

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

Mr. L. O. David, Q.C., has been appointed Sheriff of Montreal.

Cheesemaking has already commenced in the Brockville district.

A census just completed places the population of Winnipeg at over 25,000.

A Quebec despatch says the elections in this province will take place June 14.

Rev. Prof. Boys, late Professor of Classics at Trinity University, died on Tuesday.

There were 29 failures in Canada last week, against 38 during the previous week.

A deputation is expected at Ottawa from Newfoundland shortly to discuss the question of Confederation.

Diphtheria is said to be raging in and around Tecumseh, Ont., and children are dying in large numbers.

Mr. Gagnon, the Quebec Provincial Secretary, has resigned his seat and accepted the shrievalty of Quebec.

The Mayor of Toronto has received a cable from the Duke of Connaught accepting the invitation to visit the city during June next.

The by-law in favour of London South amalgamating with the city of London was carried last week by a vote of 433 for to 260 against.

Dubois, the man who murdered his wife, children and mother-in-law at St. Alban's, Que., has been sentenced to be hanged on June 20.

Mr. John Miller, B. A., of St. Thomas, has been appointed Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario, in room of the late Mr. Marling.

Since the duty on beef was raised Chicago beef has become a rarity in St. John, N. B., yet there is no scarcity of beef, and so far no advance in price.

Dr. W. S. England, of Montreal, has been appointed medical superintendent of the Winnipeg General Hospital, and will assume his duties next month.

A despatch from Quebec says that an American syndicate has purchased a controlling interest in all the binding twine factories of Canada excepting one in Ontario.

A large deputation visited Ottawa last week and asked the Militia authorities that the brigade camp be held at Owen Sound this summer instead of at Niagara.

John Wainman, jr., of the township of South Orillia, was last week committed for trial on a charge of attempting to poison his brother-in-law by putting Paris green in his well.

The statement comes from New York that the Grand Trunk and Northern Pacific intend jointly to build a line across the continent to compete with the Canadian Pacific railway.

Dalore Menard, while ploughing on his farm in Sandwich East last week, ate what he thought was a carrot. In two hours he died in terrible agony. The root was a wild parsnip.

A strong resolution was passed at the meeting of the Presbyterian Synod at Cornwall, declaring that the time had come when Parliament should pass a prohibitory law for the whole Dominion.

Information has been received at Ottawa that the Newfoundland Government had decided to impose a duty of \$1 a ton upon Dominion fishing vessels entering Newfoundland ports for the purchase of bait.

Rev. Father Lacombe, the well-known missionary to the Indians in the MacLeod District, ridicules the reports as to white girls held captive on the reserves, and points out that the "white girls" so much talked about inherit their whiteness from only one side of the house.

Owing to the action of Lieutenant-Governor Schultz in vetoing the Act of the Manitoba Legislature, no tax sales can be held, and Winnipeg is financially embarrassed and wants to borrow \$100,000 from the Local Government.

Two families of Canadians, who removed to Missouri three years ago, passed through Windsor on Wednesday in waggons on their return to Toronto. They spent all their money in Missouri, and the story they tell of the hardships in the west is heartrending.

The strike in Toronto of men employed in the building trades continues without any indication of an early settlement. The employers do not appear to be successful in inducing non-union men to come to Toronto, and the few that have appeared have been persuaded to fraternize with the strikers.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Her Majesty has left Aix-les-Bains for Darmstadt.

Lord Hartington has returned to London from Egypt.

Queen Victoria is reported in good health at Aix-les-Bains.

The Primrose League in England is said to number 907,000 members.

John Barnett, the English musical composer, is dead. He was born in 1802.

Mr. Parnell on Monday moved the rejection of Mr. Balfour's Land Purchase bill.

The carrying trade at Cork is paralyzed owing to a strike of shipping and railway men.

Two thousand spinners at Newry, in the north of Ireland, have struck for higher wages.

It is stated Sir George E. Trevellyn will contest Lord Hartington's seat in the next general election.

William O'Brien, M. P., has become engaged to the daughter of M. Raffalovitch, a Parisian financier.

Archbishop Croke has had a conference with Mr. Gladstone regarding the Irish Land Purchase Bill.

Saturday was Primrose day, and the admirers of the Earl of Beaconsfield in London honoured his memory by wearing the emblematic flower.

Prof. Tyndall, in a recent speech, said that politically he opposed Mr. Gladstone to the teeth, but to save Mr. Gladstone's life he would risk his own at any moment.

The divorce case of O'Shea v. O'Shea, with Mr. Parnell as co-respondent, is now thought likely to be reached for trial in the course of the summer. Efforts are, however, making to postpone it till after Parliament adjourns.

UNITED STATES.

A wire news is doing great damage to wheat near Atchison, Kansas.

At noon on Saturday the Pan-American conference adjourned sine die.

The principal street railway in Milwaukee is to be worked by electricity.

There have been 1,578 desertions from the United States army during the past nine months.

The Rivers and Harbors Bill of the United States has been completed. It appropriates over \$20,000,000.

The city council of Kansas City has passed an ordinance providing that eight hours shall constitute a day's work in all city contracts and for all city employes.

Malignant diphtheria is epidemic at the village of Vining, Otter Tail county, Minn. Nine-tenths of the population of 150 persons are effected with the disease.

The Hendricks monument has reached New York from Florence, Italy. It weighs 200 tons and will require fifteen cars for transportation to Indianapolis.

Mrs. Bloomer, who gave her name to the well-known costume which at one time evoked so much ridicule, on Tuesday celebrated the 50th anniversary of her marriage at Council Bluffs, Ia.

John H. Griffith, a young tailor of 104 Bayard street, New York, in attempting to jump across an area way between his room and the roof of an adjoining house, where some girls with whom he had struck up a flirtation were standing, missed his footing, fell to the pavement, 65 feet below, and was instantly killed.

IN GENERAL.

Major Serpa Pinto has arrived at Lisbon. Emperor William will visit Lisbon and Madrid in October.

Emperor William has subscribed £500, for a monument to Emperor Frederick at Diesterweg.

Henry M. Stanley arrived in Brussels on Saturday afternoon. He is the guest of the King and is staying at the Royal palace.

The widow of an army officer in Moscow, who was in dire poverty, locked herself up in a room the other day with her five children and turned on the gas, and all six were suffocated.

The German Government has sent a circular to the directors of High schools with reference to the numerous cases of suicide among the scholars, and urging the directors to be lenient with backward boys.

The Pope, in an interview regarding labor troubles, said he intended to form a committee in every diocese in the world, with a Bishop at its head, to consult with and instruct workmen as to their duties and interests.

At the opening of the Portuguese Cortes on Saturday, the King, referring to the dispute between Portugal and England concerning territory in Southeast Africa, said the negotiations now pending promised to result in a settlement of the question honorable to both countries.

While President Carnot was speaking to some officials at Toulon the other day, his servant, who somewhat resembles the President, came out and got into a waiting carriage. The officer immediately saluted, the band played, and the carriage accompanied by a guard of honor dashed off, leaving the President behind in the lurch.

Father, Bid Me Rest.

I'm kneeling at the threshold, weary, faint, and sore.

Waiting for the dawning, for the opening of the door.

Waiting till the master shall bid me rise and come.

To the glory of his presence, to the gladness of his home.

A weary path I've traveled, 'mid darkness, storm and strife.

Bearing many a burden, often struggling for my life;

But now the morn is breaking—my toil will soon be o'er.

I'm kneeling at the threshold—my hand is on the door.

Methinks I hear the voices of the blessed as they stand

Singing in the sunshine of the far-off, sinless land:

Oh, would that I were with them, amid the shining throng,

Mingling in their worship, joining in their song.

The friends that started with me have entered long ago;

One by one they left me struggling with the foe;

Their pilgrimage was shorter, their triumph sooner won;

How lovingly they'll hail me when all my toil is done!

With them the blessed angels, that know no grief or sin,

I see them by the portals, prepared to let me in.

O Lord, I wait thy pleasure—thy time and way are best;

But I'm wasted, worn, and weary! O, Father, bid me rest!

The Voice and Pronunciation.

The appearance in New York of Miss Edwards, who is not only one of the most thoroughly versed students of Egyptian antiquities and monuments, but also one of the most effective and pleasing public speakers of the age, has led the *Sun* to read a homily to parents and teachers on the duty of paying more attention to the speech and carriage of the rising generation of young women. Speaking of Miss Edwards, as she appeared in Chickering Hall while delivering her interesting lecture on Egyptology and Egyptian antiquities, the *Sun* remarks: "It was a pleasure to listen to her voice, sweet, flexible, of agreeable modulation, and reaching to every part of the house, though never overstrained; and her pronunciation was nearly faultless." Contrasting the ordinary female voice it adds: "A sweet voice, clear soft, distinct, well modulated, melodious, from the chest and not the head, how rare it is among American women! How rare, too, is it to hear a really correct pronunciation; a voice as agreeable to the ear as that of Miss Edwards, and a pronunciation as pure and cultivated." "The unfortunate feature of this criticism is that there is much truth in it. And yet the voice and pronunciation are both capable of being cultivated, and of attaining wonderful perfection under proper care. The trouble is, that to secure the best results time and patience are required. And this is just what many parents lack. And so the lovely girls are allowed to grow up less lovely than they might have been had proper attention been given to this necessary branch of their education.

The Fishery Treaty.

That the negotiations now pending between the representatives of the British and United States governments re the fishery dispute will be concluded in time to come into practical operation this year is exceedingly improbable. Any hopes which the more sanguine may have entertained will now be crushed by the circumstance that a bill to renew the *modus vivendi*, which has regulated the action of the Canadian authorities for the last two years, has been introduced into the House at Ottawa. This instrument provides for the granting of licenses to fishing vessels of the United States, enabling them to enter any port of the Dominion of Canada for the purpose of purchasing bait, ice, seines, lines and all other supplies and outfits; also, for the transhipment of the catch and the shipping of crews. Formerly the fee was the old treaty figure of \$150, but according to the present bill the subject of fees, terms and conditions is left to the Governor-General-in-Council. It would appear from the report of Commander Gordon that the licenses are appreciated by the Americans, who without the privileges there undergranted, could not profitably pursue certain kinds of fishing; for instance, fresh halibut fishing on the Grand Banks. He points out, however, that the *modus vivendi* is not accepted by them generally as a concession. They claim the opportunity to buy supplies at Canadian ports as a right secured under commercial treaties opening the ports of each country to the ships of the other; that is to say, they do not concede the contention of their rulers, but as the practical results to them are about the same whether the privilege is granted by concession or is recognized as a right, they don't seem to think it worth while to waste time in parleying about a mere sentiment.

How to Punish Drunkenness.

That we have attained unto perfection in the matter of dealing with our criminals is a proposition which few will be rash enough to affirm. Certainly much has been done during the past half century or more towards eliminating the inhuman element from the punishment, though it is not so clear that we have not taken away much of the deterrent element as well. Any one who has followed up the police records of any of our principal cities, will not have failed to notice the frequency with which the thirty days' sentence for drunkenness is pronounced, and in how many cases it is the same person who goes up again and again. "From eighteen years' experience," says Governor Green, of York County Gaol, "I am persuaded that the thirty days' sentence for drunkenness is a curse to the city. It would be a vast improvement to give 'drunks' five or ten days in solitude for a first offence, and hard labor after that. The gaol is so comfortable and the intercourse of the prisoners so little like punishment that a lot of the prisoners say, 'Well, it's not such a bad place to go to.' Now, if, instead of being allowed to mingle with one another and to entertain each other with their coarse jokes, they were kept for a couple of weeks in solitary confinement, or obliged to bend their backs to heavy toil, they would soon come to look upon the prison as a place to be sedulously shunned, and would no doubt take better care not to place themselves under the power of the law. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the movement now on foot to ask the Government to build a wing to the gaol and experiment therein on the system of separation in confinement, may succeed, and that the experiment may have a fair trial.

Uneasiness in Cuba.

The dissatisfaction of the Cubans with their present masters has reached a very acute stage, and unless the authorities at Madrid adopt a more conciliatory policy, Cuba may ere long be lost to Spain. That the desired change of treatment is likely to occur, does not at present seem probable; on the contrary, the straws of former oppression have recently been enlarged to rods and the whips have been changed to scorpions. The new budgets voted by the Cortes clearly tell the people that they have nothing to expect from Spain, whose political leaders seem to vie with each other as to who shall most increase the heavy burdens and taxes which the Cuban merchant, manufacturer, planter and land tenant has to pay. The result of these oppressions is, that the question of annexation of Cuba to the United States is being openly discussed, several leading papers supporting it in editorials that generally attract attention. That Cuba would profit by the change of relation there is little room to doubt, besides it would complete a union politically which nature and commerce have already established.

Will They Govern Wisely?

"A town governed by women" is the novel announcement which comes from Edgerton, Kansas, where, after a most hotly contested campaign, the women's ticket was elected, the entire Municipal Council being chosen from among the fair daughters. Outsiders, unacquainted with the conditions of the election, will be curious to know what were the causes that conspired to produce such an unusual result. Did the female voters outnumber their fathers and brothers, or are the latter so much in sympathy with the new movement that they are willing to hand over to their wives and sisters the control of public affairs? Can it be that this is only a concession on the part of the sterner sex, designed to teach the enthusiastic and over-confident ladies that there are other things they can do with greater success than manage a Municipal Council? However their victory may be explained, whatever the influences that have contributed thereto, it is beyond question that these seven women have come into a tremendous responsibility so far as the cause of female suffrage is concerned. Their success or failure will have a very far reaching influence upon the modern political movement. Meantime the public will watch the experiment with deep interest, and no doubt, with varied feelings.

The phase of the servant girl problem that is troubling our Northwest is the briskness of the matrimonial market. The wife of a Manitoba legislator, who lives on a farm, says she is doing her own work because every immigrant she hires to preside in the kitchen gets married as sure as Christmas, and as soon as she begins to be really useful. The preponderance of bachelors who have settled the Canadian Northwest is really astonishing, and they are evidently getting rather tired of living alone on their prairie farms.

Bismarck at Home.

Friedrichsruhe, the second of the two estates presented to the German Chancellor by a grateful sovereign and country, cost about £170,000, which was set apart for the purpose by Kaiser Wilhelm I. out of the French war indemnity. Varzin, the gift of which dates immediately after the German-Austrian war, cost but a third of that amount. The title of Duke of Lauenburg is suggested by the fact that the estate is situated in the duchy on which in 1864 the then Count von Bismarck tried his "prentice hand" at annexation.

The gates of the demesne are but a short distance from the station of the same name on the line between Berlin and Hamburg. There is nothing monumental or architecturally grand about the house itself. The two wings, built at right angles, of which it consists, are externally as bare of ornament as a barrack. A magnificent lawn, thickly dotted with centenarian trees, leads to the front entrance. An enormous tract of meadow land extends behind the house as far as the eye can reach, where it joins the Sachsenwald (Saxon forest.) Not a flower or *parterre* anywhere, and deep, deep silence reigns around.

The simplicity of the interior is in thorough keeping with the bareness of the exterior. The enormous hall is like a couple of hospital wards thrown into one, with whitewashed walls, without a stucco cornice or a centre ornament on the ceilings, a few gigantic antlers here and there, half-a-dozen wooden chairs, and a table without a tablecloth. On the table are a white earthenware inkstand, a couple of pens, the holders of which seem to have been fashioned out of bits of a five-barred gate—they are so clumsy and long—and a blotter without blotting paper. Like the late Mr. Biggar, Prince Bismarck distrusts blotting paper. He himself never uses it; and as he knows that in his hurry a visitor may write a communication intended for him only, and still leave a copy of it on the innocent pink sheet, the modern substitute for pounce powder is rigorously excluded from the hall.

But if the walls and ceilings are bare, not so the floor, which is thickly carpeted everywhere. Passing through the hall one enters a second, somewhat less freezing, which leads to a room where the Chancellor transacts his business with less familiar callers. The first thing that strikes the visitor is a large pastel portrait of Lord Beaconsfield, with the statesman's name written underneath in Prince Bismarck's sprawling hand. Facing it hangs a duplicate of Bonnat's famous portrait of Adolphe Thiers. In a corner stands a bronze bust of Count von Moltke, who looks as though he had been bonneted by a too enthusiastic admirer, for the laurel crown with which he is *coiffé* descends low down upon his forehead; above this a magnificent likeness in oil of Prince-Cardinal Hohenlohe. On the mantelpiece on one side is a reproduction of the statue of the Grand Elector (Frederick the Great's grandfather) by Schiutler, on the other a plaster cast of an equestrian statue supposed to be the original portrait of Charlemagne.

Of furniture in the ordinary sense of the word there is very little. A glazed cabinet, full of carbines and pistols, another full of maps, a round table, and three chairs, and that is all. Of course the reception rooms and private apartments of the rest of the family are of a less Spartan character, but in those of the prince himself the ornamental has had to yield absolutely to the useful. With the exception of music, Prince Bismarck is utterly indifferent to art. Some years ago, at an "at home," a lady reminded Bismarck that she had been his *cicerone* during his early student days in Berlin. "True," he said; and then he introduced her to his wife and daughter in the following terms: "This is the lady to whom I owe the greater part of my artistic education, for it was in her company that I went to the Berlin Museum—the first and only time in my life." With regard to music, he is very fond of listening to it, though, like the great Napoleon, he sings horribly out of tune and out of time. "Life is serious and art is gay," he wrote at the back of the well-known photograph of Pauline Lucreia; and that apparently is his reason for not spending much time in the pursuit of the art.

Different is it with regard to literature. The man is not only a magnificent linguist, albeit he has forgotten his Greek, but is an omnivorous reader. His own room is absolutely littered with books, novels included. While there are no knick knacks, no cunningly contrived shelves, or artistically arranged whatnots for the display of porcelain and *cloisone*, three or four enormous, cumbersome mahogany tables almost bend beneath the weight of documents, blue-books, etc. Near the window, facing the south, are a huge writing desk with a bronze inkstand, a bowl of blue pounce powder, a couple of gigantic quills, and perhaps half-a-ream of foolscap—the Chancellor detests steel pens—and a chair without a back. In one of the recesses is a mere modern writing table, above which hangs the portrait of the late Emperor. At the other end of the sanctum are several couches and armchairs, and in one corner a bundle of long German pipes with huge porcelain bowls. On the walls above are the portraits of his wife and children. This is the favorite nook, where Bismarck takes his rest. The bedroom is never shown to any visitor, but it contains three pieces of furniture only, an enormous wash-hand stand, a small camp bedstead, and a boobyack. "Take them away," said the Prince a few years ago; "a towel will do to part my hair nowadays."

Toronto, with its one hundred and twenty churches, and an equal number of clergymen, will be considerably affected by the recent legislation touching church property, clergymen's salaries and parsonages. Now that clergymen are to be treated in this matter as other men, it is estimated that the increase to the assessment next year will amount to \$350,000, while the taxes from this source will amount to little less than \$5,000. Besides this considerable sum resulting from the tax upon parsonages and clergymen's salaries, there is the frontage levy on church property for local improvements. This at thirty-six cents per foot, the present rate, will probably increase the funds in the treasury to the extent of \$12,000 or \$15,000, that is, the ratepayers at large will be eased and the church expenditure increased to this extent. And thus another injustice has been removed, and another step taken towards the good of ideal legislation.

Two of England's Coming Men.

I confess that I thought it [the appointment of Mr. Balfour as Chief Secretary for Ireland] seemed like some stroke of droll humor in one of Mr. Gilbert's most topsyturvy pieces. Mr. Balfour now was to stand up in the House of Commons and face Gladstone, Harcourt, Morley, Parnell, Sexton, William O'Brien, Healy! It looked ridiculous. All the same, the appointment made Mr. Balfour. It turned him into a Parliamentary debater from having been a college debating society prig. He has become one of the best debaters in the House. It is needless to say that in describing him as a success I am not describing his Irish policy as successful. I am speaking of the debater, and not of the statesman. I do not yet know—nobody knows—whether Mr. Balfour is a statesman or not. He has not had an opportunity given him of showing any claims to statesmanship. He has undertaken an impossible task—to govern Ireland at the present day by coercion. For such a task as that statesmanship is of no use; Jack would be as good as his master; an idiot as good as a sage. Statesmanship will not enable a man to walk up a wall, or to jump over his own shadow. But what Mr. Balfour had an opportunity of proving was his capacity for debate, and he has proved it. He is by far the best debater on the Treasury benches. It is all but impossible that he should not come before long to be a leader of the House of Commons if the Tories continue in power. He surely is, to all appearance, a coming man.

There can be no doubt of the great intellectual power of Mr. John Morley. Mr. Morley is, after Mr. Gladstone, the man of most powerful intellect in the English Liberal Party. Every one believes in his sincerity. He is becoming immensely popular in the country and on great provincial platforms. I am assured that he stands next to Mr. Gladstone in popularity. He has not as yet had very long experience of Parliamentary life, and according to all the regular good old maxims of Parliamentary wisdom, he entered it too late for success. The one only comment which has to be made on the application of that maxim to him is that he is a success. There cannot be any possible doubt on the subject. He is the only man on the front opposition bench who could dispute the leadership with Sir William Harcourt. He has greatly improved of late in debating skill and power; and, indeed, I think every speech he makes is an improvement on the speech he made just before. An orator, perhaps, he could never be; but there is an eloquence of exalted thought put into noble language which sometimes carries the sympathetic listener away, as if he were under the spell of the born orator's enchantment. There is a sort of charm, I think, about the look of the student, of the recluse even, which Mr. Morley still retains, and always, perhaps, is destined to retain. He seems like some gowned scholar in a camp.—Justin McCarthy in the *North American Review*.

The Speech of Gen. Von Caprivi, successor to Prince Bismarck, at the opening of the Prussian Diet last week, is reported to have given very general satisfaction to the leaders of the various parties constituting the Chamber. It breathed a conciliatory spirit and gave assurance that no radical change of policy would be introduced. "The edifice of the state," said the Chancellor, "is cemented firmly enough to resist both wind and weather." No hint, however, was given of the government's programme which was promised later. It would seem that the new Chancellor has scored his first success in introducing himself to the Chamber in such a manner as not to arouse any unnecessary hostility. And in so far forth as he has secured the good will of those whose help is indispensable to the transaction of the nation's affairs he has paved the way for future victories.

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