

The CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is printed and published every Saturday by THE BURLAND LITHOGRAPHIC COMPANY (Limited,) at their offices, 5 and 7 Beaufort Street, Montreal, on the following conditions: \$4.00 per annum, in advance; \$4.50 if not paid strictly in advance.

All remittances and business communications to be addressed to G. B. BURLAND, General Manager.

NOTICE.

In this week's number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will appear the first chapters of a new and exciting

TALE OF SOUTHERN LIFE,

entitled,

"BONNY KATE."

The story will be illustrated number by number by

ORIGINAL DRAWINGS

by one of our special artists, and will run through several months of the year.

TEMPERATURE

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

THE WEEK ENDING

Dec. 25th, 1881.				Corresponding week, 1880			
Max.	Min.	Mean.		Max.	Min.	Mean.	
Mon.. 42°	30°	36°	5	Mon.. 25°	11°	18°	
Tues.. 42°	35°	38°	5	Tues.. 27°	21°	24°	
Wed.. 37°	29°	33°	5	Wed.. 26°	17°	21°	5
Thur.. 42°	29°	35°	5	Thur.. 23°	12°	27°	5
Fri.. 47°	32°	39°	5	Fri.. 20°	10°	25°	
Sat.. 19°	6°	12°	5	Sat.. 19°	10°	14°	5
Sun.. 42°	30°	31°		Sun.. 22°	12°	17°	

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TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

There is a prevalent idea in certain quarters that a newspaper is run entirely for pleasure, and that such sublimary questions as money never enter into the proprietor's consideration. It does not probably require a very elaborate argument to prove the falsity of this notion. A newspaper, like every other business, is run upon business principles. Moreover, it requires a large sum of money to support the daily and weekly expenses of a paper, an illustrated paper especially, and unless the money is regularly forthcoming in the way of promptly-paid subscriptions, the proprietors are compelled to provide for heavy outlay without corresponding returns.

The moral of which is, that a newspaper is dependent not only upon the number of its subscribers, but upon the regularity with which their subscriptions are paid. We need large sums of money to meet our weekly expenditure, and we naturally look to those who are in our debt to supply them.

We ask, then, all those who are indebted to us to send us the amount of their subscriptions without delay. Do not say "Four Dollars is a small sum; it can't make much difference to the ILLUSTRATED NEWS if they have to wait a little for it." Four Dollars is little enough, to be sure, but a thousand times four dollars is a respectable figure, and there are nine hundred and ninety-nine others in the same position as yourself. Moreover, if you are in arrears, there is an additional reason why you should settle them without delay. The subscription to the News, which is only four dollars, when promptly paid, becomes four dollars and a half when neglected, and those who leave their subscription unpaid have only themselves to blame if they have to pay the additional sum for expenses of collection and interest.

This notice, we regret to say, has not been as freely responded to as we expected. We are determined, however, to make a last appeal to our dilatory debtors, to save us the annoyance and trouble of collecting the money; to remember that the future of this paper, like all others, is in their hands. Your money must support it. It is your help that must improve it; it is your fault (if you don't pay) if it is not all you would like it to be; it will be your doing if it is good enough to satisfy you and the public generally.

In conclusion, we beg earnestly to request of all those who owe us for subscriptions that they will remit the amount due up to the first of January next without fail, ASSURING THEM THAT UPON THEIR PROMPT ATTENTION TO THIS REQUEST DEPENDS, IN A GREAT MEASURE, THE FUTURE OF THE PAPER, AND IT MAY BE ITS VERY EXISTENCE.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Dec. 31, 1881.

THE WEEK.

THIS week's number cannot properly be considered the New Year's number, although it comes out on New Year's eve, since it will of necessity be included in this year's volume, while to the next number will be accorded whatever honour is due to the first number of the year. We are therefore placed in the awkward position of feeling that we are too late to wish our readers a "Merry Christmas," and too early to give them "A Happy New Year." Under the circumstances probably the best way out of the difficulty will be to assure them of our good wishes for both. This number will be found, as we have intimated, in somewhat of a transition state. The pains, however, which we bestowed upon our Christmas number in the way of illustrations and stories will be found to have been bestowed equally upon the New Year's issue, which will be entirely filled with original pictures suitable to the season, and new and bright stories, including the serial which commences in this number.

A SOMEWHAT notable character has recently breathed his last at his home in the south of England, in the person of "Garibaldi's Englishman," so known throughout the war of Italian independence, in which he warmly espoused the cause of the liberator, which whom he cherished a warm personal friendship. Col. John Whitehead Peard, as he was known to the world, took part in many of the chief enterprises of the war, especially the expedition against Sicily and Naples. In the second expedition to Southern Italy, under General Medici, Colonel Peard and Mr. Thomas Nast, the artist, accompanied the expedition, which was under the command of an American named De Rohan. When they had been a few days at sea, a vessel was discovered making for them, sailing under a tricoloured flag. De Rohan ordered the Stars and Stripes to be hoisted, and not over-trustful of his own recruits, ordered Nast to hoist and stand by it, adding the encouraging remark, "If you stir, I will knock your brains out!" Colonel Peard was accompanied by Nast in several important expeditions. For many years past he resided in Cornwall, where he occupied positions of local importance.

FRESCO painting has been, to a great extent, revived of late years, one of the most indefatigable workers in this branch of Art being Mr. Armitage, whose monumental paintings in the apse of St. John's Church, Islington, have just been opened to the London public. Mr. Armitage was commissioned by Cardinal Wiseman in 1858 to paint a fresco in the Chapel of St. Francis. In that year he went to Italy and visited Assisi for the express purpose of making preparatory sketches and studies; and in the summer of the following year the fresco at Islington, which represents the institution of the Order of St. Francis, was completed, which is no doubt one of the most successful monumental paintings ever executed in England. Mr. Armitage has profited by a considerable experience in fresco painting at Westminster; he has been very careful in the selection of the earths and lime used, avoiding the use of the latter entirely in the flesh tints, as the experience of the Westminster frescoes seems to indicate that that material gasses greatly from damp and exposure to gas. The first paintings of Mr. Armitage at St. John's, of which the present work is an extension and restoration, have stood the test of twenty years without suffering in the least, and the exceptionally sound condition of these figures may be regarded as a proof that there is no reason to distrust the permanent preservation of monumental wall-paintings under the English climate if only the proper materials are used. Except a few accidental abrasures

nothing has been required in the way of restoration. The modelling, especially of the flesh parts, shows the richness of tone characteristic of the finest fresco-paintings of all ages; and the protecting wash of turpentine and wax which Mr. Armitage has now given to his large frescoes is expected to counteract any future decay from external influences. We hope that this may be regarded as a step towards the regeneration of a much regretted art, which, until late years, had seemed almost lost to us.

THE INSANITY PLEA.

The extraordinary popularity of the Insanity Plea in murder trials is of recent growth. Within the memory of the present generation it was almost unknown, and at the present day, its hollowness is shown in the fact that it is rarely used in defending thieves or burglars, since their lives are not in danger; nay, even in cases where the taking of life is the charge, but under circumstances of a sufficiently extenuating character as to bring it out of the category of those for which capital punishment is inflicted, it is rarely, if ever, brought forward as a defence.

The origin of the Insanity Plea is this: In a case of wilful and deliberate killing, where the provocation was a ruined life; the evidence being direct, and the punishment certain, the plea of momentary insanity, while the killing was going on. The jury, loth to hang a man who had done what every one of them approved, were only too glad of a pretext for acquitting him and found him "insane." It was simply a rebellion against one phase of the law inflicting capital punishment—that it is so impartial, or, one should say partial, as not to inquire after provocation.

Since then it has been urged in almost every murder trial, with more or less success, and many a cold-blooded murderer owes his life to it at the present moment.

So much has been said on the subject of the insanity of great criminals that it has be-fogged the minds of people as to what end laws were made. Society has established certain regulations according to which all men must live. For a man to show in a court of justice that he refuses to submit to them, does not constitute insanity—for according to this showing, the very fact that a man is a law-breaker shows him to be insane, and therefore beyond the law. Nor is the evidence of so-called "experts" on the subject of insanity, when they prove that a man's train of thought on any one or a dozen subjects is abnormal, worth anything. For the plea of insanity in murder trials to obtain consideration, the evidence which ought to be necessary, is simple and direct. It should be established beyond a doubt that the murderer was affected with the homicidal mania—the desire to slay—either any man or the one man he slew—that it had affected his mind to such a degree that those about him knew him to be insane—even when not dreading any outbreak. Then and then only will the miserable pretext—that a man was a liar and a thief all his life—protects him from the just retribution of the law, when he caps the climax with murder most foul.

DUFFERS.

BY NED P. MAH.

What is a duffer? The word has a technical meaning as applied by jewellers and silversmiths to counterfeits cunningly got up to represent genuine articles, such as paste diamonds; and there is the vulgar acceptance of the term—the duffer *pur et simple*, very simple, of familiar conversation, as applying to a person who is the reverse of smart. In fact, a duffer is one who is slow to take advantage of what fortune kindly places in his way—one who, when the bread is put into his mouth refuses to eat it, and then probably lays his ill-success in life at the door of his ill-luck.

Doubtless the best of us have owned, at some period or other, to our consciences, that we have been duffers; and we are all miserable duffers might be a confession as sweeping and as widely general as that we are all miserable sinners.

We must go far back indeed for the first in-

stance of dufferism—as far back as Genesis. Adam was a duffer when, at Eve's instance, he took that fatal bite out of the apple; and indeed it is in his fatal relations with women that some of the most notable and glaring instances of the duffer occur in man. Vide Samson and Delila. Helen's cousin, in the Hunchback, is a duffer of a less eminent kind, and so now-a-days is every man who can't see the Yes in a woman's eyes when she says No with her lips. Isn't he, ladies?

But then, as real crystals have been stigmatized as paste, so, sometimes, those are called duffers who do not deserve the title; and we cannot better bring home the fact to Canadian minds than by citing an instance which will long be remembered, when the chair of State of the Governor-General had a Duffer—in, who amply proved that he was none such.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

HERE is what the Divine William says of the Land Act Commissioners. It is at the end of act two, in the second part of Henry IV., where Falstaff declares, "They are selling land as cheap as stinking mackerel."

MADAME ALBANI sang a few days ago at the performance of an oratorio at Manchester, for which she received £160. Some curious person has been counting the number of notes in her parts, and finds the total to be 2,975, thus the popular singer was paid at the rate of 13d. per note.

We cannot agree with those persons who think a cemetery a fit place in which to establish a rink for skating. It is proposed, nevertheless, to flood four acres of the Heaton Cemetery, near Bolton, in Lancashire, for that purpose, and to charge £1 member's entrance fee and 2s. 6d. annual subscription.

MR. W. S. GILBERT has had the unique and perhaps unprecedented position of a dramatist, four of whose works are being played at one time in London. The pieces in question are—"Patience" at the Savoy Theatre, "Princess Toto" at the Opera Comique, "Ages Ago" at St. George's Hall, and "Engaged" at the Court Theatre.

AN historical picture has just been painted by Mr. Frederick Cowie, the subject being, "The Death of Lord Beaconsfield." Those present, including the three medical men—Drs. Bruce, Quain and Kidd—have sat for their portraits. The scene is well and impressively depicted. Its first appearance in public will be made at an art exhibition in Lancashire.

THE authorities of the Mormon Church at Salt Lake have just sent another batch of twenty missionaries to Europe in search of a few more ship-loads of ignorant dupes. Authority ought to act in England to put a stop to this traffic—it would not be interfering with "religious" ideas, which must have free play, but it would be protecting the innocent and simple, and acting in defence of morality.

THE Custom House will be sold to the City authorities, and the Fish Market difficulty will soon be settled as regards accommodation, but, perhaps, not satisfactory with respect to the much decried monopoly of the fish business. The Government jumped at the offer of three-quarters of a million for the building of grounds, the more quickly as it will enable them to carry out the long-planned Gladstone scheme of exporting the whole of the Custom House business from the city to Somerset House.

THERE is great rejoicing in the neighbourhood of Westminster, and in those places where Parliamentary agents, lawyers, and the like, do congregate. There never was such a year for private business, and the number and importance of the undertakings which are now awaiting Parliamentary sanction has not been for many years so great. It recalls, in some senses, the Railway mania, and probably, if all this talk is correct, we shall hear more of those stories about prominent Parliamentary counsel being unable to take more briefs, and of their clerks being paid twenty guineas for smuggling an extra one or two into the bag.

HUMOROUS.

How time changes! In the good old Testament days it was considered a miracle for an ass to speak, and now nothing short of a miracle will keep one quiet!

A YOUNG lady, at an examination in grammar, was asked "why the noun bachelor was singular." She replied immediately, "Because it is very singular they don't get married."

It is said that thirty persons in a small town in Michigan were poisoned recently by eating sausages. This comes from leaving brass collars on dogs.

A BURGLAR recently arrested in Leadville, but discharged for lack of evidence, is now limping about Colorado with the tools of his profession neatly concealed in his wooden leg. This convenient receptacle was not discovered by the jailer until after he had received instructions to release his prisoner.

It is true that a two-wheeled velocipede is called a bicycle, and a three-wheeled a tricycle, but you are not on that account to suppose that a one-wheeled vehicle is a unicycle, on the contrary, it is a wheel-barrow.

BRIDGET has been told always to bring in a glass of wine on a plate. Enters accordingly with the wine poured into a soup plate, and the inquiry, "Will I bring a spoon, ma'am, or will the lady lap it up?"