

The present age is one of the most remarkable that the world has ever seen. The impossible of a hundred years ago, owing to the science, skill and engineering ability of the men of our time, are the accomplished facts of the present day. In almost every paper we take up, we read of the successful accomplishment of some gigantic undertaking or the projected construction of others more difficult and more wonderful than those already completed. Railway cars run to and from upon the face of the earth. Lines of gigantic steamers, carrying the products, the manufactures and the people of one clime to that of another, are to be found upon every ocean and upon every sea. The telegraph carries our messages with the speed of lightning to the uttermost ends of the earth, and our night is turned into day by the electric light. In addition to this, railroads run across boundless continents and canals connect far divided seas. The Suez Canal connects the waters of the Red Sea with those of the Mediterranean. Surveys are at present being made for the route of another great canal across the Isthmus of Darien, and not long since we read of another one being in contemplation which was no less than the connection of the valley of the Mississippi with the Atlantic seaboard. A late exchange says that the "proposed route of this canal is from the Mississippi river, below New Orleans, to Mobile Bay, then following the gulf shore to the Bay of St. Marks, across the peninsula of Florida to St. John's river, and then again following the coast northward to Charlestown. The length of this canal would be about eight hundred miles; but according to the proposers of the scheme, the number of natural water channels existing is so great that the length of canal that must be built is comparatively small, and that the entire operation could be carried out at a cost of twelve millions of dollars." Then there is that great engineering feat, the Mount Cenis Tunnel, which was finished during the reign of Napoleon III, and opens up direct railway communication between France and Italy. Next, we have the Mont St. Gothard Tunnel which has just been completed, but is not to be opened till next January. This tunnel is the largest in the world and intended to establish communication between Switzerland and Italy. Both these tunnels will be surpassed by the projected Tunnel between England and France, which will run for over twenty miles beneath the English Channel at the point nearest the Coast of France. By late accounts from Europe we learn that Spain is likely to embark in the gigantic undertaking of tunnelling the Pyrenees for the purpose of having unbroken railway communication between that country and France. The Spanish Government are deeply interested in the matter and have brought a bill into the Cortes authorizing its construction. They also offer to provide one half the funds required for the work providing the French Government furnish the remainder. The enterprise, if successful, will be of incalculable benefit to the two countries, as it will open up safe and reliable communication between them and wipe out the almost impassable mountain barrier that has so long divided and kept them apart. This move of Spain proves that she has at last awakened from her long sleep, and by undertaking to perform one of the most wonderful engineering feats of the age, shows that she is as desirous in the present day of undertaking as great deeds as those she performed when she was at the zenith of her greatness.

For works in which great engineering skill has been displayed, Holland has been famous. During long centuries its people have been actually creating their country by reclaiming it from the sea. Engineering contracts are magnificent affairs with the Dutch, and they alter, when necessary, 100 miles of seacoast or reclaim a piece of land from old ocean equal in extent to the County of Northumberland as easily as one of our surveyors runs a line round a wood lot for one of our back settlers. Their latest achievements in this way has been the successful damming up of the Zuyder Zee, so that its waters can no more flow into the Y, upon which the City of Amsterdam is built, and cutting a new canal from Amsterdam to the sea coast. At the outer entrance to this canal they have constructed an entirely new harbour which is large and spacious and a marvel of engineering skill and ability. During the completion of this work, the difficulties to be surmounted were very great, but they were successfully overcome and 100 miles around have been reclaimed

from the ocean. An English engineer took the contract for \$12,000,000, and it took him thirteen years to accomplish the work. During its progress 12,500 acres of land were reclaimed or made, which has been sold at \$600 per acre for the round sum of \$7,500,000. Want of space prevents us continuing this subject in our present issue, but we will take it up again at some future time.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

The Crown Heads of Europe at the present time appear to be in the very best terms with each other, as they have laid all their old animosities aside and are paying each other friendly visits. The present Czar, who, in the lifetime of his father, was the head of the Anti-German party in Russia, is now on the best of terms with his relative, the aged Emperor of Germany. During the past week the King of Italy has been the honoured guest of the Austrian Emperor, and the papers have been filled with lengthy telegraph reports of their movements. Not only is the outside world kept posted with respect to the enthusiastic welcome they received from the Austrian people when they appeared in public, but the expression of their faces and colour of their hair and coats are minutely described. It is only a few short years since Austria, its King and people were held in detestation by the Italians who looked upon them as their bitterest and deadliest foes, and shed their blood like water in front of Austrian guns and bayonets to drive their hated and tyrannical foes out of fair Italy. At that time France was Italy's warm friend, and nobly proved it in the battle fields of Magenta and Salterino when her armies wrung from Italy's Austrian foes that liberty which the Italian people had so long sought, sided and died for. Now Italy is jealous of France because that country has seized upon Tunis, and to give expression to her feelings she has sacrificed the friendship of her old and tried friend and formed an alliance with her once abhorred and detested foe. In these joyful reunions of the Crown Heads of Europe both England and France appeared to be ignored, but as long as they continue true to each other they have nothing to fear from the united opposition of the other powers. A late paper in referring to the present state of affairs in Europe makes the following comments:

"The new deal among the Mediterranean powers seems likely to result in Tunis and Tripoli taken from Turkey to go to France, Egypt to go to England, and the other portions of European Turkey and Asia Minor to fall as the ring of monarchs of Germany, Russia, Austria, and Italy choose to divide them among themselves. Italy does not like the division that France and England seem to have resolved upon, especially objecting to the French seizure of Tunis. But neither power need fear the objections. England must put the key of the gate that separates her European and Indian empire in her own hand. Egypt is that gate; the Suez canal is the key. When those are held by England, and Cyprus stands to keep watch and ward in the very chops of the passage-way from the Golden Horn, the imperial plans of Earl Beaconsfield will have unfolded, and the divided condition of the two portions of the British Empire will no longer exist."

OUR BOARD OF HEALTH.

When do the members of our Board of Health intend to make up their minds that it is time to do something? We have that fearful pestilence Diphtheria raging in our town and its vicinity, carrying off the younger members of many families of our citizens and yet that body has not made the slightest effort to purge the town of one of the many poisonous and deadly cess pools with which it is infected. These sinks of disease and death are to be found in all directions, and one of the worst is upon the front street, opposite Bowser's Hotel, at times filled with reeking and putrid soap suds, poisoning the air in all directions with the effluvia that arises from it. With our town in this disgraceful state, is it any wonder that we have disease and death in our midst, and this state of affairs will continue just so long as our authorities look idly on and make not the slightest efforts to have the causes removed that yearly generates typhoid and the other deadly maladies that yearly visit our town and carrying off their victims. We would direct the attention of our Board of Health to the following paragraph which we copy from a late exchange and advise them to go and do likewise:

"The authorities of the town of Sydney, Cape Breton, have taken a commendable course in ordering a thorough isolation of all cases of diphtheria. The Board of Health have passed most stringent laws relating to the matter, and have even gone to the extent of enacting the imposition of a fine, not to exceed \$100, on any person coming into the town of Sydney from any dwelling in which diphtheria exists. When it is known that in one town, that of Arichat, with a population of only 1,000 persons, no less than eighty three deaths from diphtheria were registered last spring, the action of the Sydney authorities will be considered wise and prudent."

POLITICS IN ENGLAND.

The returns of the late Municipal Elections throughout England show a gain of eighty-six boroughs for the Conservatives and forty-five for the Liberals. The cause given for the Conservative gain is said to be the transfer of the Irish vote to that side.

"MODERATION AND CANDOR."

"The ——— is a humble weekly local paper conducted quietly by its publisher. Its political preferences are on the Liberal-Reform side and the MODERATION and CANDOR with which it treats political matters ———." The above except the blanks and the capitals is from a sheet published in Chatham and which some of our readers may occasionally see. A week ago it made a vile attack on the Princess Louise, and the St. John Sun gave it a severe castigation therefor. It is in the reply to the Sun that the above quoted sentence is taken. The whole reply is the whine of a whipped hound who is moderate because he is restrained by a muzzle. Its candor would put to shame the "candid man" so celebrated in English literature.

As examples of the moderation and candor with which it treats political matters the following "gems of ribaldry" from the very issue in which the quotation occurs will be sufficient illustrations. A gentleman against whom this "moderate and candid creature," has a personal as well as political spite is described as "one of the most pliant creatures of the present Dominion Government that ever made the New Brunswick Executive a subject of contempt and ridicule has attempted to drive Mr. McLeod out of the lumbering business, etc., by pursuing a policy towards him which a decent highwayman would despise." This gem is as true as it is moderate. Who is this "pliant creature" of the present Dominion Government? It must be Sir Leonard Tilley as he is the only member of the present "Dominion Government" who was a "member of the New Brunswick Executive." And did he make the Dominion Executive a subject of contempt and ridicule? Why Mr. Snowball was a supporter of Tilley previous to Confederation, and even after the elections in 1878. Surely he would not support a contemptuous and ridiculous man. But how has Sir Leonard attempted to drive Mr. McLeod out of the Province? We confess to being a little mixed; the "moderate" man will have to give us a "candid" commentary on his puzzling article. Sobriety is a constitutional art of moderation, but we fear the writer lacked this most essential element while penning the sentence. "The Sun's malevolence" is another rhetorical gem and the "conduct of the rough who cuts ones flesh with his fist or a stick and then provides court plaster to cover the wound" is a beautiful figure of speech, "moderate," "candid" and no doubt "congenial." "Tory toady issue" and "vulgarity in high places," "Tory snobs and jingoes," "mandarin excesses," etc., are a few more "pearls at random strung" from the chaste pen of the "moderate and candid" man who conducts "quietly" the humble "weekly paper."

GET READY FOR IT.

The following inscription is on a marble slab at Oberlenan, Germany,—

"Quando illareus Pascha dabit
Et Antonias Pentecostem celebrabit
Et Joannes Christum adorabit
Totus Mundus vult clamabit."

Which means that when Easter shall fall on St. Mark's day (April 25th.) Pentecost on St. Anthony's day (June 13) and Corpus Christi on St. John's day (June 24), all the world shall cry woe. In the year 1886 the above feast will fall on the days named.

Another old rhyme reads as follows:

"Quand Georgus Dieu cracefera
Que illare le resusitera
Et que St. Jean portera
Le fin du monde arrivera."

That is when Good Friday shall fall on St. Georges day (April 23), Easter on St. Mark's (April 25), Corpus Christi on St. Johns (June 24) the world will come to an end. In 1886 these three feasts will be celebrated on these days, so we have got a little time to get ready.

EDITORIAL GLEANINGS.

BURIED ALIVE.

Among the heroes who ought to be canonized stands Ralph Gore, a contractor, of Erie, Pa. Mr. Gore was superintending the building of a sewer in that city last Monday, and while at the bottom of a deep excavation it was noticed that the earth on the west bank was giving away. Mr. Gore was the nearest to the slope leading to the surface, but in the rush of the men for safety, he gallantly stepped aside, and let every workman pass. Then he ran himself, but the delay was fatal. The trembling bank toppled over and buried Mr. Gore beneath. When the dust cleared away his head was just visible above the earth, and an attempt was made to extricate him, "I think my legs are broken," he said, "but dig me out if you can." Notwithstanding his agony he made light of the accident, and spoke of being dug from his grave. While the men were working zealously, a cry was raised that the

other bank was giving way. The men had to fly for their lives, leaving their companion wedged as in a vise. He was alone, with the tottering avalanche above him, and on the bank a crowd of people with pitying looks and averted heads, waiting the fall. The bank crumbled slowly, and before it fell a school of boys let out, and the scholars assembled to see the brave man die. "God held me," murmured the poor fellow, while tears streamed from the faces of the lookers on. The great bank cracked, stood still in a momentary check, and then slowly and silently came toppling over. There was a trembling, a deep thud that shook the surrounding buildings and the heroic fellow was buried beneath 500 tons of solid earth. Later in the day they recovered his body, crushed to a shapeless mass by the huge weight that had fallen upon him.

BURGLARS AT LARGE.

The New Glasgow *Eastern Chronicle* furnishes us with the following information respecting the supposed doings of two enterprising Burglars at present on the tramp in search of business:

"In February last two men were arrested in Quebec for being drunk, and in their possession was found a number of skeleton keys and a letter signed 'T. B.' sent from Charlottetown, saying, 'As soon as you get out of the penitentiary come to Pictou and I will meet you there for there is lots of work to be done in your line in N. S.' The next morning they paid their fine for being drunk and left Quebec, taking tickets for Pictou. They gave their names as Troy and Riley and had just completed a term of two years in the Kingston Penitentiary. The result has been that in February last the ticket office on the I. C. R. was broken into and a valise stolen out of it. About a month afterwards the Post Office in Fredericton was entered, and some time after the Post Office in Turco was burglarized, and about four weeks ago a one dollar bill altered to a five was passed on a shop keeper in New Glasgow. Constable Smith got the description of the two men who passed the bill, which exactly corresponds to that of Troy and Riley, which is as follows: One 5 feet 10 inches in height, light mustache and chin whisker and round shoulders; the other 5 ft. 8 inches in height, thick set, with black mustache. Both wore soft black felt hats. Detective Skeffington, of the Secret Service, who wants them for breaking into the I. C. R. Ticket Office, is confident that these two men are the parties who burglarized the Post Offices at Fredericton and Turco and the Ticket offices at New Glasgow and Hopewell, and passed the counterfeit bill, more especially as from the description furnished parties remember seeing two men so described in the vicinity of each of these places previous to the burglaries spoken of.

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY BUSINESS.

From the Moncton *Times* of Thursday last we take the following interesting article upon this subject:—

"There has not been since the construction of the railway between St. John and Bangor, so great a quantity of freight and so many passengers over it as at present. The road has been re-laid with steel rails, and has greatly enlarged its rolling stock, and yet its officers are embarrassed for want of sufficient cars to accommodate the traffic. The business, as an article in the *Sun* shows, has increased both ways. We are not only sending more freight and passengers over the railway than formerly, but are receiving more also. It is reciprocity of trade based on reciprocity of tariffs. We are sending a good deal of everything to the United States markets by rail. Four or five carloads of fresh meat have gone weekly since July, and three car loads of lime, besides fish, red granite, manganese, turpentine, etc., etc. It also appears that St. Stephen merchants are receiving, by the St. John and Maine and New Brunswick and Canada roads, very large quantities of Moncton and Halifax refined sugars and syrup. They reply, when congratulated on this evidence of their being too honest to smuggle, that the smuggling of refined sugar is not profitable, the prices being higher in New York than in Moncton. St. Stephen and St. John merchants also send large lots of our sugars to the up-river districts.

The officers of the St. John and Maine anticipate an increase of fifty per cent. in the amount of through business on the building of the projected bridge across the Falls. The trucking from the Intercolonial to the depot of the St. John and Maine in Carleton is something enormous, 150 tons having been carted across one day this week.

The rapid development of our international trade must be a puzzle to the wisecracks of the Sir Albert kind, who predicted that our trade with the United States would be utterly ruined by the National Policy.

THE CESSION OF GIBRALTAR.

The London correspondent of the New York World telegraphs: For some time past it has been whispered at the clubs that the Government intend to sell Gibraltar to Spain, and the story seems to have some foundation. It is said that the subject has been discussed in the Cabinet and that the Premier's proposal met with no very decided opposition from his colleagues. Of course, it will be easy for Mr. Gladstone to convince the Radicals that the interests of peace, public morality and eternal justice demand the sale, but there will be a loud outcry not only from the old Jingo of the Army and Navy Club who spend the day in upbraiding their gaily limbed and carring Radicalism, but from all moderate Liberals. To withdraw from Gibraltar would be to take the first step in Lord Sherbrooke's (Mr. Lowe) programme for the abandonment of India, and would

be a notice to all the world that England was about to retire from the imperial business. The Spaniards know their man and will offer a low price at first, but the bidding will advance and the Premier will probably be easily satisfied. He auctioned off the guns of the Citadel of Quebec without compunction, and will doubtless argue that as Wolfe shed more lustre on the British arms than Sir George Rooke, who seized the Rock in the name of Queen Anne, or Lord Heathfield, its gallant defender in later years, it is only false pride that induces us to hold the keys of the Mediterranean after having dismantled the gateway of the St. Lawrence.

DEATH OF MISS LONGWORTH.

Poor Miss Longworth, whose name will long be remembered by lawyers in connection with the celebrated Yelverton marriage case, is dead. Her romantic story is well known. The Scotch courts and the House of Lords decided against her claim to be the wife of Major Yelverton, who subsequently succeeded to the title of Viscount Avenmore; but she clung to him to the last. Her letters, published with the report of the trial, occupy a large volume that is to be found in most lawyers' libraries. These letters showed her to be a lady of considerable education and taste, and the judges, when they decided against her, recognized the ability by which her correspondence with Major Yelverton was distinguished. She died from dropsy.

THE HEAVENS IN NOVEMBER.

On Nov. 1, Saturn will be in opposition to the sun, rising as the sun sets and setting as the sun rises. The beautiful rings can be easily observed with a small telescope, if the weather is fine. On the 7th Mercury will make a transit across the Sun, but will not be visible in New Brunswick. Mars is becoming brilliant late in the evenings, and is approaching for the second time since the discovery of his moons by Professor Asaph Hall, in 1877. The planet will be stationary on the 27th December, and is an interesting object through a large telescope. The small moons are to be seen, and the appearance of a snow cap about the north pole. The disc presents curious markings of a green colour. The outlines of these markings change from day to day, as the planet revolves on its axis.

ENGLAND'S MARINE.

The extent to which the United Kingdom is using iron for ships, and is substituting steam for sail, is growing more marked each year. Of all the vessels built in 1880 in the United Kingdom, 58,119 tons were sailing, and 414,831 tons were steam; of these only 17,925 tons of the former and 1,382 of the latter were of wood. Sixty eight steamers were built last year of steel. Of these the shipyards of the Clyde supplied twenty four, with a tonnage of 22,684.

CENSUS OF INDIA.

The census of India was a work of such magnitude that Mr. Plowden, the Census Commissioner, may well say it may fairly claim to be the largest work of the kind, of which the record is available, under taken in any country. To take a population of 252,541,210 persons, with all the details required, is indeed a stupendous work. There are 123,211,327 males and 118,166,371 females in British India, and the rate of increase over the previous census has been such as to make the population greater now than then by 12,788,565 persons. In a word, India added in ten years to the subjects of the Queen three times the whole population of Canada. "The obedience of all these million of human creatures to the British crown is a radiant jewel in it."

BUSINESS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

The antipodean sister colony of New South Wales appears to have had a fair year. The acreage under wheat was \$252,240, with a yield of 3,708,737 bushels; showing an increase of 19,172 acres, and 95,471 bushels. The area in maize—123,679 acres—had declined by 8,671 acres since the previous year, and the yield was less by 275,399 bushels. Of barley the yield was 160,602 bushels, or 20,861 more than the previous crop; and of oats it was 336,121, being a decrease of 160,816 bushels. The average of wheat per acre was 14 1-2 bushels, being one bushel less than the year before. Maize stood at 35 bushels per acre, one-third of a bushel less; barley at 20 bushels, or 1 1-2 bushels less; oats 19 bushels, being 4 bushels less; potatoes 2 2-3 tons, as against 3 1-4; and hay 1 1-3 ton, which was less than the previous year. The sugar industry had increased in point of area; the product of the year was 16,352,336 lbs. Wine was produced in diminished quantity. Sugar cultivation is extending rapidly.

BANK FAILURE.

The Mechanics' National Bank of Newark, which was supposed to be the strongest bank in the State of New Jersey, has failed. The disaster was caused by the dishonest transactions of the cashier, who is a defaulter to the amount of \$2,000,000. The contingent losses and can as yet only be surmised, but they will be large.

THE CHARACTER OF ITALY.

London *Truth* is not very complimentary to Italy. It says:—"Italy was long the paradise of beggars, and in becoming a nation the Italians have not lost their national characteristic. When anything occurs in any part of the world, Italy at once presents herself, cap in hand, and with whining bluster asks 'what she is to be given?' It is only necessary to reply 'nothing' for her to resume her cap, and with a few muttered curses, to move off in order to see whether any crumbs are to be picked up elsewhere."

COTTON FACTORY IN MONCTON.

The Moncton *Times* informs us that on Thursday last "a stock list for the Moncton Cotton Factory Company was circulated about town and some \$30,000 subscribed in moderate sized amounts in a short time. The company will have a capital of \$400,000, of which at least \$200,000 must be subscribed before operations can be commenced. There is no doubt of the success of the project. A part of the capital will be subscribed here and the balance will be taken by American capitalists who have become interested in the enterprise. Moncton will have its cotton factory in operation before Halifax."

What is Chatham about? From what we heard a few weeks ago from some of our men of capital and enterprise we were led to believe that they intended to take immediate action with respect to the establishment of a Woollen Factory in Chatham. But it all ended in talk, brag and bluster.

CURIOSITIES OF TRADE.

Some of the movements of trade are really curious. One would suppose that Europe would have enough to do to feed itself. Nevertheless, it is sending onions, cabbages and potatoes to this continent, and Normandy, France, is exporting apples to New York. Another curious fact is that American flour, purchased on French account and shipped to Havre, has been re-shipped to New York, where it sold for a higher price, freight both ways included, than could be got for it at Havre.

NEWCASTLE NOTES.

Messrs. Staples & McAllister have discontinued as partners, Mr. Staples having bought out the stock and removed the stock to the store lately occupied by Mr. F. Carter. Mr. McAllister will purchase a new stock and continue in the old site.

Since Messrs. Staples & McAllister have dissolved partnership, the Agency for the Star is now in the hands of Mr. George Staples only. Our Newcastle subscribers will please call at Mr. Staples for their paper or else they will please let us know and we will direct the paper to Newcastle Post office.

There was great scrambling on Thursday last at one of the public wharves after an ox which had slipped out of the slings whilst being hoisted it out of a schooner. They succeeded in getting the poor animal out of the water after it had received a very unpleasant bath.

The chimney of Messrs. Ritchie's mill, which was begun about two weeks ago, is being built up very speedily. It will be completed in an other month.

Hon. Peter Mitchell arrived in Newcastle at 11.30 p. m. on Wednesday last. On his arrival at the I. C. R. Station, he had all the prominent men of the place to greet and cheer him, after which he was escorted to the Waverly Hotel. We learn that he will remain in the County for eight or ten days after which he will return to Montreal.

Mr P. Hennessy who has run a successful business in Newcastle for many years, ends his old store too small for his daily increasing trade, and commenced the erection of a more spacious building about a month ago which he will occupy in a short time.

From his office advanced the utterly too—
All dressed and perfumed like a comical
foe-foe;
His polished shirt-front was a-gleaming
like glass,
And he looked, as he was, an aethetical
ass.
His kinship was plain to a neighbouring
horse,
And a quick recognition was natural of
c—urse;
So the sociable beast, with a thundering
thud,
Saluted his cousin with plenty of mud."

ST. JACOBS OIL
TRADE MARK.



THE GREAT GERMAN REMEDY
FOR

RHEUMATISM,
Neuralgia, Sciatica, Lumbago, Backache, Soreness of the Chest, Gout, Quinsy, Sore Throat, Swellings and Sprains, Burns and Scalds, General Bodily Pains, Tooth, Ear and Headache, Frosted Feet and Ears, and all other Pains and Aches.

No Preparation on earth equals St. Jacobs Oil as a safe, sure, simple and cheap External Remedy. A trial entails but the comparatively trifling outlay of 50 cents, and every one suffering with pain can have cheap and positive proof of its claims.
Directions in Eleven Languages.
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS IN MEDICINE.
A. VOGELER & CO.,
Baltimore, Md., U. S. A.