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Montreal, Canada,

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MONTREAL, 22nd JANUARY, 1887.

Toronto is keeping ahead of Montreal in the encouragement of the fine arts. The recent exhibition of the original pictures reproduced in the Century and St. Nicholas magazines fetched a handsome profit there, while here the same show proved a loss to the extent of over \$150.

Within a few years the heart of the Dominion will be the Northwest, and the old Provinces will have to take a step backward. The Northwest is preparing for this mission by the choice of such men as Sir Donald Smith and Professor Goldwin Smith to represent it in Parliament.

Bismark's defeat on the Army Bill is not due so much to the amount of money demanded as to the length of service, he requiring seven years, while the majority of the Reichstag want only three years. It is a wide difference, insolving heavy results, and therefore worth battling for.

Some of the American papers regard the last elections in Ontario as a blow to the Anglo Saxon element, and a vic-tory for American ideas and principles. This is premature. While Ontario, like the rest of Canada, is friendly to the United States, it betrays no disposition to change its present condition.

The snow storm and blockade of last week were the heaviest in many years, but our railways showed that they were fully prepared to meet them. By dint of mechanical appliances, entailing a large expenditure, the tracks were cleared in a very short time, and comparatively little interruption took place in traffic.

While the consolidation of the Onta-While the consolidation of the Ontario Universities and Colleges is still in abeyance, after several years' consideration, the work of union is being rapidly consummated among the French of the Province of Quebec. For the first time in a long history, the old seminaries of Quebec and Montreal have joined han is and become practically Sir Stafford Northcote.

one teaching body and one corpus doctum.

One University for every million of One University for every million of inhabitants is quite sufficient, as the experience of the older countries proves. Ontario might have two—one for the West and another for the East. One would be amply sufficient for the needs of the English Protestants of Oughers. Now Propositely and expecially Quebec. New Brunswick and especially Nova Scotia are properly supplied in this respect.

It is idle to say that the secession or repeal feeling has no actual existence in Nova Scotia and was used for Provincial purposes only. There is a real sentiment of hostility to the Union with Canada which can be counteracted only by the offer of the highest material advantages. Nova Scotia is not American, but it wants to become much more Canadian than it is.

It is devoutly to be hoped that the fortheoning Federal elections will not bring on any issues of race or creed. We are certainly one of the most difficult of peoples to govern, but we can not help ourselves and cannot unmake the growth of two centuries. The true Canadian policy is that of conciliation and the union of all sections through the material development of the whole

Mr Bright might have spared himself the trouble of intervening in the fisheries question and pronouncing in the Insieries question and pronouncing in favor of the United States, with implied blame upon ourselves. There never was a clearer case, than our interpretation of the trenty of 1818, and the chief American papers admit it. The real pity is that for high diplometic researches. that, for high diplomatic reasons, Great Britain has not yet seen her way to support our rights explicitly.

The situation in England has improved somewhat during the week. The re-construction of the Cabinet is comple-Mr. Goschen has issued a stirring address to his Liverpool electors. Mr. Gladstone has declared that he will not recede from his policy, wherein he is right. The Home Rule question cannot be shirked. Both parties are equally divided upon it, and they must fight it out.

Within the past few days, the American congress has shown concluively that it will not stir in the matters of a commercial treaty or of the fisheries. The first is a source of sincere regret, and we have therefore to hold on more closely to our policy of self-protection. With respect to the latter, our own government must insist upon the Colonial office moving more intelligently und actively toward some sort of settlement. The present situation is abnormal and cannot last.

It is amusing to see our politicians manipulate figures and statistics to suit themselves. In handling the public accounts, this is particularly the ease, and while one party proclaims that there is a surplus, the other maintains that we are in face of a deficiency. There is no blue book that should be treated with more reverence than that of the Public Accounts. To distort it for any paitry party a lvantage is an act

PERSONAL

Lord Lansdowne in Montreal this

Lord Iddesleigh was better known as

Goldwin Smith will probably stand for Lisgar. A docided acquisition.

Sir John Macdonald has just entered in his seventy second year.

Archbishop Taché, of St. Boniface, is recovering from a serious illness.

Rev. Philip de Gruchy, who died last week, at Milton, P. Q., represented one of our oldest clerical families.

Mr McDougall, the outgoing mayor of Ottawa, will likely be the recipient of a public testimonial.

Bishop Grandin, of the North West Territories, has arrived at Ottawa, on his way to Rome.

"Big Aleck," or Alex. McDonell, the well known railway and canal contractor, has died at Toronto, aged eighty.

His Lordship Dr Baldwin, the Bishop of Huron, is on a visit to his old home in Montreal.

Mr. Duncan MeIntyre, of Montreal, bought at the Halstead sale Erskine Nicoll's "Giving In," \$2,500.

Isabella M. Crawford, of Ontario, has published a volume of poems which is pronounced the most remarkable of its kind ever put forth in Canada.

General N. B. Hazen, just deceased, was the second "Old Probabilities". He was chief signal officer of the United States Army.

Mr Grant Allen, essayist and novelist, does not forget his native country. Ho has a fine account of a recent visit to us in the last Longman's.

Mr G. M. Fairchild, president of the New York Oritani Club, and Vice-President of the Canadian Club, is a Quebec boy.

Sir Donald Smith has bought three new pictures, "A Whipper in of Hounds and Perrault's "Moditation," each \$2,100, and Innes "After a Shower," and

Mr. R. B. Angas, of Montreal bought at the Halstead sale, N.Y., William Bliss Baker's "A Wonderful Brook," \$2,300, and Benjamin Constant's "Tambourine,

The death of Mr R. A. Ramsay is a distinct loss to the literary and educational circles of Montreal. He was a leader among that band of young men who devote much of their time to an intelligent study of the least the form intelligent study of the bypaths of our history.

Mr Erastus Wimau, and other members of the New York Canadian Club, very properly declined changing the name of the Society, so as to include others beside native Canadians. There is too much of a tendency to label our with other names, in foreign markets.

OUR PICTURES.

The Tobgggan slide on Jacques-Car-THE COUNTY OF THE BUILDING THE SQUARE forms the subject of the front page. The linear plan above it gives a full idea of its construction, while the views of the upper features of the square make a pretty picture. The slide is built under the auspices of the Carpival County of the carpival carpi the Carnival Committee, and is mainly confided to the zeal and enterprise of M. I. B. Durocher, of the Richelieu Ho

Our Art picture in the centre is a study of graceful attitude and might sorve as a fasnion model, so far as the gorgeous dress is concerned. The beauty is surveying herself in the glass,

asking how she looks, which is a superfluous question, inasmuch as she knows full well that she looks "immense. "

Our picture of Canadian volunteer service on snowshoes is designed to show the advantage that may be taken of that kind of locomotion in a war emergency. The history of Canada, both in French and English times, has several interesting episodes of great military marches, on the webbed sandals.

The Ice Palace of St. Paul, Minn, will be larger and more picture-que than the previous structure. The plan is an irregular square, inclosing an area of some 14,000 feet entirely clear, open to the slar. From each angle of the star present angle of the the sky. From each angle of the square a tower rises, that on the southwestern corner being a reduced copy of the great tower at Windsor Castle. It is to be provided with a circular staircase in be provided with a circular staircase in ice, leading to a parapet commanding a fine view. A height of 102 feet will be attained by the principal tower at the northwestern angle. The tower on the eastern angle will rise to a height of eighty feet, and be placed diagonally to the wall. At the northerly angle will be a fourth tower, thirty, two feet square and fifty feet high. Curtain walls with loopholes and battlements connect towers and turrets together. Special provision has been made in the Special provision has been made in the design for effective aid to electric illumination and pyrotechnics.

CANADIAN HISTORY.

i.—There are many derivations of the word Canada, but the only one now received with general favor by scholars is that of Jacques Cartier himself, who says that it was an Indian word used by the natives of the St. Lawrence and si-

gnifying " a lot of villages."

II.—The origin of the word Quebec is given by Champlain, who took it from the Indians and translated it a "narrow" or "strait."

m.—The oldest town in Canada, in point of settlement, was Port Royal or the present Annapolis, in Nova Scotia.— It was founded in 1605, three years be-fore Quebec, but the first settlement did not last, and it was some years after that the town became a permanent ha-bitation, with a brilliant military record.

iv.—Mont-Royal—at present Mont-real—was first so called by Jacques Car-tier, when he discovered the village of Hochelaga in 1534.

v.—The name of St-Helen was given to the island opposite the city of Montreal, by Champlain, in Fonor of his young and beautiful wife, Hélène Boulé.

VI.—The precise spot of Cartier's first landing at Montreal is hard by as entained.

The best authorities, interpreting his own narrative, place it at the foot of own narrative, place it at the loot of the Lachine Rapids, while another opi-nion is that the locality was the foot of the Current, or the St. Mary's Rapids, at the North East angle of St-Helen's Island, and opposite the present gaol. vii.—The exact site of the village of Hochelaga is likewise in doubt. Some

place it directly in the heart of the city ward which to day bears the name of Hochelaga, while others, from hu-man and metal remains there found, set it in the St. Lawrence ward, on the elevation of Dorchester Street.

vii.—The derivation of the name New France is another interesting most point. Who first used it? The bulk of evidence is in favor of John Verazzani, the Italian navigator, who discovered the coast of Labrador and New foundland, in the name of the French king.

The St. Lawrence river was so called by Jacques-Cartier from having been discovered by him, on the festi-