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NOTICE.

In order to prevent any delay in the delivery of the NEWS, or loss of numbers, those of our subscribers who change their place of residence will kindly advise us of the fact.

TEMPERATURE.

as observed by HEARN & HARRISON, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, May 15th, 1880.

THE DEAD SENATOR.

The present year has been fraught with severe trials for the Liberal party in Canada, and the statesmanship of the whole country has lost by so much. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST, leader of his party in Quebec, has been incapacitated by infirmities from taking any share in public affairs. Mr. HOLTON has been snatched off, without warning, not only in the midst of his usefulness, but at a critical time when his peculiar force of character was necessary to the cohesion of his party. Mr. MACKENZIE has been deposed from the leadership under circumstances which have caused regret even among the bulk of his adversaries. And now Mr. GEORGE BROWN, the real power behind the throne, has been cut off just as he had succeeded in imparting to the great organ of his influence a prestige such as it had never before enjoyed. Speaking generally, and without any effort at exaggeration, it may be said that four great men have thus more or less disappeared from the scene, and of the four we are not sure but that Mr. BROWN may be accounted the greatest. Without analyzing the peculiar traits of his character, or studying too closely the sources of his power, we may test his greatness by the Napoleonic standard—"What has he done?"—and, tried by that standard, we must set him down as one of the most remarkable men that Canada has produced in our time.

Mr. BROWN must be viewed in his double capacity as journalist and statesman. He was a son of the late PETER BROWN, a merchant of Edinburgh, in which city he was born 29th November, 1818, being thus only in his sixty-second year at the time of his death, and in the full enjoyment of robust health. Young BROWN was destined for mercantile pursuits and engaged in them for a brief period, but his tastes lay in a different direction, and when his father emigrated to New York for the purpose of founding a newspaper, he followed him thither. In 1842 he joined the staff of the British Chronicle, and soon attained to the direction of its columns. In the following year, father and son removed to Toronto and established the Banner, an independent organ of Liberal Presbyterian views.

The success of this venture was such that, in 1844, a more purely political organ was attempted in the Globe, which from that day to this has been an institution in Canada. It passed through many vicissitudes, incident to a young country like this, but it kept on steadily prospering, until at the present time, and under the new form which it has just assumed, it may rank with the chief papers of New York. This result is mainly due to the genius of Mr. BROWN. He is entitled to rank among the first of great transatlantic editors, having done for the Globe what HORACE GREELY did for the New York Tribune; RAYMOND, for the New York Times; BENNETT for the N. Y. Herald; DANA for the N. Y. Sun; BOWLES for the Springfield Republican; HALSTEAD for the Cincinnati Commercial; RAYBURN for the Louisville Courier; MEDILL for the Chicago Tribune; KNAPP for the Missouri Republican; and FORSYTHE for the Mobile Register. This of itself is glory enough for one man, but Mr. BROWN has other claims to the remembrance of his countrymen. While never relinquishing or even relaxing the control of his paper, he found time to devote many of the best years of his life to the service of his country in its legislative halls. He entered upon his political career in 1851 as member for Kent, in the Canada Assembly; sat for Lambton at a later date till the general elections of 1857, when he was returned for North Oxford and the city of Toronto—electing to sit for the latter. He next represented South Oxford from 1863 till the Union. In 1858, Mr. BROWN had risen to the position of leader of the Reform party, and as such was called upon by Sir EDMUND HEAD to form a Government on the downfall of the MACDONALD-CARTIER Administration. This he succeeded in accomplishing with the aid of the Hon. (now Sir A. A. DORION,) but before it was possible for the members of this Cabinet to be re-elected, the Assembly passed a vote of want of confidence. He, of course, resigned, but again entered the Executive Council in 1864 as a member of the Administration formed to carry out the scheme of Confederation, being leader of the Reform section, as Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD was leader of the Ontario Conservatives, and Sir GEORGE CARTIER of the French-Canadian Conservatives. Mr. BROWN obtained a Select Committee to inquire into and report upon such changes in the constitution as would satisfy the just expectations of Western Canada. This Committee reported in favour of a Federal system, such as was afterwards adopted. He was a member of the Charlottetown Union Conference, 1864, of that at Quebec in the same year, and of the Confederate Council of the British North American Colonies for the negotiation of commercial treaties which sat in the latter city in 1865. He likewise, in the same year, proceeded to England as a delegate on public business. On his return, in December, 1865, he retired from the Ministry, owing to his disapproval of the policy of the Government, with reference to a Reciprocity Treaty with the United States. In 1867 Mr. BROWN was defeated in South Ontario, and from that period may be said to have withdrawn from public life, for although he was appointed to the Senate in 1873, he scarcely ever attended its sittings. In 1874, however, he proceeded to Washington on behalf of Canada and the Empire, as Joint Plenipotentiary with Sir EDWARD THORNTON, to negotiate a commercial treaty with the United States. In this he was completely unsuccessful. In 1875 he declined the Lieutenant-Governorship of Ontario.

It will be only too well remembered that, a few weeks ago, Mr. BROWN was the victim of an odious assault on the part of an engine man of the Globe office, named BENNETT, who penetrated into his presence, and in the midst of a scuffle discharged a pistol ball in the fleshy part of the hon. gentleman's thigh. For many days no serious results were anticipated, but gradually mortification set in and

after a fortnight's alternation of hopes and fears, Mr. BROWN passed away peacefully and apparently without pain. We present our readers to-day with a front-page portrait of the deceased, and in doing so take a melancholy pleasure in repeating that it is the presentment of one of Canada's greatest men.

IMPERIAL FEDERATION.

It is most unfortunate, in our judgment, that we have so many constitutional theorists among us, who seem to consider it their duty to create an impression that the political institutions which were established little over twelve years ago, have completely failed to give satisfaction to the Canadian people. It is, of course, nothing extraordinary that there should be political discontent. The Constitution of 1791, which lasted about 50 years, was vigorously assailed in the local parliaments of Lower and Upper Canada during a long series of years, and popular discontent was manifested by two rebellions during that period. The constitution established by the Union Act of 1840 lasted about a quarter of a century, but for upwards of ten years there were popular demonstrations against the principle of equal representation, and in course of time the majority of the representatives of the people insisted on a new constitution, which was granted in compliance with the wishes of the people expressed through Canadian statesmen of all political parties.

That there are now and always have been in our midst many critics, whether from a preference for republican institutions, or from a conviction that it would be desirable to have one commercial system for the whole of North America, is by no means surprising. It is not our intention, at all events at present, to criticize the proceedings of propagandists of annexation, but there are persons quite as mischievous who, professing loyalty to the Crown, and a desire to advance the interests of Canada, spare no effort to create the impression abroad that Confederation has been a failure. We purpose making a brief reference to some of the most recent essays of gentlemen of the class that we have described.

During a recent visit to England, Mr. J. S. BOURINOT, Assistant Clerk to the House of Commons, delivered a lecture on the "National Development of Canada," and it is stated in an article in the Nineteenth Century entitled "The Common Sense of Home Rule," by Mr. JUSTIN MCCARTHY, that the object of the essayist was "to show that the present relations of the Dominion of Canada to the Imperial Parliament cannot long continue to exist." Mr. BOURINOT's essay was of course very acceptable to those who are endeavouring to bring about the dismemberment of the Empire, and who, it cannot be denied, have a large amount of sympathy from one portion of the United Kingdom, and a considerable number of the representatives of the people to express their views. It is not our intention by any means to discuss the subject of Home Rule for Ireland, but we must call attention to the effect which Mr. BOURINOT's essay produced on the mind of a Home Ruler. It was assumed, and perhaps not unnaturally, that the Clerk Assistant of the House of Commons "can hardly be supposed to be ignorant of the public feeling of Canada," and accordingly when it is announced by such an authority that Canada "will demand to be admitted to representation in the Imperial Parliament or she will either drift into independence or be annexed to the United States," it can be well imagined that people are startled. We have already called attention to the fact that during the existence of the Constitutions of 1791 and 1840, there were for years parties demanding constitutional changes, but the same cannot be said of our present constitution. We scarcely think that Mr. BOURINOT would himself pretend that in his lecture at the Colonial Institute he gave expression to "the public feeling of Canada," or that

he had any authority whatever for his statements. We shall not pronounce any opinion as to the propriety of such an officer volunteering such statements, but cannot but deeply regret that they were expressed.

Lieutenant-Colonel SALTER M. JARVIS has published in the Canadian Monthly a paper laid before the Militia Institute of Toronto, in March last, in which he likewise advocates Imperial Federation as the panacea for our troubles. Col. JARVIS has one ruling idea that we may at any moment be at war with our neighbours, that we are in a defenceless state and should lose no time in fortifying Montreal and other places. Nearly seventy years have elapsed since there has been war between Great Britain and the United States, and it would be difficult to imagine the occurrence of circumstances more likely to produce it than what have occurred during that period. When the American steamer Caroline was seized in a United States port in 1838 by Canadian Volunteers, and after being set on fire, sent adrift over the Falls of Niagara, it was thought hardly probable that war could be averted. Then there were boundary disputes of a very serious character, and in more modern times various complications arising out of the Civil War. Having got out of all these difficulties without war, it will be difficult for Col. JARVIS to persuade intelligent Canadians that the Ministry which diverted an expenditure of some five millions of dollars from fortifications for the protection of Montreal is deserving of severe censure. Col. JARVIS has not propounded any new ideas on this subject. Military men have been urging the importance of fortifications for the last fifty years, and will continue to do so for the next fifty years.

Another essayist is Mr. ROSWELL FISHER, whose subject is "Canadian Difficulties." Mr. FISHER does not explain the remedy which he would apply to lighten our difficulties; indeed some of them would be cured neither by annexation nor Imperial Federation. For instance "the severity and duration of the cold is such as seriously to hamper and shorten our agricultural and other operations"—the cold shuts up our navigable rivers and canals, so that there is only half the year to earn dividends. The cold "adds largely to the expenses of running our railroads," in short "the climate of Canada handicaps us heavily in competing with the people of the temperate if not of the sub-tropic zone, and unfortunately there are absolutely no compensating advantages with which to comfort ourselves." Unhappy Canadians! "We need a greater quantity of fuel, clothes and warmer dwellings," and therefore having to spend so much more of our earnings for the necessaries of life, we are so much poorer than our Southern neighbours. We confess that the impression produced on us by a perusal of Mr. FISHER's essay was amazement that the writer should remain one hour in Canada. No change in our political institutions would even lessen many of the difficulties which Mr. FISHER has taken the pains to enumerate. Notwithstanding all that Mr. FISHER has written it is only necessary to compare some of our principal cities to-day with their position 40 years ago to satisfy oneself that the progress of the country has been eminently satisfactory notwithstanding all the difficulties that have had to be surmounted. If any defects should be found in our political institutions we have no doubt that the representatives of the people will not shrink from their duty of demanding a remedy as they have done on former occasions, and we are sanguine that any representations that may be made will receive prompt and earnest attention in the proper quarter.

A YANKEE came running down to a pier just as a steamer was starting. The boat moved off some four or five yards, as he took a jump, and coming down on the back of his head on deck, he lay stunned for two or three minutes. When he came to, the boat had gone the best part of a quarter of a mile, and, raising his head and looking to the shore, the Yankee said, "Great Jehosaphat! what a jump!"