THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

The pilots on the St. Lawrence predict a late opening of navigation, possibly not before May 10th.

The people of St. John's, Nfld., intend to profit by their recent disastrous experience, and propose to organize a first-class fire brigade.

The Montreal Young Men's Christian Association intend to endow a Young Men's Christian Association among the Christian converts in China.

Inspector Huot, of the North-West Mounted Police, died suddenly at Duck Lake on Thursday night from paralysis of the heart.

Business circles in Montreal are interested by a report that a combine of the principal woollen mills in Canada, to regulate prices and output, is proposed.

Rev. J. B. Silcox, of Oaklands, Cal, formerly of the Western Congregational church, Toronto, has received a call from the Emmanuel Congregational church, Montreal.

Another raid against the Montreal poolrooms has been instituted by Mr. Quinn, the Crown prosecutor, and five members of the Turf Commission Company were arrested.

The death is announced at Bath, Eng., of Mr. Alexander Buntin, of Valleyfield, Que., one of the largest paper manufacturers in Canada. He was seventy-two years of age.

The Allan Line steamer Pomeranian, which has met with misfortunes of a more or less serious character during her recent trips, has arrived at Halifax in a disabled condition.

Mr. Michael Dolan, night-watchman at the Parliament buildings, Ottawa, died suddenly the other evening a few minutes after coming on duty. He was sixty-three years of age.

Hon. and Rev. Reynolds Moreton, from his pulpit in St. John's church, Hamilton, on Sunday evening, strongly assailed the practice of card-playing, referirng especially to the whist players among the members of ladies' clubs.

There was a big fire in Montreal Monday night, and for the fourth time in its existence the Herald was completely burned out. The scene of the fire was the old Zion church building, which has been occupied by the Herald since its previous fire.

Lieutenant-Governor Chapleau, prior to embarking for Paris, told a New York reporter that there was absolutely no feeling in Canada in favor of annexation. The country, he admitted, was anxious for a fiscal change, but would not become part of the United States.

At the meeting of the Agricultural Committee in Ottawa a resolution was passed urging the Government to place Prof. Robertson, who has rendered such valuable assistance to the dairy interests of Canada, upon the permanent staff of the Central Experimental Farm.

Derward Reid, the four-year-old son of Mr. J. S. Reid, Hamilton, Ont., when attempting to pull a wisp from a load of hay yesterday morning, slipped and fell. A wheel of the heavily-freighted waggon passed over his head, fracturing his skull, and killing him instantly.

Mr John Weir, bookeeper for the Windsor (Ont.) Truck Company, has disappeared under circumstances which lead to the supposition that he has committed suicide. No defalcation is hinted at, but he had been heard to threaten his own life. A letter found among his effects shows that he was related to Lord Lonsdale.

A resolution was passed at the meeting of the Dominion Agricultural Committee recommending the appointment of a competent veterinery surgeon, whose duty it would be to look after the health of the live stock of the country, to whom all communications could be addressed from persons who had reason to believe that their herds were in any way affected.

Lieut. Andrew Robertson Gordon, R. N., has just died at his residence in Ottawa, at the age of forty-two years. He was a victim to consumption. Retiring from the navy in 1873, he came to Canada, and was for some years commander of the fisheries protection service. At the time of his death he was nautical adviser to the Marine and Fisheries Department.

BRITISH.

Lord Hastings was fined on Friday fifty pounds at Marylebone Police station for having acted indecently towards a girl in Regents Park.

An agreement has been reached by which the Lancashire cotton operatives will accept a reduction of sevenpence in the pound, and the great strike has terminated and the mills have started.

The London correspondent of the New York World says that unexpected opposition of a very serious kind has arisen to Home Rule, and that the passage of the bill even in the House of Commons is by no means assured.

UNITED STATES.

A slight earthquake was felt in Montana Friday evening.

The reinterment of the remains of Jefferson Davis will take place in Hollywood cemetery, at Richmond, on May 30th.

The damage done to property in the Mississippi valley by Thursday's cyclone is calculated at two million dollars, and it is known that eighteen lives were lost.

The management of the Canadian Pacific railway denies the report that the company is negotiating to secure an entrance line of its own into New York city.

Indian John, the once famous chief of the Columbia river Indians, who has reached the age of one hundred and twenty-five years, was committed to the poor-house at Portland, Ore., on Wednesday.

The town of Purvis, Miss., was destroyed by incendiary fires on Tuesday night. The incendiaries were negroes, who fired the town in revenge, the white people having caused the arrest of their coloured preacher.

The elevation of the British Legation at Washington to an Embassy makes Sir Julian Pauncefote, the English representative, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, instead of Baron Fava, from Italy, who held it by seniority of appointment.

It is understood at Washington that the President has definitely determined to send delegates to the International Monetary Conference, which will reassemble at Brussels on May 30th.

A bill was introduced in the Minnesota Legislature on Saturday prohibiting Chinamen hereafter "from wearing their shirts outside of their pants," and requiring them to "dress the same as other citizens."

Irving Latimer, the matricide, escaped from the State prison at Jackson, Mich. It appears he administered a powerful drug to the night guards, took their keys, let himself out of the front gates, and escaped.

A despatch from Grand Rapids, Mich. states that parties in that place are being sued by the Molsons Bank at St. Thomas for $500,000, the amount of an alleged indebtedness to the bank.

There is every indication that the fight between the United Garment Cutters and the Clothing Association, of New York, will involve the entire clothing trade, and that ultimately ten thousand men will be thrown out of work.

It is probable that John C. Eno, the defaulting president of the Second National Bank in New York, who in 1884 fled to Canada, and who recently returned to New York and surrendered himself for trial, will get off, owing to technical objections to the indictments raised by his lawyers.

The two hundred and fifty employes of Boutellier Bros.' dry goods store in New York were kept under lock and key for two hours on Saturday while they were searched for $1,500 which had mysteriously disappeared just before closing-hour. No trace of the money was found, and the employes were very indignant.

The Chinese Vice-Consul at San Francisco denies the report that the Chinese intend offering armed resistance to the Geary law. He says that arrest and imprisonment will be submitted to, but that on the first arrest being made a case will at once be taken before the Supreme Court to test the constitutionality of the law.

GENERAL.

M. Alexejeff, Mayor af Moscow, who was shot by a suspected Nihilist on Tuesday, died yesterday morning.

It is reported that Prince Bismarck freely tells his visitors that he will not stand for a seat in the Reichstag at the next elections.

While workmen were excavating at Durango, Mex., on Tuesday, they came upon a large earthen box buried five feet under the surface, filled with old Spanish gold coins.

The French Senate has elected M. Challemel-Lacour as President of the Senate, made vacant by the death of Jules Ferry.

M. Blondin, sentenced last Teusday to two years' imprisonment in connection with the Panama frauds, is suffering from incipient paralysis, and his physicians say imprisonment would kill him.

On Saturday evening as King Humbert was returning from the Villa Borghese, and while passing through Rome, an Italian threw a stone which nearly struck his Majesty. Amid great excitment the man was arrested, and it is believed that he is insane.

Sabbath Observance.

We are staunch believers in the delightful calm of the holy Canadian Sabbath, but we also note, sometimes with regret and sometimes with pleasure, the manner in which the day is spent elsewhere. If no machinery were run, no hands played, no beer or popcorn sold, much of the objection that is felt to the opening of the Chicago exposition on Sundays would be removed, altogether the visitors' minds might in some instances be diverted from sacred things and means of travel would have to be kept in full swing to transport the people. In this connection we cannot help noting that the tendency of the times is towards what is called "liberalizing" of the day. However much we may regret this state of things, we cannot overlook the fact that it exists. After all, it is doubtful if there is any cause for wonder that the common-people should be growing more lax in the observance of the Lord's day, when the highest in the empire and "the defender of the faith" thinks it no sin to be present on Sunday afternoon at what may fairly be considered a public concert. Says an English paper:—"The weather being exceedingly fine on Sunday afternoon, March 12, about 10,000 residents of the Royal town and visitors from the metropolis and its suburbs were, by the Queen's permission, admitted to the East Terrace and Garden at Windsor Castle. The Empress Frederic, Princess Henry of Battenberg, General Sir Henry Ponsonby, Lord Acton, Colonel the Hon. H. Byng, Count Seckendorff, and other members of the Court were present. The band of the Grenadier Guards, under Lieutenant Dan Godfrey, and that of the 1st Dragoon Guards, alternately played opposite the Royal apartments, in which her Majesty listened to the musical selections.

Democratic Tariff Changes.

We do not know on what authority a correspondent of *The Empire* submits the following as the details of the tariff reduction bill that the Democrats will submit to Congress with a comparison of the rates now existing and the proposed new ones for articles which enter into the United States oftenest along the boundary from Ontario.

Present Rate.	Proposed Rate.
Barley, 30 cts. per bush.	10 per cent. of value.
Malt, 45 " "	20 " "
Potatoes, 25 " "	10 " "
Fur mfg., 35 p. c. of value	25 " "
Jewelry, 50 " "	25 " "
Hops, 15 cts. per lb.	20 " "
Opium, $12 per lb.	20 " "
Apples, 25 cts. per bush.	15 " "
Grapes, 60 cts. per barrel	15 " "
Cement, 20 p. c. of value	10 " "
Candles, 25 " "	10 " "
Brick (plain) 25 p. c. of val.	10 " "
Books, 25 p. c. of value	10 " "
Coal, 75 cts. per ton	Free
Ores (crude) 20 p. c. of val.	Free
Glass v'wa. 60 " "	(Mfd.)....25 p. c. of val.
Shell goods 40 " "	Free
Vegetables 25 " "	(Except potatoes) Free
Moccasins, 25 " "	15 per cent. of value.
Fe'th'r fans 50 " "	20
P'tographs 25 " "	10 " "
Veal, 10 " "	Free
Beef, 2 cts. per lb.	"
Mutton, " "	"
Pork, " "	"
Eggs, 5 cts. per doz.	"
Horses, un'r $150, val. $20	"
Mules, " " " "	"
Sheep (y'r'lg) $1.50 per h'd	"

It is undoubted that if the changes proposed are made they will greatly extend international trade along the frontier. The average reduction, it will be noticed, is from 15 to 20 per cent. It is one thing, however, to draft an idea and another to get it through congress. An adoption by our neighbors of such a tariff as is here proposed would do more to bring about a satisfactory feeling between ourselves and them than a thousand years of McKinleyism could.

MURDER ON THE HIGH SEAS

A Plot to Seize the Ship and Make Her a Pirate Craft.

The Plan Might Have Succeeded Had Not the Others Weakened—The Mutineers Brought to San Francisco in Irons.

In the month of December last the bark Hesper left Newcastle, N.S.W., laden with coal for Honolulu. She was in charge of Capt. J. F. O. Sodergren. Nothing happened to mar the pleasure of the voyage until the night of Jan. 13, when Morris Fitzgerald, the second mate, was murdered by Thomas St. Clair, a seaman. The murder was the result of a plan concocted in the forecastle to slay the Captain, first and second mates, and carpenter, and convert the ship into a pirate. St. Clair was the leader of the mutineers. The sailors in the plot with him were Thomas Green, Herman Sparf, Edward Larsen, and Hans Hansen. St. Clair is a New Yorker, born of Irish parents. Sparf is a swede, Green is English, Hansen is a Dane, and Larsen is a Norwegian.

When the Captain became acquainted with the facts he caused the five mutineers to be placed in irons and made all sail for Tahiti. At the port of Papeete he landed the mutineers, who were placed by United States Consul J. Lamb Doty on board the barkentine Tropic Bird, which vessel brought them to San Francisco, and they were handed into the custody of United States Marshal Long to await trial on the charge of murder. The Hesper proceeded from Tahiti to Honolulu, where she discharged her cargo of coal, and is now supposed to be en voyage to San Francisco with the witnesses against the mutineers.

The murder was one of unparalleled ferocity, the result of a fiendish plot on the part of some of the crew of the Hesper to murder the Captain and officers and convert the bark into a pirate cruiser on the coast of China. Shortly after the bark left Newcastle a feeling of unrest began to manifest itself in the forecastle. The cause of the discontent was this man St. Clair, a low-browed, ignorant looking man,

BRUTISH IN NATURE

and of a low order of intelligence, but with a tact for moulding his shipmates like dough in his fingers. It was a species of hypnotism that he exercised over those men whose intelligence was inferior only to his own. Artfully this ocean conspirator felt his way among the men until he felt sure that four of them would assist in the plan he had conceived. Then St. Clair unfolded to them the idea that was uppermost in his brain. He told them of the scheme he had matured to murder the officers, gain possession of the ship, sell the cargo at some convenient port, and then range the ocean as a freebooter with himself in command. It was St. Clair's plan to intercept and loot the small craft plying with specie between the ports on the China coast. Inflamed by the picture of a life of ease and luxury so vividly painted by St. Clair, the four men whom he had chosen readily consented to become his confederates. A favorable time to assassinate the officers of the Hesper was awaited, and finally the night of Jan. 13 was selected.

No better occasion for such a deed could have been chosen. A gale was blowing, causing the billows to thump against the side of the bark with a noise sufficient to drown the sound of any ordinary commotion on board, while the rain streamed down on deck in a drenching torrent. It was about 10:30 o'clock at night. Edward Larsen was at the wheel, and forward were St. Clair, Herman Sparf, Hans Hansen, and Fitzgerald. Suspecting nothing wrong, Fitzgerald, the mate, was giving orders to Larsen how to steer the vessel's course. St. Clair, with his fellow conspirators, stealthily left the forecastle and crept on deck.

Turning to his followers St. Clair brandished aloft an axe. "Come on," he whispered; "now is the time." He gave a leap and then was heard the sound of the steel crushing through the mate's skull and the fall of the body on the deck. Brought into the very presence of this awful crime the sailors had no stomach for it and they shrank back in terror as they listened to the thud of the axe while St. Clair rained blows on the already lifeless form of Mate Fitzgerald. One more sound was heard. It was the barking of the ship's dog awakened by the fall of the mate's body.

Having finished his butchery of Fitzgerald's body the seaman became frenzied, and leaping from the corpse he cried: "Now is the time, boys; let us finish it. Now for the Captain, mate, and carpenter."

He spoke to the winds: his allies, sickened by the spectacle of the mangled object lying on the deck, were deaf to his commands. The murderer raved and cursed in vain; not an arm was lifted, not a body stirred. Swearing at his chicken-hearted accomplices, St. Clair ran aft and ordered Larsen to go into the cabin and awaken the Captain. The man at the wheel refused to do his bidding, and St. Clair proceeded forward again and implored Hansen and Sparf to help him finish the bloody programme they had mapped out. His entreaties were addressed to deaf ears. For nearly an hour he argued and pleaded with them in vain.

Finally, seeing that he was deserted, and knowing that before long First Mate Lucas would appear on deck and discover the crime, St. Clair implored the others to help him conceal all evidence of it by throwing

THE CORPSE OVERBOARD,

and scrubbing the red stains from the deck Fearfully the mutineers approached the corpse, and tremblingly they lifted it in their arms and dropped it over the side.

A few minutes later First Mate Lucas appeared on deck. But for the man at the wheel the ship was deserted. Surprised at finding nobody to relieve, Lucas asked Larsen what had become of Fitzgerald.

"He went forward a few minutes ago," was the reply.

After waiting for some time and perceiving nothing of Fitzgerald, the first mate searched for him, thinking to find him asleep on the deck load. Not finding him he called Capt. Sodergren. The crew was aroused and the ship searched thoroughly, but, of course, no trace of the murdered man was found.

When daylight came, however, those awful stains were found on the deck, and the Captain divined what had happened. He imparted his suspicions to Lucas and to Carpenter Bradshaw, who agreed with him, and quick action was determined upon. All three armed themselves with loaded revolvers and the crew was called on deck. Larsen, the man at the wheel on Fitzgerald's watch, was accused of knowing something about the crime, and when directly charged with the murder he confessed all he knew. All five conspirators were placed in irons and the Hesper's course was shaped for Tahiti. Upon their arrival at the islands the mutineers were turned over to United States Consul J. Lamb Doty, who placed them on the Tropic Bird in charge of two French gendarmes and a special United States marshal en route to San Francisco to stand trial for murder.

The Tropic Bird might easily have been mistaken for an old-time French convict ship when she dropped anchor yesterday. On her deck paced two men, Jean Pierre Mavrni and Felix Bouche, in the uniform of the gendarme of the French Government, while between decks, just over the cargo of cocoanuts, the mutineers were penned in their improvisioned prison quarters.

Five compartments had been erected along one side of the barkentine. each of which was just long enough for a man to lie down in and high enough for him to sit up in. Upon one leg of each of four of the men a chain had been riveted, and the other end was fastened to a long iron bar that extended the entire length of the five compartments. The arms of all of the men were secured with wrist irons. One man was deemed of sufficient importance to be worthy of having both legs ironed. This was St. Clair. He is an undersized man with

RAVEN BLACK HAIR,

deep-set eyes, a thin, straight nose, thin lips, pinched face, and almost pallid complexion. His face bore a long moustache and several days' growth of scraggy black beard. Like his companions, he wore clothing of poor material and very much the worse for wear.

The countenances of the other four men betray a very low order of intellect. They are light-complexioned men with brutish faces, and look as though murder would be a simple pastime with them.

Two police officers and United States Marshal Long, accompanied by a couple of deputies, went on board the barkentine and demanded the mutineers. They were met by a decided refusal on the part of the French officers to give up the prisoners. On board was John Brander, a Frenchman, who had been intrusted by United States Consul Doty at Papeete with the duty of delivering the mutineers to the authorites in San Fracisco It was some time before Long could convince Brander of his right to receive the men, and he in turn had much trouble convincing the French officers that all was right. The reason for their extraordinary care became apparent when it became known that under the law of Tahiti each would have been subject to five years' imprisonment had one of the prisoners escaped.

When the United States Marshal had finally convinced the Frenchman of his authority to receive the mutineers the shackles of the prisoners were struck from their legs, and all hands boarded the revenue tug Hartley. That is, the irons were struck from all but St. Clair. As the chief mutineer he was considered desperate enough to keep shackled all the way to the Marshal's office.

"Yes, I killed him as he deserved to be killed."

Thomas St. Clair said that in much the same manner as he would have related that he had taken the life of a sheep. No remorse for his act, no fear of the consequences to himself, nothing but complete satisfaction with himself was shown in his tone and expression.

"He treated us like dogs, and we didn't think it was wrong to put him out of the way. These other men lie when they say I led them on. It was they who first suggested it to me, but none of them had the nerve to carry it out. We agreed that night that Fitzgerald should die first, and then we intended to call the Captain and carpenter from below and get rid of them one at a time. We did not intend to harm the woman. That was due to me. The other men wanted to keep her on the ship, but I said that she should go ashore at the first port we anchored in. On the night the mate was killed we left the forcastle very quiet. Every man had a bar or weapon of some kind, and I had the axe. It had been agreed that I should hit the mate first and the rest were to finish it. I hit him and he fell. Then the others came up and helped me to finish it. I think everybody hit him although I am not sure. I know that two or three struck him. I asked them to call the captain and the first mate, but they would not do it, and seeing that they had lost their bravery I got them to throw the body overboard, and then we all turned in. Next day we were put in irons."

ROCKING STONES.

A Curious Geologic Phase on the Bank of the Congo.

When the engineers were surveying the Congo Railroad they found on the bank of the river a curiously shaped stone, so poised on several smaller bits that it rocked from one side to another. The rock bore a striking resemblance to the remarkable monuments still found in France and England which were used as altars by the Druids about the beginning of the Christian era. It was on such altars that the Druids offered their sacrifices. So on the banks of the Congo was found a counterpart of the Dolmens of north Europe.

The rock was in the way of the railroad track and was therefore removed. It never was Dolmen. It fantastic outlines were never fashioned by human hands; nor was it placed upon the supporting stones by human agency. At least the geologist, Mr. E. Dupont, who visited the Congo to make a study of its geology, says we have no proof of the existence among the people of the lower Congo or their ancestors of a state of civilization that would justify us in attributing to their handiwork even so rude and primitive a monument as a Dolmen.

There are in this part of West Africa a number of examples of tottering rocks like the above. They are all of natural origin, and show the plainest evidence of erosion. Most of them have been carved by the elements out of mica schists. They contain veins of amphibolitic gneiss or quartz much harder than the schists, and here and there some of the softer rock above the hard quartz veins has been worn away, completely severing the connection between the once united upper and lower parts of the mass, and so the upper portion is left to balance and teeter on the rock or rocks beneath.

THE COMMERCIAL WORLD.

The grain trade throughout Ontario is in a most unsatisfactory state. Stocks of wheat and flour are much larger than usual while there is no export enquiry.

The Naval Hydrographer calculates that in recent years there has been an annual total loss of 2,172 vessels, representing in value about $100,000,000. The annual loss of life is placed at 12,000.

The largest sheep ranch in the world is to be found in the counties of Dimmett and Webb, Texas. It contains upwards of 400-000 acres, and yearly pastures from 1,000,-000 to 1,600,000 sheep.

Money at Toronto and Montreal continues firm, with rates 1 per cent. higher than at this time last year. Good authorities state that it is not likely to last long; but while there is a decline in New York drafts the sterling exchange market remains strong.

The condition of trade in the United States this week is less altered than might be expected in view of the extraordinary weather for the season, the scarcity of money and other disturbing influences. The stringency in money markets is largely due to slow collections, which appear to result rather from severe weather than from any form of commercial unsoundness or inability to distribute products. Failures during the week were 217.

In Quebec city it is estimated that between 450 & 500,000 barrels of flour are annually sold by our merchants here. Stocks have been pretty heavy for some time past, but a fair quantity has been disposed of, and dealers do not appear over anxious to sell without a fair margin. Ontario millers also appear to be holding off, and while prices are not very high the market cannot be said to be really in a bad state. Tanners, curriers and boot and shoe manufacturers continue in a state of activity. The near approach of navigation will no doub t give an impetus to trade generally.

One of the recent industries added to the already numerous manufactures carried on in Chemnitz, Saxony, is the production of curtains made of India rubber as the main ingredient. The material employed for this purpose consists of 75 per cent. of India rubber, 5 per cent. of wool dust, 5 per cent. of pulverized fruit stones, 10 per cent. of bleached amber varnish and 5 per cent. of bleached leather waste, to these being also added, if deemed necessary, a quantity of infusorial earth. The various substances thus named are together worked up with the bi-sulphide of carbon in the most perfect manner into a thick mass; and from this are rolled out thin leaves, which are capable of being decorated with the greatest variety of ornamental patterns, and several of these leaves are combined to form a curtain.

Some of the best specimens of oak for decorative woodwork are now obtained, it is stated, by fumigating the material with ammoniacal vapor, which effectively produces the dark coloring so much desired. In accomplishing this the method consists in placing the material to be darkened in an approximately air-tight room in which no light enters; or for small work, a packing box will suffice, the joints or cracks to be well pasted over with the paper. In this room or receptacle for depositing the furniture or other articles is placed a flat porcelain or earthen vessel filled with ammonia, the vessel containing the liquid being, of course, set on the ground or floor, that the fumes or vapor may strike to advantage the articles to be darkened; if the apartment is large, two or more vessels containing ammonia may be employed and allowed to remain until the desired effect is secured. The ammonia does not touch the oak, browning it so deeply that a shaving or two may actually be taken off without removing the color. The depth of shade depends upon the quantity of ammonia used and the duration of exposure.

Make the Brand Known.

Efforts are being made to induce the Imperial government to enforce a law for marking Canadian meats so as to show they are not British. A class of officials who look after adulterated goods are asked to be given authority to compel our meats to be marked. The idea is to discriminate in the meat markets against our and all foreign meats. The jealous temper is seldom a wise one, in this instance its folly is conspicuous. Fancy all chops and steaks cut from Canadian cattle being compelled to bear a label! England has profited far more from foreign importations of meat than Canada has by her cattle exports. But for foreign supplies the price of beef and mutton in England would be 25 per cent. higher than at present, and every family's expenses would consequently be much larger. The imports into England of live animals have nearly doubled in 20 years, and dead meat imports are five times as large as in 1872, the figures being 99,500 tons and 489,500 tons. This indicates how elastic is the British market, the more the supply the greater the demand. Each head of the population of Great Britain now eats 34 imported eggs per annum; in 1874 he ate only 19; then he consumed only 7½ pounds of imported bacon and ham, now he eats 14 pounds. The truth is that population in Great Britain is increasing at a great rate, and her food productive capacity is geographically limited, so that the demand for foreign food products must necessarily increase with the growth of population. Those, then, who are jealous of the foreign meat imports are resenting the introduction of food necessary for the sustenance of the people. While this feeling exists, however unreasonable it is, Canadian exporters of all classes of food need, in their own interests, to disarm the prejudice by marking the brand, "Canadian," which of itself will be a special recommendation owing to the excellence of our products.

A leading citizen of Toronto who has been South writes: "If the discontented in our community could only have travelled with me during the past forty-eight hours through the South-eastern and Southern States and witnessed the poverty stricken and miserably fed and clad soliciting alms at the different railway stations they would be much better satisfied with their own country, and there would be less talk about annexation. On my arrival at Jacksonville I find it a very pleasant city in a great many ways, but it puts me in mind of Toronto forty years ago—dirty streets, dilapidated sidewalks, and everything else in a very primitive state."