

At Ottawa..

On the 4th the World's Polyglot W C T U petition for prohibition signed by seven million women, including 70,000 Canadians, and presented to Queen Victoria and President Cleveland, was last night presented to Premier Laurier in the presence of a large crowd in the Dominion church. The petition occupied an immense space. There are over seven millions of names of 50 different nationalities on it, and the length is seven miles. Mrs A E Rutherford, Toronto, president of the Dominion W C T U, presided, and Mrs L M Stevens, Portland, Me, president of the National W C T U, took part in the proceedings along with many others. Mrs Emma R Atkinson, Moncton, N B, was among the speakers. Premier Laurier delivered a speech strongly deprecating intemperance and denounced in strong terms the accursed traffic. He was not a prohibitionist, but a pretty good temperance man.

In the Commons on the 5th on a resolution proposed by the Minister of Militia adding \$2,000 in addition to the salary of \$4,000 a year to the general officer commanding the militia of Canada.

Sir Charles Tupper said Gascoigne had got himself into a most discreditable conflict with the militia of Nova Scotia, as well as rushed into print in violation of military rule, and described important officers and men as squabbling like washerwomen. He was glad Gascoigne had resigned because he had disgraced the position from the time he had come to Canada, and was defendant on a libel suit, instituted by Col Strath, which if tried, would have resulted in a verdict that would have driven him out of the imperial service.

Premier Laurier expressed regret at Mr Tupper's exhibition of temper which was unworthy of him and due doubtless to personal spite. There was a difference of opinion with reference to Gascoigne's conduct, but when a man discharged his duty to the best of his ability then if guilty of indiscretion he should not have his motive impugned. His uniform should have protected him from Tupper's insulting language.

Col Hughes praised Gascoigne, and Hon Mr Borden, minister of militia, expressed his sorrow that Mr Tupper had chosen this occasion to attack the general who had no means of defending himself. He testified that Gascoigne had worked hard and brought about many reforms in the militia. He was not perfect but he and the minister were always able to amicably solve the difficulties, and Gen Gascoigne was not leaving on account of any unpleasantness with the ministers. With regard to Col Strath even if Gen Gascoigne had been indiscreet that was no reason why Col Strath should have been indiscreet also. With regard to the 66th Battalion there were men enlisted who had no right to enlist in view of their contract with the imperial government.

May 6—Some highly interesting evidence was given at the House of Commons Drummond County railway investigation. Wm Farwell, ex-president of the Drummond County Railway, was the witness and swore he carried on negotiations through Rufus Pope. Hon W B Ives and Cleveland, M P, for the sale of the road to the late government for the purpose of extending the Intercolonial to Montreal. The price named was two and a half millions, of which he and the other shareholders of the road were to get one-third and the other two-thirds to go to Hugh Ryan, government contractor. He saw a letter from Sir Charles Tupper to Rufus Pope just before the last general election promising to see to the purchase of the road after the election.

Private members day has passed, in the Commons, and, until the end of the session, every day will be taken by the Government for their business.

The probabilities are that possibly morning and Saturday sessions will be held and that will indicate the near approach of prorogation. The committee work is well advanced and it is announced that the Government will not bring down any important new measures.

As things look now, prorogation may be reached by the 24th and not later than the first of next month.

English Speaking People.

In a speech at Cleveland, Ohio, recently, Mr Chauncey M Depew said:

I believe that the friendship of the English people for us, which has been so cemented during the present crisis, will result in something more than a mere understanding between the two nations in the future. It would be a glorious alliance, that of the two great Anglo-Saxon races bonding together for humanity and peace.

A few days before, at the opening of the electrical exhibition in Madison Garden, Mr Depew made the introductory speech, and at the close of it he waved the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack together, saying that he did so because he believed that the English-speaking world were henceforth to act as one in carrying civilization throughout the world. On this the New York Evening Post editorially remarks:

This sentiment was received with immense applause. How well this tribute to Great Britain was deserved will be known some time better than it is now. England was solicited to join in an intervention between the United States and Spain before the present war was declared, and if she had consented to do so all the powers of Europe would have been leagued against us. The form of the intervention would have been determined by circumstances, but probably it would have extended to a naval demonstration in West Indian waters of so formidable a character that we should have had no chance of reaching Cuba with any military force whatever. Great Britain refused to join in any proceeding to which the consent of the United States was not first obtained. Such consent was obtained to the mediation of the ambassadors in the interest of peace. Beyond that Lord Salisbury refused to go. Hence, the proposed intervention did not take place.

Peel Items.

May 10, 1898.

A Parish S S convention is to be held in the church at Mount Pleasant on Tuesday, 31st, afternoon and evening. Parish officers are making a heroic effort to revive the interest here and hope all will come and assist in the good work. All ministers, resident or preaching in the parish, are cordially invited.

A number of friends visited Landsdowne last Sunday and heard our Mr J K Fleming review and address the school there, which he did in his usual happy manner to the interest and edification of all present. Then an earnest and forcible sermon, by Rev Mr Ross of Hartland; afternoon and evening services were conducted by Rev Mr Aroher and John Buck of Woodstock, a large number manifesting a desire to follow Christ.

Rev J B Trafton has been holding special meetings in the Union church here.

Mr Geo W Johnson and son, of Presque Isle, spent a few days here last week visiting Mr Thomas R Boyd's family.

Messrs Chester and Arthur Parlee have returned home after several years sojourn in the west.

Miss Ella Harmon is spending a much needed vacation with her mother.

Miss Flora Rideout, Miss Della Harmon and Mrs E W Harmon have returned from a trip to Fort Fairfield, where they attended the marriage of Miss Ella Harmon, a former Carleton county girl, and Mr Ira Reynolds.

Peel is experiencing a mild boom. Every house and shop in the village is occupied to its fullest capacity, and the piles of lumber being prepared indicate a material increase in the building line this summer.

Mr William Brooker put a new rotary saw in his mill last week to replace one which broke a short time ago with no fatalities other than shutting down the mill for a few days.

RESURGAM

Lakeville Items.

May 11.

Our little village was shocked to hear when they arose on Thursday morning that their old friend and neighbor, Mrs Henry Wilson, had passed away during the night. Although an invalid for 16 years, she was always able to be out and we had almost begun to forget that she could be taken from us. She was a faithful, loved mother and wife, one of the noblest positions, probably, to which we can attain. She was buried in Williamstown on Friday, the services being conducted by Rev Mr Sellar assisted by Rev Messrs Fiske, Fiewelling and Laird. Her husband and family have the heartfelt sympathy of all in their bereavement. They do not sorrow "as those who have no hope." Her trust was placed implicitly in Christ and his promises. News has just reached us that Mrs John Whitney has also been called away. Her husband is at present on the way to the Klondike. She has been a sufferer for years and no doubt has at last found rest.

The children's Rally Day was a success. They entertained their parents and friends very pleasantly for an hour and a half on Sunday afternoon and in return, to the credit of the invited guests, we are pleased to say the response by their attendance was very satisfactory to the school. If you have not such a day in your school, as Talmage says "make a break"—get out of your old ruts. It might be suggestive to some to have our program, but I do not like to infringe on the kindness of the editor's valuable space. Let the children do the work, train their voices with some musical instrument, piano, organ, violin, autoharp or even the harmonica. These all add variety to the exercises and you know "variety is the spice of life." Children hate monotony, they chafe under it and the result, too often, is they are conspicuous by their absence when we allow our schools to become such.

Some of us are troubled by "the green eyed monster" as we see Miss Scullin and Miss Fowler skim along on their handsome new wheels. More are on the way. I hear Master Kenneth Tracey makes a good straight rider. Master Geo Fowler is also learning on his new wheel.

Dr Beairato is attending five patients with typhoid fever, all in one house. Mrs Wilmet Jewett at present is very low. Her husband who had gone out to Montana a short time ago, has been telegraphed for.

The Sabbath School at Lakeville gave \$4.50 to Rev Mr Fiske last Sunday towards his prospective trip to England to attend the World's S S Convention. He also received a dollar from each of the following friends: Rev Mr Sellar, Mrs Will Wilson and the Doctor. No doubt others will lend some assistance which will be acknowledged in some way. No one deserves a trip more. Mr Fiske has done enough good hard work for the different S Schools of this county to be made the recipient of the required amount—\$125. One dollar and a half from each school would do it.

Gave and receive; go forth and bless

The world that needs the hand and heart

Of Martha's helpful carefulness,

No less than Mary's better part.

—Whittier.

The sugar crop of the world amounts in a normal year to about 8,000,000 tons, of which the larger part, about 4,500,000 tons, comes from beets, and the balance, 3,500,000 tons, from sugar cane. Of the latter the largest proportion comes from the West Indies and a large amount from the Island of Java, says the New York Sun.

Sir William Van Horne, the chairman of the Canadian Pacific Railway, entertains very ambitious designs. "The service of our railway," he says, "will only be complete when we can take a passenger at Easton station, London, place him on one of our own cars, and land him in Yokohama without transfer to any other line. This we expect to accomplish in 1900.

One of the peculiarities about the Philippine islands is that there are anywhere from 400 to 2000 of them, the largest of which contains either 40,000 or 60,000 square miles, with a population of all the way from 130,000 to 270,000.

Horses & Cattle.

From the excellent agricultural paper "Farming" we learn that the number of horses imported into Great Britain during 3 months ending 31st March was 13,470 against 11,517 last year; of these 274 against 807 were from Canada; average value was \$140 an increase average value over that of same period last year. In the same period Great Britain exported 9,616 of live animals for food; the imports into England, during the period stated, was 321,783 value \$11,171,075; of these Canada sent 288 oxen and 3,511 sheep.

"Farming" adds:—

The western pork packers for the year ending March 31st last, slaughtered 20,201,260 hogs, an increase of 3,372,282 over the previous year and of 2,448,186 over the greatest year on record. The packers paid for their raw material—the hogs—\$174,882,000, which is \$38,926,000 more than for the preceding year, and the largest amount ever paid in a single year. The average cost of hogs last year was \$3.70 for the summer, \$3.53 for the winter, and \$3.63 for the year, against an average of \$3.30 for the previous year; with the exception of 1896-1897 the average cost was less than for any year since 1880. The average weight of the hogs packed during the winter season was 235.35 pounds, against 244.80 and 240.71 pounds, respectively, the two preceding years.

Lord Salisbury.

Lord Salisbury, in closing a speech, to the Primrose League, London, the other day, impressively uttered a foreboding of what would happen to such countries as Spain and China, although he did not name either. He said that they might roughly divide the nations of the world as the living and the dying. On one side were the great countries of enormous power, with railroads giving them the means of concentrating at one point the whole military force of their population, and assembling armies of a magnitude never dreamed of in generations gone by, with weapons growing in efficiency of destruction. By the side of these splendid organizations, which presented rival claims that the future might only be able by bloody arbitrament to adjust, there were a number of communities which he could only describe as dying. They were mainly the communities that were not Christian, but he regretted to say that this was not exclusively the case, and in these States disorganization and decay were advancing almost as fast as the power of the others was increasing.

Great Britain's Sympathy.

The Biddeford, Maine, Journal says:—And the main cause for this strict neutrality, on the part of European nations, is not far to seek; it is the attitude of Great Britain, both of its Government, of the great mass of its people and its newspapers. And while unappreciative utterances may be telegraphed here from the smaller newspapers, the great dailies that both reflect and mould the thought, show that the Anglo-Saxon race everywhere is in substantial accord with the United States.

The old "Thunderer" the London Times, that itself has made and unmade governments, and is recognized as the embodied voice of the English people, speaks thus of the war now begun:

"As the Americans have been stirred up to interference by feelings which have again and again prompted serious action by Great Britain, and in which English-speaking people here and in our colonies sympathize, so will they carry on the contest in the Anglo-Saxon manner. They will probably make some mistakes, as we most invariably do; but, with them, as with ourselves, mistakes only serve to increase the dogged tenacity of purpose which knows how to convert mistakes themselves into stepping stones to success. Whether the struggle be brief or protracted, there can be as little doubt of the result as of the direction in which lie the sympathy and hopes of the English people." It is the same on our side of the ocean.

Another Klondike Horror.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 9—Word has reached here that on Monday last the ice covering a stream in a defile near Crater Lake gave way under the passing throng of Klondikers and more than a score of men were precipitated into the water and drowned. Dr J P Frizzle, of Los Angeles, who brings the news, passed the scene only a few hours after the calamity occurred. It was on the other side of the summit between Landerman and Long Lake, at a point in the Canyon some 14 miles above Stone House, where an ice slide over a mountain stream has been utilized as a path for sleds. A number of men were advancing in almost unbroken rank, each hauling a heavy-laden sled when there was a sudden crash. The ice opened for thirty feet or more and in an instant twenty-two men with supplies were whirled down and under the surface of the stream to drown without even the chance of battling for life. The names of the victims of the ice break Frizzle cannot give. Four Montana and two California men are thought to have been among the victims, while the others included an eastern party of seven, almost all being remembered only by the nicknames which western freedom had given them.

One of the greatest wonders of Java, "the fire island," is a large lake of boiling mud two miles in circumference, and in the centre immense columns of soft, hot mud may be seen continually rising and falling. Besides these columns there are two gigantic bubbles near the edge, which fill up like huge balloons and explode on an average of three times per minute.

Postage stamps came into existence about 60 years ago. In 1860 there were about 500 varieties in existence.