken by good engravings, or (in some cases) by really well-designed coloured pictures taken from advertisements. The labourer has, no doubt, a hard struggle at times; and in Cornwall, where ruined mines stand idle monuments of a past industry, the suffering must have been, must still be, severe. But with all this, there is none of the feeling about a "lower class brutalized," of which Mr. Matthew Arnold speaks so often. The old "lingoes" too are going out. It has almost gone from Bucks. We did not hear it at Oxfordshire. It was only partially noticeable in Somersetshire. It exists as a "twang" in Devonshire. It is dying out in Cornwall. The statement that the mass of the people know but a few words is no longer true as regards any but the most remote districts. The vocabulary now is copious and wide. That means a good increase of intelligence; it means reading; it means intercourse; it sums up in itself the intellectual progress of the past twenty years.

MR. H. T. MACKENZIE BELL, himself an English poet of the school of Rossetti, and a prose writer of distinction, has done a very kindly thing. He has published a volume entitled "A Forgotten Genius," which should revive the fame of Charles Whitehead. His life was a blunder, his end a tragedy. Of highly-strung and very sensitive nature, of habits unmethodical, he was chilled by many misfortunes, made morbid by an unkind fate, and took to drink. The friend of Dickens, he was at first invited to write the book which is immortal as the "Pickwick Papers." After writing poems, novels, sketches instinct with genius, he was forced to leave the country, died in an Australian hospital, and seems to have been buried in a pauper's grave. Mr. Bell takes Whitehead's work and tries to give us a new interest in it. The very morbid tone of his mind gives some charm to his mournful poetry, and enabled him to conceive situations in his tales which were only too powerful. His was the novel called "Jack Ketch," his the very fine novel called "Richard Savage." He wrote plays which succeeded and articles which are worthy to live. Yet he would have been forgotten had not Mr. Mackenzie Bell told the world a story which ought to make a cheap edition of Whitehead's works a necessity.

THE poem the Laureate intends to publish is that drama on Thomas à Beckett which has been the delight of so many historians who have seen it. For the stage the drama is pronounced to be wholly unfitted. For the study it is said to be so well adapted that it can hardly fail to give delight. But what has astonished most of all those who have read the work is its fidelity to history. Lord Tennyson is said to have been careful, in inventing what is necessary to a drama, not to pervert the facts revealed of the time. If this be true criticism, the poem will not only charm but instruct.

NOTHING could better illustrate the unfortunate anti-English feeling held by some Irishmen than the peurile attempt of the Dublin malcontents to efface history by revolutionizing their street nomenclature. As the London *Daily Telegraph* aptly puts it: "The Corporation may substitute 'Brian Boru' for 'Brunswick,' 'Wolfe Tone' for 'Fitzwilliam,' and 'Robert Emmett' for 'Rutland Square,' but how much nearer will they be to national independence?" Beyond confusing cabmen and puzzling pedestrians it is not easy to see what end will be accomplished. These fantastic devices for advancing the Irish cause are characteristic of the Celt, who has always in him something of the child. At one time Ireland was to be saved by Repeal buttons and Irish frieze; but in a few months the mania died away, especially when it was discovered that the buttons were made at Birmingham and the frieze at Leeds. The study of Irish history was at another time a panacea; but an old tale, "full of sound and fury," of English stupidity and cruelty, of Irish atrocities and weaknesses, palled after a while upon the steadiest students. Nor has the cultivation of the Irish language progressed as the spirit of nationality spread. To dedicate a street to the name of a patriot or rebel of old has one thing to be said in its favour: it is a cheap way of displaying national gratitude. It costs less than a monument, a statue, or even a bust.

NATIONAL HEALTH.

WHAT is National Health? How is it to be attained? are questions that demand the serious consideration of statesmen and political economists in this young, ambitious, and rapidly-growing country. Just as the influences of childhood affect the constitution and character of the man, so must the political influences that surround and guide the infancy of a nation leave a lasting impress upon national character and being. The answer to the first of these questions is too often taken for granted, without any consideration of the subject. It is easy to read the popular unspoken reply to the question in the actions and life of the people; and, formulated from such a source, the reply would be as follows: "That state of industry which produces the greatest wealth."

There seems to be little division of opinion upon this point, but this unanimity is immediately disturbed by the second query—How to attain this National Health. Free trade and direct taxation, revenue duty or

protection; these form a delta in the stream of public opinion, which before swept onward in a united volume, broken only by individual rocks and boulders of dissent. Our political parties are divided upon the answer to the latter enquiry, and a bitter struggle over the question of revenue duty and Protection is the result. Party expediency has caused the out-and-out Freetraders to modify their views, and pose as revenue tariff reformers.

With all this discussion, no Party, as a whole, has ever mooted the possibility of there being an error in the premises.

Health in a human being is a state of equitable adjustment and well-balanced working of all the organs and functions of the body; and during that state there is a constant production and continuous, even circulation of the blood, accelerated at times by energy and activity, but ever relatively even. Wealth is to a nation as blood to the human body, and to be the vital fluid of a truly healthy State its circulation should be governed by conditions similar to those that regulate the circulation of the blood.

The true answer then to the first question, "What is national health?" should be—"That state of industry which produces and most equitably circulates the greatest wealth." Many may ask, Why thus give wealth such prominence; are there no qualities of a higher nature and worthy of a more important place? Why not rank morality and intellect above wealth? Intellect and morals are the superiors of wealth. The intellects of a few great minds have invented and discovered the best modes of creating and accumulating wealth, and by the ethics of a few great teachers of humanity, the best manner of expending it has been taught; but it is only the intellectual and moral force of the great few that have done these things; while, with the common-place many, the positions are exactly reversed, and wealth is the cause that affects the intellect and morality of the masses. Moses, Confucius, Alfred the Great, Shakespeare, Newton, William the Silent, Peter the Great, Watt, Franklin, Stephenson, such minds were above circumstance, and moulded it by their genius to public benefit and use; but minds that do not rise above the dead-level of ordinary life are in their turn moulded by the very circumstances that are but effects of such great human causes.

With the reply to the first question, reconstructed as already stated, the second vital question presents itself for solution. Here probably a wider ground for argument opens, perhaps as extended as it was under the former premises, to which let us turn for a moment. Conceding the former premises as correct, for the moment, then the Protectionist theory is undoubtedly the one by which Canada will most rapidly achieve the end in view, namely, the mere accumulation of wealth without regard to its distribution. By Protection manufacturing interests are developed, centres of trade are enlarged, the money expended in skilled labour is retained in the country, and profits are reaped by those who invest capital. There is, however, a reverse to the picture. Competition reduces profits, over-production produces stagnation, the enlarged centres of trade increase crime and misery, and in all of these cases the labouring classes suffer. It is a known fact that in all great cities where the wealthy live in luxurious mansions, and parade in fashionable boulevards, misery and vice crouch in foul court-yards, and steal through filthy by-ways and alleys. Is it well, then, for the health of the nation to pursue a policy that produces such results? No. A policy the outcome of which would be a more even distribution of wealth, and the natural and unassisted growth of centres of trade and manufacture, would lead to a condition less subject to, and less affected by, commercial depression and unforeseen calamity. Free Trade is the only policy that can accomplish this, the only method that can realize the correct answer to the first question.

From the policy in vogue in Canada and the United States, it would seem that the only idea of national health and happiness is a dollar-and-cent one. We in this country envy and emulate the commercial prosperity of the neighbouring Republic. We desire to present to the world statistics of our accumulated wealth, and deem that our happiness is to be estimated by the financial rank we take among the nations of the earth. There are men whose lives are governed by the same idea; but they possess no real happiness. They have wealth, costly dwellings, glittering equipages; but what is their inner life? No higher thought than the race for gold; homes that bring no comfort; lives that know no love. They live to be ranked by their externals, and are unhappy in the thought of another's greater possessions, though their own be ten-fold more than they require. Thus are we striving to live as a nation. No matter though pauperism and crime increase within, so that our blue books show the balance of trade in manufactures in our favour.

What will Free Trade give us? A more free and rapid development of the soil, which is the source of wealth. What matter is it to us whether or not we manufacture articles ourselves, so long as the products of our soil pay for what we require. Is it necessary to the happiness and

well-being of the nation that we should have New Yorks and Chicagos, where hundreds of thousands are crowded together as the result of arbitrary and unnatural legislation; where the luxury of the few is grievously counterbalanced by the misery of the many? Our emigration pamphlets invite the poverty-stricken, cramped and crowded millions of the Old World to come and breathe our fresher air and till our richer soil. Yet while we show them the disadvantages of their own over-crowded state we are endeavouring to foster the same result in the future.

Canada to-day is free from Nihilism, Socialism and the like. These evils have gained a footing in the crowded centres of the United States, whose free institutions have not prevented their introduction from the older lands of Europe, where it is customary to consider the tyrannical forms of government have been the causes of such movements.

There is another cause from which these evils directly emanate—the undue accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few. This monopoly is steadily increasing and producing this uninviting result, and yet we see fit to legislate ourselves into the same condition. Cannot Canada escape such a conclusion by allowing agriculture and trade to follow in their natural channels? Much better a deserted factory, the quiet town, and the happy farm, than the busy hum of machinery, the regal mansion of the capitalist, and a back-ground of squalid tenements where vice, and penury, and dirt produce a diseased and vicious population.

BARRY DANE.

OUR OCTOBER WOODS.

So imperceptibly does spring glide into midsummer, and midsummer into the maturer glories of harvest-time, that even the closest observer of nature cannot mark the transition point. Just when the last hawthorn blossom makes way for the wild rose, or when this again disappears to give place to the golden rods and asters of autumn, it would puzzle even the compilers of flower calendars to tell. But it is otherwise with one season of the year—the time when the departing sun crosses the equinoctial line. Then—no matter how warm and summer-like the weather may be—however green the grass and luxuriant the flowers—the face of nature undergoes a subtle change; a sense of autumnal sadness and solemnity is in the atmosphere; the early closing nights and late mornings wear an autumnal coolness; the softness of the summer twilight disappears, and here and there, as if under the magic touch of an unseen colourist, gold and crimson begin to gleam out in contrast to the still prevailing deep green of the woods as a whole. The Virginia Creeper is the first to assume the gorgeous livery of autumn; and its glossy cluster of leaves, in all the variety of pale yellow, blood-crimson and purple, make an effective contrast with the grey rocks or pine trunks about which they wreath their rich-hued festoons. The sumach soon follows suit, and wears as gay and varied a combination of tints, eventually deepening into the rich blood-red which often—like the purple of the Scottish heather—introduces a quite appreciable bit of local colour into even a distant scene. The slanting rays of the lowering sun, too, give an additional richness to the autumn landscape. The warm afternoon sunshine especially gives rich and brilliant effects, as it glances reflected back from multitudes of glossy oak leaves—wakes countless gleams among the pines and shrubs, and catching the downy hairs on the sumach stems defines them in lines of light, while a stray orange or scarlet maple becomes a focus of almost dazzling colour. The contrast between the abounding glory of light and colour which marks even the last hour of daylight, and the swift descending gloom and shadow that immediately follow the most brilliant sunset, gives one an apt idea of the rapid downfall of the tropical nights.

But almost as soon as we enter on October the kaleidoscope of nature begins to shift even more rapidly. Almost without any very great lowering of the temperature, and often without actual frost, every day makes a perceptible change. The beeches assume a rich low-toned yellow, which visibly marks a grove of them for miles off. The bright pale gold of the birch, contrasted with her silver white stems, gives her an exquisitely rich and delicate beauty, and makes her more than ever the Lady Godiva of the forest. The soft maple spreads its rich masses of crimson against the deep green background of hemlock which seems always unchanged, except when June gives it a lovely fringe of vivid green. But the pine boughs have their touch of autumn colouring, too. A faint line of russet is traced about the outline of all the branches, and, very soon after, the grass below is soft and slippery with a carpet of fallen needles, intermingled with the brown, resinous cones. The oaks and hard maples resist the approach of change longer than their companions. But some calm, still evening, after the last glow of a rich golden sunset has faded in the horizon, while the still river is reflecting in its glassy mirror every bough and twig, the breath

of the frost king steals silently into the tranquil air, and the mercury falls and falls till it goes below the fatal freezing point. Fatal at least to the delicate plants and blossoms that have till now retained all their summer beauty; but destined to give a new and more radiant beauty to the landscape. Never are the tints of sky, land and water more ethereally beautiful than on a clear October morning, when the touch of the frost seems to have purified the air, enriched and heightened every effect of colour, and given a sort of dying exaltation to the most familiar and commonplace landscape. The sky seems abnormally pure and radiant; the distance wears the peculiar soft blues and purples which we see only in our "Indian Summer." The young oaks quickly shine out in crimson and burnished gold, and, bathed in the morning sun-lights, recall the "burning bush" of Moses in the wilderness. The hard maple, butternut, elm and ash bring in lower tones of amber and yellow into the chromatic scale of colour in which nature plays such harmonious and affecting variations during these autumn days: and if anything were wanting to complete the general richness of effect, it is supplied by the various shrubs and undergrowth which in spring are white with snowy bloom, and now sparkle as with drops of amber and ruby when their rich-hued leaves catch the morning sunshine. And to make a counterbalancing cool tint to contrast with all the richness and warmth, never are the mosses of such velvet softness, such an emerald green, or the lichens so exquisite a grey, while even the toadstools and other fungi contribute their share to the varied colouring of the woodlands.

If the aspect of inanimate nature, in October, is especially gay and interesting, that of the animated part of creation is hardly less so; although, indeed, the joyous spring chorus of the birds is heard no longer, and the early cold quickly silences the varied accompaniments of insect notes which is so incessant all summer long. But the birds are not all gone. The robins' trill is still occasionally heard, and the hoarse caw-caw of the crows sounds as if it were a discussion of winter arrangements. The blackbirds collect in flocks before setting out in their search for winter quarters, as do other birds also, though not so conspicuous from their numbers. The tiny brown wren still darts in and out of the bushes, her note as sweet and clear as in June, and, on a warm, sunny Indian Summer day, even a stray humming-bird may be seen among the bright autumn flowers. The woodpecker is busy as ever tapping the hollow beech tree, and with that wonderfully resonant little hammer of his which seems never to tire of its investigations. An owl may occasionally be espied in a remote and secluded nook; and as you wander through the beechen covert a frightened partridge whirrs away suddenly at your feet. Far from you, poor birds, be the sportsman's gun, which you seem instinctively to dread at this season of carnage! The squirrels and chipmunks are ubiquitous, gathering their harvest of acorns and beechnuts, with all convenient speed, into the hollow tree or crevice of the rock. They look amusingly full of business, if you encounter one with his cheeks puffed out with his spoil. If you are alone, and keep quiet, he will sit on a bough, calmly regarding you as long as you like to watch him; but he has evidently made up his mind that he will not betray his hiding-place to a creature of whose honesty he is evidently far from sure. Even a stray mink may occasionally be seen, with its long, lithe body and its large bright eyes, looking so pretty and innocent that one shrinks from thinking how many must be yearly slaughtered for human comfort. The groundhog, or wood-chuck, too, may occasionally be seen peering out of his burrow, where he, too, expects to make himself comfortable for the coming winter days.

Exquisite as are these October days of sunshine and rich colouring, perhaps we should tire of them if they were long continued. The very gorgeouslyness of the effects would, no doubt, ere long pall upon the eye, which never wearies of the more restful green of the summer woods. As it is, we feel that it is the short-lived beauty of a transient stage, and value it accordingly. Then there is the touch of a pathos which invests the dying glories of the summer with a sorrowful air, even to not over-sensitive minds. The withering of the flower, the fading of the leaf, are too suggestive of the transitory nature of all earthly delights. Happy they whose happiness stands on the firmer basis which "abideth forever"! Yet, if it is a foreshadowing of that one event which awaits all that is fairest and sweetest here below, this autumn season suggests also the complementary truth that through death ever comes life, fast following behind. It is the germinant bud of next year which is pushing off this summer's faded leaf; and nothing can be more interesting than to note how mother nature, even in the season of general death, is busily preparing and nourishing the full tide of life that will burst in with the coming spring. The falling acorn bears the germ that, with favouring conditions, will in a few months be a tiny sprouting oak. Under the soft mould wait the myriads of seeds and rootlets that are ere long to clothe the earth with a fresh mantle of

verdure; and the brown leaves that seem to flutter sadly and reluctantly down, when even their autumn glory is over and drear November is at hand, are converted by nature's tender care into a soft and close mantle to protect from the wintry frosts the delicate flower which will be the glory of the spring! And so, even the always saddening season of nature's decay becomes a parable of resurrection to comfort hearts that suffer from a sense of far heavier loss; and that includes nearly all—does it not?

FIDELIS.

THE CHURCHES.

TIME was when the May meetings were the great events in the religious world. That time has passed away. The vernal month still sees many important ecclesiastical gatherings, but they no longer absorb the interest they once did. Their decadence is not exclusively due to satirical references to "the brayings of Exeter Hall," or to the fact that people are less interested in the religious and philanthropic movements that made the May meetings famous. Changed conditions have brought other centres into prominence. In the newer civilization of the West much religious activity has been developed, which becomes assimilated with the spiritual and moral needs of a new age. Rapid interchange of thought and ideas has evolved a spirit of greater activity and adaptation to the altered state of the modern world. The methods and plans of the Mother Land may have found a comparatively genial soil on this continent, but they have taken the complexion of the country and of the time. The traditions of the past are no longer dominant. The religious life of the Dominion is becoming more assimilated to the actual requirements of the people and finds its manifestation in various forms of beneficent activity. The speculative for the most part gives place to the practical.

LAST week the recently united Methodism of the Dominion exemplified how thorough the organization of that important denomination has become. Recently the Missionary Committee met and conducted its affairs with praiseworthy harmony. The Ladies' Missionary Society met last week in Toronto. Much valuable missionary intelligence was imparted, and a great and healthful impulse communicated which the delegates will more or less successfully infuse into the communities to which they belong.

LAST week also saw the assembling of an influential Sabbath School Convention in Brockville, at which delegates from almost every part of Ontario assembled. In addition to Canadian workers, several prominent representatives of the Sunday School cause from the United States gave the benefit of their experience to their co-workers in Canada.

STILL another convention of Christian workers is being held in the pleasant and attractive Town of Peterborough. The Y. M. C. A. are in session this week, and many estimable representatives of this department of religious activity are in attendance.

THE Baptist Association of Ontario have just concluded their annual meeting which, this year, was held in the youngest city of the Province, St. Thomas. This body is zealous in the propagation of its distinctive tenets. Like other sections of the Evangelical Church, it also displays much earnestness both in Home and Foreign Mission work. It has appointed a Superintendent of Missions and has made praiseworthy provision for the advancement of education, Senator Macmaster having made another generous contribution in its behalf.

THE recent Church Congress in Toronto has amply fulfilled the hopes of those who desired the establishment in Canada of this most excellent institution. The proceedings were of more than ordinary interest. Stirring subjects of practical value were discussed with marked ability. Perhaps the most gratifying feature observable was the unconventional and manly tone prevailing the papers read and the discussions to which they gave rise. The presence of Bishops Potter and McLaren, whose cordial words were fully appreciated, added much to the value and interest of the Congress.

PRECEDING the meeting of the Church Congress in Toronto, the Eleventh Congress of the American Church was held in Detroit. The principal topics were discussed with the same thoroughness and independence that characterized the Canadian assemblage. The chief subjects considered were Authority and Science, the Cathedral System in America, Moral Education in Public Schools, The Confessional, Is our Civilization just to Working Men? Among Canadian speakers at the Detroit Congress who produced a most favourable impression, the name of Professor Clark, deserves special mention.

THE fine new chapel in connection with Trinity College, Toronto, was consecrated with imposing and impressive ceremonies, in which a number of distinguished Churchmen took part.

THE Venerable Archbishop Lynch has, of late, been devoting himself to polemics. He has invented an imaginary Indian, whose identity would be as difficult of discovery as would have been the prototypes of Fenimore Cooper's red-skins.

IT is stated that the Romish Propaganda has decided on the erection of a new diocese in the Province of Quebec. Nicolet will be the seat of the new bishopric. It is also rumoured that Dom Smeulders will be replaced by a new apostolic delegate.

THE founders of St. Paul, Catholic Italian Church at Rome, have answered the papal remonstrances somewhat defiantly. They go the length even of denying the papal authority. They will now be excommunicated by the Vatican. The unusual spectacle of a dissenting Catholic congregation in Rome itself will then be seen.

THE rapid growth of the Salvation Army is, to appearance, likely to be followed by a speedy collapse. In many places in England where the army had attained great popularity its numbers are dwindling. A meeting was held in the City Hall, Glasgow, lately, at which General Booth himself was present, but empty benches were numerous. Schism has broken out in the army ranks in the United States. Major Moore decided on the incorporation of the army property. To this General Booth is decidedly opposed. The Major has been cashiered, but part of the rank and file hold with the excommunicated officer, and part maintain their fidelity to the General.

ASTERISK.

EDUCATION NOTES.

THE teachers of the Toronto Public Schools have made a new departure in the method of holding their semi-annual convention. It has been hitherto their custom to devote the two days of the meeting to the discussion of educational questions of a more or less practical character, interspersed at intervals with a lesson given by a teacher to a class on some assigned subject. They have determined to substitute for the first day's work of this kind something of a more practical nature, and, under the guidance of their inspector, they have divided themselves into sections according to the grade of the classes they teach. During this month each section takes a day to visit one of the city schools to observe the general work carried on there, and particularly the work of the class in which it is specially interested. The morning is devoted to this, and the afternoon is spent in discussing what has been observed, and arriving at general conclusions upon it, and upon any other points connected with the important duties in which the teachers are engaged. If this change is wisely carried out it will provide a valuable substitute for the fruitless discussions which too often mark these semi-annual gatherings.

THERE was a large decrease in the number of appeals against the returns of the recent examination for Intermediate and Second and Third Class Teachers' Certificates. This may be accounted for by the care exercised by the Minister of Education in the appointment of sub-examiners. Hitherto these appointments have been left largely in the hands of one or two subordinates of the Education Department, who were not always anxious to make the public service their first consideration in the recommendations they made. Now, it must be acknowledged that the careful reading of examination papers is not an easy task, nor is it one that should be entrusted to novices. It requires considerable practice to be able to see the points of an answer and to judge of its value correctly. The persons most competent for this work are those engaged in teaching the subjects the candidates are examined upon, and since it has been deemed expedient to exclude High School masters from the reading of what might probably be their own pupils' papers, the work should be entrusted to the Public School body. Hitherto there has been a fair representation of inspectors among the sub-examiners; but until the present year no Public School master, with one or two exceptions, had an opportunity of knowing, in the capacity of sub-examiner, what is the standing of those who sought admission to the lower grades of his profession. Mr. Ross has changed all that, and given an earnest of his purpose by the appointment this year of a considerable number of Public School masters on the examining body. The recent results seem to justify his action, and to warrant the opinion that those who have the interests of the profession at heart are likely to prove the most painstaking and conscientious of examiners.

ONE of the most important Conferences on Education of recent years was held lately in connection with the Health Exhibition in London, England. Its sittings extended from the 4th to the 9th of August, and were devoted to the consideration of every phase of education, from the highest university training to the teaching of infant schools. The Conference was divided into four sections, each of which discussed a particular branch. One devoted itself to Elementary Education in all its aspects, another to Science-teaching in Schools, another to University Training, and a fourth to the Training of Teachers, etc. The meeting was thoroughly international, not to say cosmopolitan, in its character. The leading countries of Europe, as well as those of North and South America, were represented. The importance of the gathering may be inferred from the names of a few of those who read papers. Professor Meiklejohn, of the Educational Chair in St. Andrew's University, read a paper on Professorships and Lectureships on Education, in which he insisted on three things that professors of education should do: (1) Make a thorough examination of the growth and development of many different kinds of young minds; (2) Study and teach the history of education; (3) Study method in general, and the true method of each subject that is taught in our schools. The Rev. R. H. Quick, author of "Educational Reformers," in a paper on The Universities in their relation to the Training of Teachers, urged that the function of a university in this regard is not the preparation of teachers by establishing practising schools, but the teaching of such principles of education as have been or can be established. J. G. Fitch, a leading English School Inspector, and author of "Lectures on Teaching," gave an address on Examination and Inspection of Schools. He claimed that examinations were necessary to assure the public that the aims of schools were actually fulfilled, and without inspection it would be impossible to secure adequate guarantees for the wise and honest administration of the public grant. Mr. Philip Magnus, author of several science text-books, and an active member of the Royal Commission on Technical Education, gave an address, in which he stated some of the conclusions at which the Commission had arrived. Professor Henry Morley read a paper on

University Training. Mr. Mansford, a leading professor in Westminster Training College, read one on The Training of Teachers; Canon Cromwell, author of numerous school books, stated some differences in the training, duties, and position of teachers in Great Britain and on the Continent, and Mr. Heller, Secretary of the National Union of Elementary Teachers, gave an interesting address on The Organization of Elementary Education. Besides these there were a number of distinguished men, particularly from France and Belgium, and several ladies actively engaged in education in England, who took an important part in the proceedings.

AMONGST those who read papers was Captain Cameron, the distinguished African traveller. The subject he chose was The Teaching of Geography. In the course of his remarks he animadverted on the absurdity of crowding the maps intended for children's use with so many unnecessary names. These only served to withdraw their attention from those names that were really of value. He deplored the ignorance that prevailed, even amongst otherwise well educated people, upon the subject of geography. Even travellers were no exception. He had met an American editor in Turkey who wanted to know whether the Danube did not run all the way to Constantinople, and whether when he reached Athens he could not get to Smyrna by rail! An Englishman turned up one day in Damascus, and said to his consul, "Where am I?" "At Damascus." "Where is that?" "Don't you know?" said the consul. "No," he replied, "my old woman amuses herself lugging me about to all sorts of places, but often for weeks together I have not the least idea where I am."

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 21, 1884.

SOME aspects of the struggle for the Presidency are not without interest and instruction for Canadians. If Mr. Blaine should be elected, as now seems probable, it will no longer be possible for the Democratic Party to decline the gage of battle thrown down by its rival four years ago, when the dogma of Protection was boldly and broadly propounded on the Republican platform as a permanent, fundamental principle in American political economy. For a moment some of the Democratic leaders seemed inclined to take up the challenge, so far at least as to maintain that the United States tariff no more truly represented Protection in any scientific or reasonable sense than it represented the opposite dogma of Free Trade, but was a mere illogical patchwork that spoke for nothing but jobbery and short-sighted selfishness. However, Democratic politicians are true to their kind, and as soon as it was perceived that the public required to be educated, and that education meant another term of exclusion from power and plunder, all attempts to meet the Republicans upon the only issue which the intelligent voters who hold the balance of power cared a straw about were abandoned, and the Democratic candidate, a gallant, high-toned soldier, who knew nothing of political science, was induced to sign a silly declaration to the effect that the tariff was not a national question at all, but purely a municipal one, like local option or high license in respect of the liquor traffic. Of course, the Republican candidate was thereupon returned by a handsome majority, as there could no longer be any reason why a voter not expecting to profit directly by a change of administration should desire such a change as was alone possible at that time.

This year the Democrats have made no show of bringing forward the question of the Tariff for a moment. They waited, as usual, for the Republicans to name their candidate and produce their platform, and when the nomination had fallen to Mr. Blaine, it seemed to the Democratic leaders and followers alike that their enemy had delivered themselves into their hands. Their internal dissensions were quickly healed, and they came before the constituency of the nation with a candidate of whom nothing worse could be said than that his political experience had been short and narrow, and with a platform that equally pleased such extremists as Mr. Morrison, the pronounced free-trader, and Mr. Randall, the uncompromising protectionist.

It is but simple justice to say of Governor Cleveland that no more promising candidate has been offered for the Presidency by any party for half a century. He seems to possess, in a high degree, that rugged honesty, that quiet firmness and that inflexible purpose to set righteousness above partisan expediency which Democratic orators and editors are never weary of attributing to their demi-god, Jefferson. It is no injustice to Mr. Blaine to say that, in a moral sense, no such objectionable candidate has ever been presented for the highest office in the Republic. In a political career of twenty years' duration, he has written himself down in history with his own hand as a man who has never hesitated to use the influence and opportunities that his high places have brought him to get riches—not dishonestly, perhaps, yet in a very coarse and demoralizing way. But as the candidate of his Party, Mr. Blaine has been able to win to his support the great majority of the men whose abilities, culture, and moral worth have given to the Party an influence which those who direct its practical operations have not deserved since 1869, and he will be elected, if elected at all, by the votes of thousands who would not, for their right hands, have written the letters which Mr. J. Mulligan has laid before the public. Their votes will be governed by three considerations: firstly, that, at the worst, he is incapable of much mischief within his term of four years; secondly, that he stands for a Party which has given practical effect to many and important principles already, and that has at least one principle in reserve which is worthy to engage the thoughts of men; and, thirdly, that the alternate Party has not, during the twenty-three years it has been in opposition, produced any principle which it has

been willing to stand to and to suffer a defeat for, as the Republican Party did in 1856, when it courageously met the burning question of slavery, and endured a foregone discomfiture which proved the fore-runner to a decisive victory four years later. And now it looks as though the Democratic Party, in the face of the best opportunity it has had, or is likely to have, to sneak into power through the too reckless confidence of its adversary, is destined to a further exclusion till it learns the lesson that a Party can only justify its existence by having some political principle that is equally imperative while men are cold, or even hostile, as in the sunshine of popular conviction and success. C. F. B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E.—Your poem is too long and too lugubrious.
G.—"Death of Wit in Canadian Speakers" is not suitable for our columns.

THE NEGRO AT THE SOUTH.

To the Editor of the Week:

SIR,—I must thank "Bystander" for the courteous way in which he refers to my remarks upon the race question at the South. "Bystander" says, "Mormonism does not taint New England life." This is correct; but unfortunately New England life suffers from two evils quite as bad as Mormonism: (1) Laxity of the marriage relation (in parts of New England, one marriage out of every six or eight is annulled by law); (2) a stationary or retrogressive native American population, concerning the cause of which phenomenon medical men give no uncertain sound. Statistics show also that New England, with all her culture, has had a much heavier criminal record than the South, in proportion to population. There are at least 150,000 Mormons in the Republic, an increase in ten years of about seventy-five per cent. They have extended their missionary efforts over very many parts of the Union, and their political influence over Utah, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho and Wyoming. The indirect results of Mormonism are out of all proportion to the number of its adherents. That the United States Government allows its marriage laws to be openly set at defiance in a territory so vast as that represented by the above named lands, tends undoubtedly to weaken the respect for government amongst the masses.

"Bystander" says I am mistaken in supposing him to be an annexationist. I regret very much if I have made a statement not borne out by facts. In "Bystander's" references to my article in THE WEEK this gentleman says that, in his opinion, "the great forces on this continent are working towards an ultimate re-union of the English-speaking race." Surely this must mean political annexation, or amalgamation. Commercial reciprocity or union has been had and may be had again without "any ultimate re-union of the English-speaking race."

"Bystander" says that "I am evidently not an optimist as to American institutions." That, indeed, few Southerners are. I frankly confess that "Bystander" is correct. Looking at the corruption, the excesses of factional feeling, the devotion to merely material ends and aims, the lack of honour among the people and their leaders, I cannot but fear that a day of reckoning must come. As to the South, from where the broad Potomac hurries by, in haste to plunge its bloody memories in the sea, to my own dear State, Florida, about whose every key and inlet lingers still the charm of Spanish glory; as to the South, I am just old-fashioned and fossilized enough to believe still that the much-ridiculed "Southern chivalry" is exactly what is wanted to correct the crude, harsh, mammon-worship of the present day.

As one who has lived for years in Canada, and is therefore thoroughly British in sympathy, it does strike me as very strange that some Canadians should prefer annexation to the preservation of their Empire intact. Materially, annexation could not benefit Canada, as she has grown much faster in population, shipping, trade and wealth than has the Union. Socially, morally, and educationally annexation would be simply suicidal. Although Imperial Federation—as generally understood, *i.e.*, with a federal parliament of representatives from all parts of the Empire—would manifestly be unworkable, yet there appears to me to be no reason why the Empire may not be held together as a collection of British communities under one sovereign, with one army, navy, and consular service, one flag, and one common citizenship; each member managing its own local affairs, and Great Britain having exclusive control of such matters as those of Egypt and India, in which she alone is deeply interested.

A SOUTHERNER.

LEGALITY VS. PUBLIC POLICY.

To the Editor of the Week:

DEAR SIR,—A labourer while engaged at his work having been injured sued his employer for damages, notwithstanding the fact that he had agreed to forego any claim to such damages. The judge held that the agreement was void, and awarded damages accordingly, the ground for this decision being that public policy required it.

The decision and the ground on which it was rested are open to grave criticism. It is assumed, if not openly, yet theoretically, that the workman is not competent to enter into an agreement with his employer. For aught that I can see, with just as good reason might a court of law determine, despite an agreement entered into by a worker to accept a dollar in payment for a day's labour, that public policy required that he should be paid a dollar and a quarter. Accidents are sure to occur, although reasonable care and vigilance be exercised, and it may be right to hold the man who employs human machinery to do his work at so much a day responsible for any damage that may happen to it while in his use. But why may not an employer, who prudently considers the risk to be run, insure himself against it? And what is the difference either to the employé or the public whether he pays an insurance company a certain sum to take the risk which, for fear of ruin he might suffer through carrying it himself, he dare not undertake, or give his workman an increase of wages to an equal amount to take the risk upon himself?

Decisions of law courts even now are proverbially uncertain. But who will dare

to forecaste, however extensive or accurate may be his knowledge of the laws, what may be the result of any case, if decisions that have turned upon the judge's view, sure to be more or less partial, of their bearing upon public policy are to be upheld? There seems to be a growing conviction that in public business honesty is not the best policy; that, however sound when applied to private transactions, the time-honoured maxim may safely be ignored whenever the public interest seems for the time being to require it; that in fact the king can do no wrong; or, in other words, that the minority has no rights that the majority need respect, except in so far as a prudent regard for its own peace and comfort may inculcate; that might includes right.

Protectorates without exception inevitably tend toward tyrannies. It was not in the nature of things human that protectors can be depended upon to educate their protégés for independence. They seem much more apt to enact the part of the wicked uncle. It may be doubted whether the church itself when it takes this part is to be trusted, for it can hardly be said that it even has invariably been on the side of human freedom.

Yours truly, W. O. E.

Whitby.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

MR. STEVENS writes a long letter combatting THE WEEK's position on this question, and advancing the usual arguments in favour of prohibiting Chinese immigration. The following extracts will explain his views:

"I am confident that the indiscriminate influx of Chinamen into this country is one of those causes that will prevent the honest toilers of our race, religion and common interest from reaching the summit of their hopes."

"The bulk of the Chinese are imported semi-slaves. They are brought here under contract, and are under lock and key to their masters."

"Don't drag your own race down to the same level of semi-slavery in your endeavours to bless (?) an alien people—a people who think their civilization superior to ours, and who, by their contact with our civilization, are still more deeply impressed with their own as the superior."

W. H. STEVENS.

Toronto.

ADDRESS TO MY TEA KETTLE.

The following lines under the above title are extracted from a provincial newspaper about fifty years old, and seem worthy of reproduction:—

FOR many a verse inspired by tea
(A never-failing Muse to me),
My kettle, let this tribute bow,
Thy charms to blazon,
And tell thy modest worth, although
Thy face be brazen.

Let others boast the madd'ning bowl
That raises but to sink the soul,
Thou art the Bacchus that alone
I wish to follow;
From thee I tippie Helicon,
My best Apollo!

'Tis night—my children sleep—no noise
Is heard, except thy cheerful voice;
For when the wind would gain mine ear
Thou sing'st the faster,
As if thou wert resolved to cheer
Thy lonely master.

And so thou dost; those brazen lungs
Vent no deceit, like human tongues;
That honest breath was never known
To turn informer;
And for thy feelings—all must own
That none are warmer.

Of late another eye and ear
Would mark thy form, thy music hear;
Alas! how soon our pleasures fly,
Returning never!
That ear is deaf—that friendly eye
Is closed forever!

Be thou, then, now, my friend, my guide,
And humming wisdom by my side
Teach me so patiently to bear
Hot-water troubles,
That they may end, like thine, in air,
And turn to bubbles.

Let me support misfortune's fire
Unhurt, and, when I fume with ire,
Whatever friend my passions sees,
And near me lingers,
Let him still handle me with ease,
Nor burn his fingers.

O, may my memory, like thy front,
When I am cold, endure the brunt
Of vitriol envy's keen assaults
And shine the brighter,
And ev'ry rub that make my faults
Appear the lighter!

THE SCRAP BOOK.

FASHION AND BIRD LIFE.

THE despotism of fashion far exceeds in severity and in evil influence that exercised by the most tyrannical of rulers. Let any custom or habit be announced as the fashion, and men and women—but, unfortunately, more particularly women—will strive who shall be the foremost to show their servitude to it in the most obsequious manner. That a fashion should be unhealthy, tend to shorten life or to disfigure or permanently distort the body, be grossly indecent or productive of the most severe discomfort, is no bar to its general adoption by the greater part of the community, who identify themselves so thoroughly with the current phase as to declare of it, as they have previously done of every other in succession, that not only is it in the extreme of good taste and elegance, but also desirable on every sanitary ground, and the most comfortable and advantageous that could possibly be devised. The more ridiculous and hideous the fashion, the stronger the outcry of its votaries, as though they recognized the fact that the greater the evil and the absurdity the more active must be the defence.

The hideous enormity of crinoline was advocated with a similar enthusiasm to that shown in favour of the tight-fitting, eel-skin dresses, or that now manifested in defence of high-heeled boots and the crippled gait consequent on their adoption. Tight lacing and constricted waists, interfering with every function of bodily life, and rendering women useless valetudinarians in place of being active and useful members of society, have never wanted defenders, and there appears but little hope of improvement in this respect. For so strong is the influence of personal vanity, that even amongst the "sweet girl graduates" are occasionally to be seen not merely bizarre costumes that are adapted to attract attention to the wearer, but also unsanitary and non-hygienic dresses that cannot be worn without injury to the health of the owner. There is one consolation that affords some relief to those whose common sense is outraged at the occasional enormities of fashion; it is that the evils are not permanent. It is true that they recur, but not usually in the lifetime of a single observer. The hoops and high heels of the latter part of the eighteenth and commencement of the nineteenth century are within the personal cognizance of very few who are now living, though most persons of middle age have laughed at their absurdity in the engravings of the period, not thinking they would be resuscitated in the form of the crinoline of past decades and the high heeled chausures of the present.

Fashion, moreover, affects not only the human race, but the entire animal kingdom. The balance of nature and the productiveness of the land are interfered with by its vagaries. Brightly plumaged birds in India are destroyed by hundreds of thousands, and sold by their captors for a mere nominal price, their skins being exported as ornaments. Dr. Bidie, who is in charge of the Madras Museum, states that "scarcely a year passes without references being made to the museum regarding the injuries inflicted on crops by insects. Now it is a colony of borers attacking coffee bushes and sugar cane, while next year it is a flight of locusts consuming everything green, or a host of insatiable grubs attacking the rice crops. The losses inflicted on agriculturists by these visitations are very great, and there is imminent risk of such pests largely increasing, if measures be not adopted to protect their natural enemies, the insectivorous birds." In America a corresponding destruction is taking place. Tens of thousands of humming birds are annually slain for the sake of their skins. Nor are European birds exempt from the penalties of such senseless slaughter. The kingfisher, the most brilliant of our English birds, has been exterminated in many districts. Sea-fowl, until the passing of the Wild Birds' Protection Act, were destroyed ruthlessly during the breeding season, the young being left to perish by the slow starvation which of necessity followed on the slaughter of their parents; and during the period of the fashion for wearing wings of birds as ornaments for hats, immense numbers of ptarmigan were killed in their winter plumage for the sake of their wings alone.—*The Queen*.

FRECKLES.

FRECKLES, it is said, have this summer been all the rage in fashionable American circles, and, of course, means have been devised for enabling fair faces to display the coveted beauty spots. To rub the visage with a certain kind of fine sand seems to have been an early device for producing them; and it is said that a considerable trade has been doing in "freckle sand." This probably did not always produce the desired result, and was found to have an unpleasant effect on tender skins. Artists have, therefore, come forward, and any lady may now have her beauty enhanced by any number of freckles she chooses to pay for at two shillings each—a reduction no doubt being made in taking a number. Every freckle is hand-painted, and, provided the face be not washed too vigorously, is warranted to last three days, when it will require to be renewed—if, of course, some eligible suitor has not in the meantime been brought to surrender and to duly declare himself. "I have heard of your paintings too well enough," says Hamlet; "God hath given you one face and you make yourselves another." That was a good while ago. The painting is still going on, and if Hamlet had been moving in modern society in the same censorious spirit, he might not have confined his strictures entirely to the face. It was but the other day that a lady described in the *Chicago Herald* how delightfully easy it was to have a dimple or two artificially produced if Nature had churlishly denied them. She had just undergone the process, and was charmed to find upon her arm "the prettiest little dimple in the world," and all she had to pay was a couple of guineas. The genius to whom she submitted herself first placed a small glass tube over the spot

where the dimple was desired. By sucking the air out of the tube he raised a slight protuberance and then deftly tied round it a bit of scarlet silk. With a "wicked-looking knife" he now sliced off this pimple he had raised. The wound was quickly bound up and an inverted silver cone was placed over it. The fair patient went to have it dressed on five successive days, and then the wound was found to be completely healed, and the silver cone was removed, and "there sure enough was the prettiest little dimple in the world." The perruquier can supply a good head of hair, and the dentist sound teeth, and there are all sorts of infallible recipes for a brilliant complexion. Now that beauty spots and youthful dimples can be had to order there really seems to be no good reason why ladies should ever grow old.—*Daily News*.

AMERICANS have a deep-rooted objection to any one's being better dressed, better mannered, or better equipped than themselves. It is from this spirit that the word "dude" has been coined. That term of reproach is usually a fling by an ill-dressed individual at a well-dressed person.—*Chicago Rambler*.

MR. FROUDE'S chief claim for Carlyle now is that he was strictly honest and pure in his private life; but this is bringing him down a terribly long way from the old position of a guide and exemplar for all who longed for fields of noble and active usefulness. An apostle of the higher life ought surely to have something better to say for himself than that he cheated no man and was faithful to his wife.—*The Nation*.

THE WEEK, of Toronto, has already taken a well-earned position as one of the leading journals among our neighbours. From its start it has shown that spirit of enterprise and good practical judgment which is sure to bring success. Its management is wide-awake and independent without neutrality, and its contributions are most excellent, many of them being from popular and experienced writers.—*Boston Home Journal*.

ADVERTISEMENTS are like men, those with anything in them work to the front, and the weaklings go to the wall, though it not unfrequently happens that a good one in poor dress is slighted. To be thoroughly good, they should be good internally as well as sartorially. Let us see a man's advertisement and we will tell you what manner of man he is. Study this art—it is the highest and the most important part of every business.—*Ottawa Sun*.

CANADA has her duties and her grave responsibilities in connection with the extensive country which she has already undertaken to govern. We cannot neglect those duties or shirk those responsibilities; and yet by assuming new duties and responsibilities in a territory 2,500 miles distant from the seat of Government we shall certainly be weakening our strength and rendering ourselves less able to cope with the great work which lies before us in the Dominion as at present constituted.—*Montreal Herald*.

ALL this evidence as to Blaine, new and old, is cumulative. It illustrates the man and his methods. He does things under cover. In all his career this perpetual habit of intrigue is the distinguishing trait of his character. He has been in public life to grasp power and make money, to grow rich "on the quiet." His way of stabbing in the dark is elsewhere exhibited. These qualities and habits made him an unsafe secretary of State, and they disqualify him for the presidency.—*Springfield Republican*.

THE life of the Scott Act will probably be short, but it will extinguish the bar and treating, and this will be a great good accomplished. It will moreover be the means of strengthening the temperance sentiment, and though it may possibly lead to the more general use of opium and various stimulant and narcotic drugs, yet the general effects it will leave behind it will be wholesome rather than injurious. The whole temperance and prohibition question may be summed up in a few words—words often spoken in these columns—when Drunkenness becomes disgraceful it will cease, and not until then.—*Bobcaygeon Independent*.

THE passage of the divorce law promises to relieve France of one of the most odious features of its social life—a quasi-recognition of the half-world of vice, which has served as the background for most of the modern French novels, and the presence of which under implied recognition from decent society has corrupted the life of the nation. Under the old law the wife had no remedy against the husband even for the greatest offence; she was compelled to assent to a mode of living which was an insult to her, a degradation to him, a shame to her children, and a source of corruption in society. Under the new law which, as in the State of New York, gives the wife or the husband the right of divorce for the single cause which the New Testament specifies, the state of things has already almost disappeared. The law struck at its foundation by making a legal offence of that which heretofore has been only a social sin.—*N. Y. Christian Union*.

THE Marquis of Lansdowne follows up the traditions of the Canadian governors we have known. He congratulates all-comers on their loyalty. Lord Monck did the same: so did Lord Lisgar, Lord Dufferin and the Marquis of Lorne. It is horribly gratifying to hear from the lips that speak for royalty that we are not traitors, that we are not fit material for the gallows or the block or the hulk that waits on treason. Some additions might of course be made to the speeches which would increase the pleasure they now confer. The Marquis might felicitate the functionaries who way-lay him with addresses upon the fact that the majority of Canadians are Christians and civilized. He might refer to the truth that only a small part of the population is in prison. By so doing he would acknowledge the possession by Canadians of some few virtues besides "loyalty," and thus gladden the people who have begun to doubt whether they have any other or not.—*Halifax, N. S., Chronicle*.

WE must be permitted to entertain the belief the Mr. Beecher does not add to the moral influence of his calling by standing as he now does a distributing centre in the politics of his country.—*Quebec Chronicle*.

WE have had occasion of late to examine pretty closely into the actual state of our armaments, and matters have come to our knowledge, not as mere stories of the clubs, but on the authority of responsible officials, which convince us that in many important points, notably in the supply of guns and gunpowder, our condition is even worse than that of the luckless Napoleon when he set out for Sedan. The irrefragable evidence which accumulates in our hands daily justifies our making the deliberate assertion that if a great war were to overtake us to-morrow we should be exposed to disasters only comparable to those which hurled the Third Empire into ruin. There is not a man at the Admiralty or at the War Office who does not know that we have neither guns, nor powder, nor swift cruisers, nor torpedo boats, nor torpedoes, adequate for our immediate needs if a war broke out. We say nothing about the defences of our coaling stations and harbours; the report of the Royal Commission on that subject is suppressed lest the eyes of the public should be opened.—*Pall Mall Budget*.

IN fairness it must be admitted that the temptation to the Colonial Governments to raise money at present in the London market is strong. Owing to the state of foreign politics, Foreign Government stocks are discredited just now, and the ruinous losses that have been incurred by holders of American railroad securities have created distrust of everything American. At the present time, consequently, investors confine their purchases almost entirely to British railway stocks and to Colonial Government stocks. The proposals of the Chancellor of the Exchequer for conversion of the debt have led, moreover, to sales of Consols on an enormous scale, and to investment in Colonial Government securities. The Colonial Governments, seeing the prices of their stocks steadily raising, and hearing reports of the eagerness of investors to buy them up, are naturally tempted to take advantage of the adventitious credit they enjoy, and, lest anything should occur, to borrow now whatever they may require. As the figures cited above show, even before the conversion proposals they had been increasing enormously their borrowings in this country; and it is to be regretted for their sake that a new inducement has been held out of them. If they go on at the present rate of borrowing, they will certainly before long land themselves in serious difficulties.—*Saturday Review*.

IT will hardly be credited in England, but in this present year of grace, 1884, no hotel-keeper in India dares receive a native guest into his house, not on account of any ill-will of his own, but through fear of losing his custom. When I was at Bombay in the winter I was treated with the greatest kindness and attention by various members of the native community, and by none more so than by Mohammed Ali Rogay, the leading Mohammedan of this city. He had travelled in Europe, dressed in European dress, and had even so far adopted our manners as to subscribe to all the public charities and to drive a four-in-hand. Yet, happening one day to ask him to dine with me at my hotel, it was explained to me that this could not be, at least not in the public room, "lest the English guests should take offence and leave the house." In Bengal and Northern India things are still worse, and I think it is not too much to say that no native gentleman, whatever his rank, age, or character may be, can visit a place of public resort frequented by Englishmen, especially if he be in native dress, without a certain risk of insult and rude treatment. Railway travelling is notoriously dangerous for them in this respect, and nearly all my native acquaintances had tales to tell of abuse from English fellow-passengers, and of having been turned out of their places by the guards to accommodate these, and now and then of having been personally ill-treated and knocked about. Men of high position, therefore, or self-respect, are obliged either to secure beforehand special compartments for their use, or to travel third class. The second class they are especially afraid of. I should not make this statement unless I had received it from unimpeachable sources. But I have been assured of its truth among others by two members of the Supreme Legislative Council at Calcutta, who separately related to me their experience. I know also that one of the principal reasons with certain of the leading natives of the Presidency towns who have adopted the European dress has been to escape thereby from chance ill-usage.—*Wilfred Scawen Blunt, in Fortnightly Review*.

THE PERIODICALS.

So closely do Messrs. Leonard Scott's cheap reprints of the *Contemporary*, the *Fortnightly*, and the *Nineteenth Century* follow upon the heels of their great originals that all students of contemporary thought may now keep touch with the time at a comparatively small outlay. The October *Fortnightly* has nine papers; "Is England a Great European Power?" by the Editor; "The Second Duke of Wellington," by Rev. G. R. Gleig; "Ideas about India. 2. Race Hatred," by Wilfred Scawen Blunt; "Charles Reade's Novels," by W. L. Courtney; "The Lords as a Senate," by Percy Grey; "Diana of the Crossways," Chaps. XII.-XIV., by George Meredith; "European Cavalry," by Colonel Keith Fraser; "The Future of the Soudan," by Captain E. A. De Cosson; "Lord Salisbury as a Foreign Minister," by a Member of Parliament; "Bernal Osborne," by T. H. S. Escott, and "Home and Foreign Affairs." The *Contemporary* comes out with ten articles, those on "Reform of the House of Lords," by Mr. Freeman, "Socialism as Government," by Mr. Taine, "Americans as Painted by Themselves," and "Electoral Districts," by Mr. Forwood having attracted special attention in England. The other principal papers are "Goethe II.,"

by Professor J. R. Seeley; "Flying and Balloon Steering," by Henry Coxwell; "A National School of Forestry," by Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P.; "Mechanical Modes of Worship," by C. F. Gordon Cumming; "Contemporary Life and Thought in the United States: The Presidential Canvass," by Professor C. K. Adams; and Contemporary Records: I. Apologetic Theology, by Prebendary Row; II. Oriental History, by Professor Sayce; III. General Literature. Swinburne is the writer of what appears to be the most popular contribution to the current *Nineteenth Century*—on "Charles Reade." Mrs. O'Brien's paper on "The Emigrant in New York" is exceeding outspoken, and has given grave offence to some of her countrymen and countrywomen. There is a timely paper by Sir J. Pope Hennessy on "Lord Beaconsfield's Irish Policy," and another on "Spoliation of India" by Lionel Ashburner. Also there are: "Daily Life in a Modern Monastery," by Rev. Father Cody; "A Farm that Pays," by Lady Catherine Milnes Gaskell; "Our Deaf and Dumb," by Elizabeth Blackburn; "England as a Market Garden," by Rev. Henry P. Dunster; "An Experiment," by C. Kegan Paul; "The Classification of Literature," by J. Taylor Kay; "Progress and Wages: a Workman's View," by James G. Hutchinson; and "The Art Treasures of Prussia," by J. Beavington Atkinson.

THE November *Century* amply justifies all that was promised for it. Reading matter and illustration in such quantity and of such quality has rarely been offered at the figure. It is indeed a magnificent opening to the volume of which it forms part I. A paper by Mrs. James T. Fields, entitled "An Acquaintance with Charles Reade," may be read with profit by those who have seen Mr. Courtney's sketch in the *Fortnightly*. The principal contributions are those by General Beauregard and Warren Lee Goss on the battle of Bull Run, the latter writing from the stand-point of a private. "How Shall we Elect our Presidents," is especially timely; and other papers that will be read with interest are "The Chinese Theatre," "A Phase of Social Science," and those on sculpture, house drainage, etc. Mr. Howell opens a new novel, and Mr. Stockton has a capital short tale.

THE *Atlantic* is somewhat heavy as compared with its great illustrated contemporary, but is withal an excellent number. Mr. Brooks Adams has a thoughtful paper on "The Embryo of a Commonwealth." "In the Haunts of the Mocking Bird" is from the pen of Maurice Thompson, and E. P. Evans treats of "Crude Science in Aryan Cults." "The Last Stand of the Italian Bourbons," "Malta," "Grass," and "The Negro Problem" are the remaining articles. "De Senectute," "Mistral's Nerto," and "Aivazofsky" are pieces of careful reviewing. The poetry of the number is supplied by John Greenleaf Whittier, Samuel V. Cole, Paul Hamilton Hayne, and R. N. Taylor; Henry James and G. Weir Mitchell contributing the fiction.

THE November number of *Outing* contains several articles of unusual interest on yachting, as well as the words and music of the "Yachtman's Song." "A Winter's Cruise in a Cat-boat," by J. H. S., is a timely and entertaining paper. "A Memorable Voyage" is a sea-sketch of great interest, by Frank H. Converse. "A Scamper in the Nor'-West," by J. A. Fraser, profusely illustrated by the author, is the leading article, and gives the reader some fascinating glimpses of the shores of the "big sea-water" of Superior. Another capital illustrated paper is "Wheeling Among the Aztecs," by Sylvester Baxter. This gives some delightful glimpses of the ancient city of Mexico, and the pleasant environs. "Ride!" is a ringing wheel story in verse by President Bates. "About Tennis," by R. B. Metcalf, gives some useful hints upon this popular game. A charming sketch, "Maud," and a story "Stolen—A Bicycle," are among the other attractions of this number. The editorial department discusses "Art and the Bicycle," and "Physical Education in College," among other topics of the hour, and the "Amenities" department has a laughable fishing-sketch, "An Eel."

WITH the *Art Interchange* of Oct. 23 is presented a coloured study of exquisite design by Miss Dora Wheeler—a winged female figure sitting on a sea shore. With the coming issue the proprietors will give a coloured plate, "Playing at Punch and Judy." Accompanying the current number is also a lovely bit of landscape without legend, but which might appropriately be subscribed "In the Woods." A full-page cut, "The Death of Virginia," a stephanotis design for mantel facing, designs for a nut-dish and a clock-frame, and ample instructions for utilizing the same form prominent features of this increasingly-valuable art periodical.

THE numbers of *Littell's Living Age* for October 18th, and 25th contain, "The Younger Pitt as an Orator," "The Philosophy of John Inglesant," "Lord Lyndhurst," "Sport and Travel in Norway," "The Darwinian Theory of Instinct," "Ralph Bernal Osborne," "On the Reading of Books," "The Sanatorium of the Southern Ocean," "Modern Cathedrals," "A Small-pox Camp," "Gambling on Atlantic Boats," "Book-selling in Russia," "Raphael as an Architect," "Moorish Ambassador in Spain," "Curious Newspapers," with "Mr. Pudster's Return," "The Hermit of Saint-Eugene" and instalments of "At Any Cost" and poetry.

THE last number of *Shakespeareana* at hand contains: "Bacon's Studies of the History of the Winds Reflected in the Play of the Tempest," by Mrs. Henry Pott; "Cressida, Daughter to Calchas," by Henry Hooper; "Ode to Neptune," by Herman Merivale; "The Signs of Approaching Death Illustrated from Shakespeare," by Dr. T. J. Turner; "Scholars, Schools and Schooling," by Dr. Julius Zupitza, translated by Isidore Schwab; the conclusion of the series of articles by J. Parker Norris on "The Portraits of Shakespeare," besides many interesting notes in the various departments.

THE following papers comprise the "Bibliographie Ancienne" of the October *Livre*: "Boileau et Boursault," "Caraquez," and "Chronique du Livre." The two first named are illustrated. A mass of valuable criticism is included in the second or modern part of our able contemporary.

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

SPECTACULAR Dramatic Romance holds the boards at the Toronto Opera House, and however lovers of "legitimate" play may lament the preponderance of this class of performance, the fault does not lie at the door of the management. Lessees of theatres as a rule make no pretence of running those concerns from philanthropic motives, and, where there are no stock companies, must avail themselves of such troupes as are "on the road," and as are the most popular. Not only is it easier to get together a company capable of playing "The World" or "The Romany Rye" than it is to make a caste equal to the intelligent rendering of "Hamlet," but, thanks to the knowledge of stage-carpentry possessed by Pettit and Sims, the *mise en scene* of their plays is much more attractive to the rank-and-file of modern play-goers. It is true that Irving has drawn big houses whilst *en tour*; but it is equally true that that consummate stage-manager owes the reputation which obtains for him his phenomenal success quite as much to the princely mountings of his *repertoire*, and to the personal popularity of Miss Terry, as he does to his own histrionic abilities. Nor would many be found rash enough to assert that he could "draw" year in and out in any smaller city than London, which requires thirty-six theatres to amuse it. And so it is not wonderful that Mr. Sheppard has already given Toronto audiences a number of melo-dramatic and spectacular sensations. "The Lights o' London" was last week played by a fair average company to moderately good houses, and was succeeded on Monday by Bartley Campbell's "Siberia," a Nihilistic melodrama with startling realistic effects. The piece is well played by an evenly-balanced company, and is attracting good houses.

MR. LAUDER, a musician well known and appreciated in Toronto, gave the first of two farewell piano recitals in that city on Saturday morning last, in the warerooms of Messrs. Mason and Risch. A large company assembled, and were delighted with the able manner in which Mr. Lauder played a difficult but interesting programme. Mr. Lauder is an acknowledged master of technique, and has been faithful in his endeavours to create a taste for high-class music. The final matinee is announced for Saturday next.

A STRIKING illustration of the petty jealousy which unfortunately too often agitates local musical circles is to be found in the fact that the Toronto Metropolitan Church announces a musical festival, with selections from different works, including Sir M. Costa's "Samson." As this oratorio is to be produced by the Choral Society at their first concert, many think the action not just "the thing." Mr. Torrington is the leader of the choir and conductor of the rival society, the Philharmonic.

ROLLER-SKATING, universally indulged in "across the line," for some time failed to attract Canadians. In the early part of the year an attempt which was made to found a skating-rink in the Toronto Albert Hall failed disastrously, and a similar fate was commonly prophesied for a more ambitious attempt made by Messrs. Going at a later date. These gentlemen, however, had faith in eventual popularity of the pastime, and at considerable expense adapted and decorated the Adelaide Street Rink, which is now nightly filled by ladies and gentlemen who appear to enter into the exercise *con amore*. Success has also attended the establishment of rinks in many other Canadian towns, and roller-skating bids fair to prove a formidable rival to ice-skating. On Tuesday night a "Carnival" was arranged by Messrs. Going, and a large number of skaters disported themselves in fantastic costume until a late hour.

MRS. CORLETT THOMSON, the popular Toronto vocalist, is engaged to sing in Fergus and in Buffalo and Albion, N. Y., during the present month.

THE Toronto University have arranged with Herr Jacobsen, the violin virtuoso, for five chamber concerts. A string quartette and vocalist will perform the various programmes arranged.

THE celebrated Jubilee Singers are announced to give performances in the Toronto Shaftesbury Hall on the evenings of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week.

MR. DAVID BOGUE, of London, will publish the paper on "the Drama" read by Mrs. Kendal at the Social Science Congress, and which caused such a sensation in dramatic circles. It will contain a portrait and autograph of Mrs. Kendal.

MR. AUSTIN BRERETON is preparing a volume which ought to be one of considerable interest to play-goers. It is an account of all the most distinguished impersonators of *Hamlet* from the days of Babbage down to those of Fechter. His heroes, who do not include any living performers, are seventeen in number.

RISTORIA, who begins her season in America at the Chesnut Street Opera House Nov. 10th, will be supported by the company which was engaged for McCullough. McCullough, unlike most stars, always surrounded himself with capable players. There was never a particle of jealousy in his disposition. Ristori, consequently, will be well sustained. It should not be forgotten that she plays in English for the first time.

AN innovation in "Hamlet" likely to cause some ferment was made by Mr. Wilson Barrett when he reproduced that play. The word "kind" in the famous line "A little more than kin and less than kind" was pronounced "kind," rhyming to the common pronunciation of "wind" or "tind" in "tinder." Mr. Barrett holds that the words are a direct response to the previous line of the king, "But now, my cousin Hamlet, and my son," and mean a little more than "kid"—cousin, and less than "kind"—son or child. The assertion that appeared in some newspapers that the Ghost was to be invisible is without foundation.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

MR. FROUDE explains in the preface to the third volume of the "Life of Carlyle," just published, the reasons which have guided him as Mr. Carlyle's literary executor.

MESSRS. LIPPINCOTT AND Co., announce "The Indian Tribes of the United States, their History, Antiquities, etc.," abridged from Schoolcraft's work, and edited by Francis S. Drake.

CASSELL AND Co. announce a portfolio containing the drawings of well-known characters in Dicken's stories made by Mr. F. Barnard, and reproduced by the process of photogravure.

LORD TENNYSON has given Mr. Land an opportunity of taking a cast of his head. This will be photographed, and will be used as a frontispiece to the last volume of the new edition of his poems.

AN account of two vacations spent at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, by Mr. Staveley Hill, entitled "From Home to Home," will be published by Messrs. Samson and Low of London at an early date.

MESSRS. ROUTLEDGE will shortly publish Sir J. Reynolds' edition of "Boswell's Johnson." The book, which is to be in five volumes, will be edited by Professor H. Morley, and illustrated with twenty steel portraits.

AMONG the specialties of *Wide Awake* the coming year is a familiar and historical series relative to Westminster Abbey, by Rose Kingsley, a daughter of Canon Kingsley. Than Miss Kingsley no English woman knows better the great Abbey, and the greatest of its Deans, Dean Stanley.

CASSELL AND Co. are about to publish an American edition of the "Quiver," an illustrated magazine of Sunday and general reading, which is said to have the largest circulation of any magazine published in Great Britain. It numbers among its contributors many of the leading clergymen and writers upon religious topics in England.

PROF. JOHN TYNDALL realized thirteen thousand dollars on his lectures in this country in 1872, which he refused to take away. He left the money in the hands of trustees for the benefit of American students who wish to prepare themselves abroad for original research in physics. As there has been a scarcity of suitable candidates, the fund has increased to about thirty thousand dollars.

A PROJECT is on foot for the establishment of a new weekly University organ in Toronto, on the ground that *The Varsity* is not sufficiently representative. An effort will be made to raise the necessary capital by floating a joint-stock company, and sanguine hopes are expressed by the projectors that a journal in all respects worthy of the interests it would advocate could be made a commercial success.

ONE of Turgenieff's most ambitious efforts is now being published as a serial in *The Voice*, the new weekly issued by Funk and Wagnalls. The story is translated directly from the Russian, by Henry Gersoni. It is a tale of Russian life, and is said to be one of the most pathetic that Turgenieff ever penned. The English title given it is "An Unfortunate Woman." It will be published in book form, at a later date, by the same house.

THE *Chicago Current* has taken possession of commodious and attractive apartments, specially arranged for the permanent accommodation of its executive, editorial and printing forces, in the new and imposing Adams Express Building, in Chicago. The structure is one of the handsomest of the many superb buildings now in course of erection or just completed in Chicago, and in its new quarters *The Current* will be provided with all the facilities which its rapidly increasing business and circulation imperatively demand.

THE current number of *The Canada Presbyterian* comes out in a new dress. Not only is our able contemporary printed in new type from title to imprint, but a judicious change has been made in the paper used—a white material having been substituted for one of a blue tint. It is announced that arrangements have been made to secure the assistance of other able pens in the contribution department, and that no effort will be spared to keep *The Presbyterian* abreast of the times, and so retain the honourable position it has held for some years.

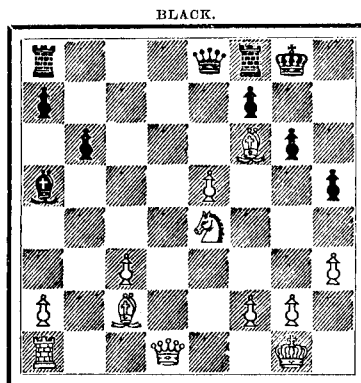
MR. AINGER's edition of Lamb's "Miscellaneous Essays and Poems" will be published at once by Macmillan and Co., of London, and simultaneously in New York by A. C. Armstrong and Son. It will contain all Lamb's miscellaneous writings that he had himself selected for preservation in a permanent form, and whatever else in the shape of new materials Mr. Ainger has derived from Lamb's annotations to George Wither, his interleaved copy of which is now in the possession of Mr. Swinburne. This edition will also contain quotations from several unpublished letters of Lamb, in various hands.

JOAQUIN MILLER is going on a lecture tour. Mr Miller talks even rather better than he writes, and will be sure to attract good-sized audiences. Commenting upon this tour, a writer in the *Philadelphia Progress* says: "He is an eccentric fellow, but not half so actually, as he takes it, as he makes out to be. His eccentricity pays him, and since it is harmless why should he not play it? When he chooses to talk and act like the rest of folks, as he does sometimes, you very speedily find that solid common sense is not wanting in his make-up. He has one quality which I admire immensely, and it is a quality possessed by few other men, among the few being Bartley Campbell and Jos. Howard, jr. They are never grumblers; they are never growling against fate. They work hard, do work for which they obtain a market, and they are content with their reward."

CHESS.

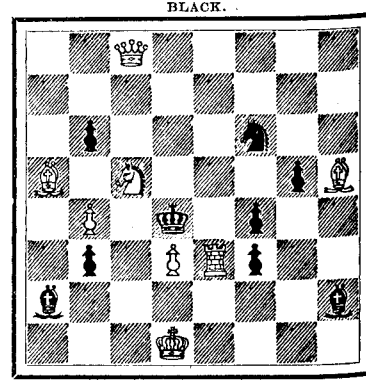
All communications intended for this department should be addressed "Chess Editor," office of THE WEEK, Toronto.

END GAME No. 6.
From a game played between Mr. Meyers (White) and another member of the Toronto Chess Club at the Club rooms last week.



White announced mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 54.
TOURNEY PROBLEM No. 9.
Motto:—"Alter Ejusdem."



White to play and mate in three moves.

THE SCOTCH GAMBET IN "COOK'S SYNOPSIS."

The following variation of the Scotch is given in Cook (American Edition).

<p><i>White.</i></p> <p>1. P K 4 2. Kt K B 3 3. P Q 4 4. Kt takes P 5. B K 3 6. P Q B 3 7. B K 2</p>	<p><i>Black.</i></p> <p>P K 4 Kt Q B 3 P takes P B B 4 Q B 3 K Kt K 2 P Q 3</p>	<p><i>White.</i></p> <p>8. Castles 9. P K B 4 10. Q Q 3 11. B B 3 12. P K 5 13. Kt takes Kt</p>	<p><i>Black.</i></p> <p>P K R 4 Q Kt 3 P R 5 P B 4 P takes P P K 5</p>
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The Synopsis calls it oven game.

Mr. E. B. Freeland of the Toronto Chess Club declares that it is a won game for White, and continues:—14. Q Q 8 ch, 14. K B 2; 15. Kt K 5 ch, 15. K B 3 or K 3; 16. Q takes R and wins easily.

TORONTO CHESS CLUB.

The first Club match of the season was held Saturday night last. The lovers of the fragrant weed entered the list against their more ascetic brethren, and if figures were less mendacious we might say that they proved tobacco to be a good thing. From behind their ramparts of smoke, the knights of the pipe fired shot after shot into their opponents' camp with such good effect that when the battle closed they had completely vanquished the enemy. Following is the death roll:—

<p><i>Smokers.</i></p> <p>1. E. B. Freeland..... 0 2. J. H. Gordon..... 1 3. W. A. Littlejohn..... 1 4. E. H. E. Eddis..... 1</p>	<p><i>Non-smokers.</i></p> <p>C. W. Phillips..... 1 W. Boulbee..... 0 W. M. Stark..... 0 J. W. Beaty..... 0</p>
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Though thoroughly beaten, however, the defeated were not annihilated, and the combat will be renewed next Thursday evening.

GAME No. 28.

An off-hand game played by Mr. Blackburne during his recent visit to Glasgow. His opponent on this occasion was Mr. D. Forsyth.

(From the *Illustrated News*.)

Bishops Gambit.

<p><i>White.</i> Mr. Forsyth.</p> <p>1. P K 4 2. P K B 4 3. B B 4 4. B takes Kt P 5. K B 1 6. P K 5 7. Kt K B 3 8. P Q 4 9. Kt B 3 10. Kt K 1 11. P K Kt 3 12. Q Q 3 13. Kt Kt 2 14. Kt takes P 15. P K 6</p>	<p><i>Black.</i> Mr. Blackburne.</p> <p>P K 4 P takes P P Q Kt 4 Q R 5 ch P K B 4 B Kt 2 Q R 4 P K Kt 4 P Kt 5 P B 6 Kt K 2 P B 7 P B 5 Q B 2 Q B 4</p>	<p><i>White.</i> Mr. Forsyth.</p> <p>16. P takes P ch 17. Q takes Q 18. Kt Kt 2 19. B Q 3 20. B K 3 21. P K R 3 22. P takes P 23. B B 5 ch 24. P takes Kt 25. Kt K 2 26. Kt takes B 27. R takes P 28. R Q 1 29. K Kt 2</p>	<p><i>Black.</i> Mr. Blackburne.</p> <p>Kt takes P Kt takes Q Kt takes P B B 4 R K B 1 B takes B Kt K 4 Kt takes B B R 3 ch B takes B R Q 7 (a) R takes Kt R takes P dis. ch P Queens</p>
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Double check and mate.

NOTES.

(a) White is probably not so accustomed to off-hand play as his masterly adversary and has now got an indefensible position.

NEWS ITEMS.

HAMILTON will probably visit Toronto with a team of seven players on Thanksgiving Day. There is a little hitch in the arrangements between the Quebec and Toronto Clubs for their proposed telegraphic match. Quebec wants to play twelve games; Toronto insists on eight; being the largest number that can be engaged in consistently with a speedy termination of the contest. The matter will no doubt be amicably settled.

We call attention to our end game this week. It is one of the prettiest and most remarkable we have met with in actual play.

"WHIST PLAYER" writes to the *Mail* suggesting the formation in Toronto of a Chess Checker and Whist Club on the model of the New Orleans' Club. We think the suggestion a very sensible one, and if followed up we believe it would lead to the organization of a most powerful institution.

WHAT IS CATARRH ?

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

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

Some time since a well-known physician of forty years' standing, after much experimenting, succeeded in discovering the necessary combination of ingredients which never fail in absolutely and permanently eradicating this horrible disease, whether standing for one year or forty years. Those who may be suffering from the above disease, should, without delay, communicate with the business managers,

Messrs. A. H. DIXON & SON, 305 King St. West, Toronto, Canada, and inclose stamp for their treatise on Catarrh

What the Rev. E. B. Stevenson, B.A., a Clergyman of the London Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, has to say in regard to A. H. Dixon & Son's New Treatment for Catarrh.

Oakland, Ont., Canada, March 17, '83.

Messrs. A. H. Dixon & Son: DEAR SIRS,—Yours of the 13th instant to hand. It seems almost too good to be true that I am cured of Catarrh, but I know that I am. I have had no return of the disease, and never felt better in my life. I have tried so many things for Catarrh, suffered so much and for so many years, that is hard for me to realize that I am really better.

I consider that mine was a very bad case; it was aggravated and chronic, involving the throat as well as the nasal passages, and I thought I would require the three treatments, but I feel fully cured by the two sent me, and I am thankful that I was ever induced to send to you.

You are at liberty to use this letter stating that I have been cured at two treatments, and I shall gladly recommend your remedy to some of my friends who are sufferers.

Yours, with many thanks, REV. E. B. STEVENSON.

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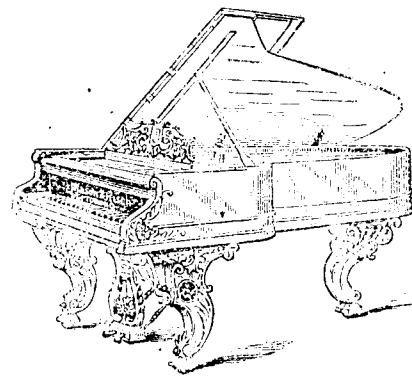
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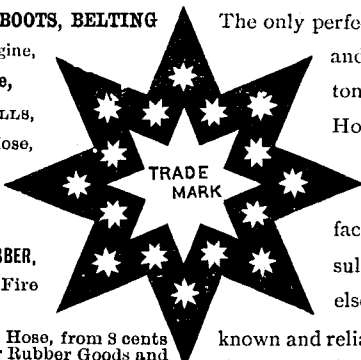
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