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## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, 29th July, 1876.

### UNIVERSAL PEACE.

A convention of the Friends of Peace was held last week in New York at which were present delegates from many of the States of the Union, as well as from England, France, Germany and other countries. We have no space to describe the proceedings but the declaration of principles may be found interesting. The document says:—We declare that the establishment and maintenance of peace is essential to the welfare and highest interests of society, and that so great a blessing is to be merited and obtained individually by never giving occasion for war and by ever refusing to go to war, and collectively by removing its causes and abolishing its customs.

We declare that the appeal to the Father of Mankind as the "God of Battles" is a reproach to his nature by those who claim allegiance to the "Prince of Peace."

We declare that war is premeditated and legalized murder, and "nations being of one blood" and "mankind created free and equal," all laws and constitutional provisions which give a right to any man or body of men to declare war, all standing armies, fortifications and military trainings are a constant menace of war, contrary to the the gospel of peace, and retard the fulfillment of the prophetic declarations that "Violence shall no more be heard in the land, wasting and destruction within thy borders." "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

We declare that with the conspicuous significant instances of the happy results of arbitration, both national and international, we are unworthy the opportunity we possess, the blessings we enjoy, and the opening of a new American century, if we do not make every effort for the establishment of such a tribunal, through international law and fraternal relation, for some general system of disarmament by which no nation shall be weakened, but all made relatively stronger, financially sounder, and morally greater, and the millions of soldiers now in arms returned to the employments and industries of peace.

We declare that the decrease of wars can only be in proportion to the increase of wars can only be in proportion to the increase of correct public sentiment, and, as a means to this end, a general and complete treaty among nations, embodying the rules of their intercourse and an agreement to submit to arbitration any and all difficulties that may arise, and to abide unconditionally by the decision of such tribunal.

We declare that it is with abhorrence and regret that we behold the violent conflicts that still continue even among nations that claim to lead the van of progress; that the use of brute force in settling difficulties is no more honorable or reasonable among nations than individuals; and that the same causes operate to produce bloodshed and violence, and that wars are the result of avarice, revenge, ambition, and misunderstanding.

We declare that all heads of government, all ministers of foreign affairs and diplomatists, all representatives in parliamentary bodies, all statesmen, jurists, publicists, and philanthropists should exert their influence to bring about the simplification and codification of the laws of nations, to the end that nations may better understand their relations and regulate their conduct; that as they cannot dispose of the property of their subjects except by the consent of their own representatives in legislative council, they should not have the disposal of the lives of subjects; that neither do the heads of the State nor society possess any just right to compel a people to fight who refuse voluntarily to offer their lives for that purpose.

We declare that, by means of that education which elevates and enriches a people by the development of the means of communication and intercourse, by doing away with the trammels that oppress free thought and material progress, by a better understanding of true religion and a practical application of the golden rule, war will become more and more difficult, and until it shall be regarded as a barbarism of the past, and a monstrous iniquity of the present, and mankind shall hear the bells

Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

### CHARLES HEAVYSEGE.

On Monday week we buried, in this city, the remains of CHARLES HEAVYSEGE. He went out of life without noise, as his career had been tranquil, and the great city did not go out of its way to show that it had lost one of its foremost residents. At this we are not surprised. The deceased was not a politician, nor a self seeker of any sort. He was only a poet. He was only a man of genius. And such are not appreciated in this working-day world. But the press was there to do him honor. His brother journalists knew his worth. They placed a wreath upon his coffin, through the gentle forethought of the dean among them. They followed him to his grave amid the flowers of the Mountain, and there they left him, feeling that he had wrought his work, and had bequeathed to his family and country a name which shall live when that of the mediocrities who overshadowed him shall have died out of remembrance. We publish his likeness to-day in our Canadian Portrait Gallery, where he deserves a place among the highest. A sketch of him will be found in the number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS of April 17th, 1875. The writer of these lines has always been an admirer of Mr. Heavysege. He had occasion before in these pages to pay his tribute to an unknown and unappreciated genius. Mr. Heavysege was the author of several works, the principal of which were "Saul" "Jephtha's Daughter" and "Count Filippo." "Saul" is a drama in three parts which was first published anonymously in Montreal about the year 1858. Of course, like almost everything which appears in Canada, it received scant attention. But one day, a copy of the work having strayed into England, it fell into the congenial hands of Nathaniel Hawthorne, the greatest of American prose writers. It was such a work as his refined spiritual nature would appreciate. He was so astonished at its power and delighted with its beautiful analysis, that he showed the book to a friend, who forthwith made its merits public by an extended notice in the *North British Review* for August, 1858. The writer pronounced the work "indubitably one of the most remarkable English poems ever written out of Great Britain." In another passage, he refers with enthusiasm to the "oddity, subtlety, and originality" of the poet's language. In consequence of these favorable criticisms, some curiosity was excited about the book, and, responsive to an increased demand for it, Fields, Osgood & Co., of Boston, put forth a fine edition in 1869. Since that time the drama has been accepted among the standard publications of the day, but it has received nothing like its deserts, and the author was allowed to suffer that neglect

which is but too often the lot of genius. We have not the slightest hesitation in saying that "Saul" is the greatest poem, as a whole, ever published in America. This is a bold assertion, but we are willing to submit it to the test of any critic who will take the trouble to read it carefully and judge it according to the acknowledged canons of art. We do not mean that the work is perfect by any means, but we do state that it is in every respect an extraordinary production, and that none but a man of genius could have written it. The subject in itself is grandiose, epic in the march of the historic events which it rehearses, dramatic in the situations which it reveals, as well as in the passions which it evokes. Even stripped of his scriptural surroundings, Saul as a mere battle-giant is a towering character. But anointed with the chrism of Samuel, and afterwards struggling under the ban of Jehovah, he becomes a truly awful personage, one of the most striking in all the range of literature. It was a bold attempt to grapple with such a subject, but the confidence that he was equal to it showed the strength of his mind, and the fact that he really made it a distinct creation was the highest proof of his unquestionable talent. We need not, of course, summarize the incidents of Saul's career, as they are familiar to all readers of the Bible. We shall simply say that new and wonderful light is shed upon them when read in connection with the gloss and commentary of Mr. HEAVYSEGE.

### HALIFAX.

On the occasion of the inauguration of the Mountain Park we give a brief history of Montreal. In connection with the late banquet given to Lord DUFFERIN by the citizens of Quebec, we recalled the annals of the Ancient Capital. To-day, on looking over a little book to which we refer in another column, we find a few words to say concerning the beautiful city of Halifax which is not sufficiently known in the Upper Provinces. The harbor of Halifax is one of the finest in the world. In the mouth of it lies McNab's Island, used by smaller craft, and to the west, on Meagher's Beach, is the light house. In the midst stands St. George's Island, which like our own St. Helen's, commands the city and its approaches. Proceeding up the Harbor we see the Dockyard with its ships-of-war. "The North End is beautiful in summer, with its trees and gardens and elegant private residences. Westward of the town are green fields, cottages, trees trim and leafy, trees small and scrubby, and waste land, till you reach the Dutch Village. We come south-westwardly to the head of the North West Arm, where the scene is peaceful and very delightful, and "loved little islands" and sheltered nooks are doubled by the mirroring waters. Wealth, taste, fashion, are seeking retreats along the "Arm," and rapidly transforming waste places into charming gardens, and fertile fields. The houses for the most part are painted white, and they nestle amid groves of dark green. Following down the course of the "Arm" we come to the "Park," with its miles of roads and paths winding through the native forest and by the sounding shore, and among forts with their stupendous walls of earth and granite. West of the Citadel extends the Common, the *Campus Martius* of Halifax, the scene of many a brilliant military pageant. South of the Common come the extensive and beautiful Public Gardens. West of these again is Camphill Cemetery, the City of the Dead, flat, shelterless, and unattractive, the very antithesis of Greenwood or Mount Auburn. The peninsula upon which Halifax is built looks as if it were created to be the site of the healthiest and fairest, if not the greatest, city in America—the sea nearly all around it—its foundation the everlasting rock—the ground sloping gently all sides, thus securing facilities for perfect drainage—the supply of good fresh water from lakes superabundant—and constant access to the wide, wide world by sea and land. Statistics of both military and

civil life, prove that Halifax is exceptionally healthful. No serious loss of life has resulted from any epidemic since Cholera visited the city in 1834. It is noteworthy that the first European name given to the port was *La Baie Saine*—Bay of Health."

Montreal, as the metropolis of the Dominion, has the liveliest interest in Halifax, and our commercial men should be concerned to learn as much as possible about it. We may add, therefore, on the authority of Mr. G. A. WHITE, to whose work we have already alluded, that the present population of the city is over 31,000. The tax value of property is \$19,782,280 and the actual value double that amount. The debts of the city amounts to \$1,185,648. The taxation is \$1.15 per cent, and the school tax 34 cents on every \$100.

### THE BRANT MEMORIAL.

The Chiefs of the Six Nation Indians residing on the Grand River, in the Counties of Brant and Haldimand, in the Province of Ontario, in Council assembled, have, on behalf of themselves and their people, resolved to avail themselves of the gracious opportunity presented by the first visit of His Excellency, The Governor-General to them, to convey to her Royal Highness Prince ARTHUR through him, the assurance of their remembrance, with pride and satisfaction, of the very distinguished honour conferred on them by the visit he was pleased to make to them when in this country, and of the consideration and condescension manifested by his Royal Highness on that occasion, resulting in becoming an Honorary Chief of their Confederacy, also to convey to his Royal Highness their grateful thanks for the kindness which placed in their possession the highly prized portraits of their good Queen, his Royal Mother, of his justly lamented Father, and of himself all of which now grace and adorn the walls of their Council House, animating and inspiring them with the zeal for and local attachment to the Crown and Empire which characterized their fathers in troublous times, now happily passed away. They also respectfully represent to his Royal Highness their anxious desire to see performed their too long delayed duty of worthily perpetuating the memory of their great Chief, Captain Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea), who, during the great struggle, which resulted in the creation of two supreme authorities on this continent, where only one existed, loyally and gallantly led their fathers as allies of the Crown in defence of it and the Empire, and when all was lost with them maintained his allegiance, sacrificing and giving up all and finding his way to the then wilds of Canada, where he remained to the end of his eventful career, animating and inspiring them with the same loyalty and attachment to the Crown and its institutions which always characterized him and them whenever their services were required. They further respectfully refer to the important part the Six Nations performed in the memorable war of 1812, when it sought to destroy the last vestige of British authority on this continent, and ever since that time, when similar attempts have been made, and express the hope that his Royal Highness, in view of past services to their country, may be graciously pleased to aid them in their contemplated efforts to raise a fitting monument to and worthy of the memory of the distinguished Chief, by permitting himself to become the Patron of the undertaking, as it would be greatly promoted thereby.

### SPELLING REFORM.

The committee of the American Philological Association, appointed last year to consider the subject of reform in English spelling, have submitted the following report. It was signed by all the members of the committee, and adopted by the unanimous vote of the association. There is really not much in it, but its chief merit lies in the fact that it sets its face against all manner of reckless and ignorant innovation.