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All we ask of each subscriber of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is that he will procure us ONE additional subscriber. This can be easily done, and it will go far towards increasing the efficiency of the journal. We are doing our best to put forth a paper creditable to the country, and our friends should make it a point to assist us. Remember that the Dominion should support at least one illustrated paper. Remember too that the "NEWS" is the only purely literary paper in the country. We invite our friends to examine carefully the present number of the paper and judge for themselves of our efforts in their behalf.

NOTICE.

In the next number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will appear

A DOUBLE-PAGE PICTURE

with full letter-press description of the Government Fish-Breeding Establishment near Newcastle, Ontario. The subject is quite new and highly interesting to all. Orders should be sent in early.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, March 17th, 1877.

POLITICAL ASPERITIES.

The present session has been characterized by a quality of extreme bitterness. Personalities are freely indulged in, charges and counter-charges are hurled across the floor, insulting epithets are exchanged, damaging insinuations are made, and unparliamentary language is made use of, which, if employed outside of the House, would be punished by a blow. And this unedifying conduct is held, not by the obscure members of Parliament, but by the most prominent men, the leaders of the Opposition and the Ministers of the Crown. A feeling of discouragement and disgust is produced by these discreditable proceedings, and the elector who reads of them by the quietude of his fireside, is led to resent the waste of time and public money by men who, instead of attending to the business of the country, waste the precious evenings of the session in personal recriminations. It hardly becomes the press to set up as censor in the premises, seeing that the papers of every party are equally guilty of the proprieties in conducting political discussion, often descending to a depth of scurrility and indecency which would shame a far less civilized community than ours. But the press is, nevertheless, the organ of public opinion, and while admitting, if not lamenting, its own delinquencies, is obliged to animadvert freely on the shortcomings of our representatives in Parliament. The Speaker has high duties to perform in this matter. Although his position is one of extreme delicacy, he is still invested with undoubted authority, and in his capacity as First Commoner, owes it to the people, no less than to himself, to enforce the most rigid observance of Parliamentary decorum. Mr. ANGLIN will only add to his own prestige, as well as win the applause of every gentleman in the land, if, hereafter, he sternly recalls to his duty any member—be he even a Minister—

who, by word or act, trespasses the bounds of Parliamentary propriety.

As we just stated, political acerbity is not confined to the members of the House. It finds another vent in the newspapers. We do not refer particularly to the Ottawa correspondences which are a running commentary on the debates, with additional doses of vinegar dashed in, here and there, and which, as a rule, do more harm to their authors and the papers that pay for them, than to the high personages whom they revile, but we allude to the garbled reports of Parliamentary proceedings which are printed every morning. The injustice of these reports has become so glaring that, in order to get a correct idea of what is going on at Ottawa, it is absolutely necessary to read the reports of the two rival political journals and strike a balance between them. This, under certain aspects, is amusing enough, but it is a most withering commentary on the reliability of journalism.

On this point, as we had occasion to remark once before, the public have a right to complain. They buy newspapers for news, and the first quality of news, as of everything else in the world, is truthfulness. In political news, more especially, it is the interest of all parties that the truth should be known. If a journal does not wish to give a political rival the benefit of its columns to chronicle his course in Parliament, it may ignore him altogether. But then let it have the courageous honesty to inform its readers that it so ignores him. Thus it will be guilty of only the minor sin of omission towards its subscribers. But if it notices the politician at all, it must tell the simple truth about him, else it practices a fraud upon the public and insults the intelligence of its readers. There are many ways of reporting political friends or enemies without violating the absolute truth: and journalists have therefore no excuse for stooping to a course of misrepresentation. Men of culture and standing, for the most part, they should not allow their pens to be prostituted, either at the bidding of their superiors, or to earn the evanescent favor of politicians.

CANADIAN INVENTIONS.

In the March number of the *Canadian Mechanics' Magazine*, a monthly publication of sterling merit, deserving the support of every workman in the Dominion, there is an article by the editor that struck us as deserving the consideration of our readers, from the authoritative manner in which he deals with the vital question of labor-saving machinery as a factor in the wealth of the country. He begins by observing that the population of Canada, being a mixed race, is well suited for carrying on to advantage many kinds of manufactures, more so, in fact, than if its inhabitants consisted of one race only. French Canadians, both male and female, are particularly well adapted to work in manufactories where the labor is not too heavy, and they readily pick up any business they are put to. The inhabitants of the Province of Ontario consist of a great number of sturdy, cautious Scotchmen who are well adapted for their favorite occupation of farming, and judging from the increasing demand in England for fresh meat from America, fruits and other produce, and the ascertained fact that fresh meat can be exported to England with a certainty of profit, a fine field is now opened for agricultural enterprise. The people of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward's Island have, in addition to many of the advantages which other parts of the Dominion possess, their coal mines, and extensive marine front, which can be turned into great wealth; whilst even the inhabitants of Newfoundland, who are engaged in fishing, might have their spare time, during long winters, profitably employed in manufacturing many staple articles of more or less value. British Columbia, and Manitoba also, although but infant colonies, will no doubt find many sources

from which wealth can be extracted. These facts being as stated, the question naturally arises—how are we to compete with the United States, alone, and against their protective tariff? The answer is given categorically, and in few words. If it is correct, it is certainly one that requires to be widely known. We are told that the only means of competing with our neighbors is to rival them in the perfection of their machinery and their numerous inventions and contrivances for saving labor. Hitherto, our mechanical appliances have been old-fashioned, or at least, not abreast of the rapid progress of the United States and other nations. The editor instances several departments of industry which go to establish his affirmation. He declares also, that the ignorance of the working classes as to those that are ultimately for their advantage has caused opposition in every country to labor-saving inventions. There have been notorious cases in this very Province which are properly pointed out. And yet the workman ought to be the first to understand that it is to the facilities afforded by such inventions that the manufacturers of one country are successfully able to compete with those of another; and that without such facilities, the very trades by which they earn a living would be monopolized by others, or that where 100 persons find employment in a factory working with old-fashioned machinery, 1000 would gain a livelihood in another using machines of the highest degree of perfection, by which a better class of goods could be made and sold at a cheaper rate. There has been no instance within the last fifty years in which labor-saving machines have not vastly increased the demand for labor, and where one person, through his talent or genius, has made a fortune by inventions or improvements in machinery, thousands of his fellow-men have gained a living thereby.

MR. HENRY BISHOP has discovered on his farm in Fitzroy, within twenty miles of Ottawa, a most extraordinary deposit of minerals. It includes copper, bismuth, iron and antimony. It is mixed up in a curious manner that will furnish study for geologists. MR. MILLER has struck a wonderfully rich mine of hepatic, native phosphate of lime, in the rear of Templeton. He has been taking out at the rate of three tons per day of picked blue phosphate, with a working gang of nine men. MR. HAYCOCK commenced to open a phosphate mine near the Haycock iron location, last week.

THE York Pioneers hope to have their log meeting-house completed by June, and to hold their next annual dinner on the 4th of that month in it. It will be primitive in everything, and some of the furniture will be over a hundred years old. It will be built of yellow pine logs with the bark on. The size of the building is to be 40 by 25 feet, with a stone foundation, and is to be one and a half storeys high. A museum of historical relics is to be one of the features of the institution.

THE American and Canadian fresh beef trade has been discussed by the farmers in the Manchester district, who are of opinion that the new importation must exercise a powerful influence on the fortunes of agriculturists in this country, but that the Dutch and French stock exporters to Britain will feel it first. It is also held that the new trade, to which there is practically no limit, must bring down the rents of farms here.

IN the Nova Scotia Assembly, last week, the Provincial Secretary gave notice of a resolution empowering the Governor to appoint a delegation to confer with the delegates from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island on the question of a maritime union, and report at the next session of the Legislature.

WE are now receiving the *Hansard* regularly, and from an examination of it,

we judge that it is well done. We congratulate Messrs. RICHARDSON and BRADLEY, with their able associates, on the success of the work. We may also mention that the typographical execution is satisfactory, and that the bound volume will be worth preserving.

ACCORDING to official statements of the Servian War Minister, the Servians lost 8,000 killed and 20,000 wounded during the late war.

ESSENCE OF ENGLISH PARLIAMENT.

IMPORTANT DEBATE IN THE LORDS.—BEACONSFIELD'S VIEWS.—SCENE IN THE HOUSE.—ATTACK ON MR. GLADSTONE.—HIS GREAT REPLY.—GOVERNMENT POLICY.

The House of Lords, on the evening of Tuesday, 20th inst., was the scene of one of the most interesting and exciting debates which have taken place for many years. The House was crowded, the Prince and Princess of Wales being present, besides most of the prominent members of the House of Commons.

The Duke of Argyll, who seemed to have a vivid recollection of the severe handling he had experienced a few days ago from Lord Beaconsfield, spoke in a much milder strain than on a former occasion, and though he warned up somewhat in the course of his speech, which lasted an hour and a half, he was comparatively tame. He wanted to know whether the Government had any measure in contemplation to settle matters in Turkey? He did not expect to be taken into the confidence of the Government; in fact, he recommended them to keep their own counsel as to the particulars of their plans—they had already, he considered, been too communicative—only, it would be a great relief to his mind to know that they were still keeping an eye on the future of Turkey. The conciliatory tone of this motion was in marked contrast to the fiery denunciation from the same quarter at the opening of Parliament.

The Earl of Derby assured the noble Duke that the Government were keeping a sharp look out, and doing all they could to make peace between Serbia and Turkey as a preliminary to pressing for internal reforms. In fact, their motto was: "Peace first, reforms afterward." He thought it rather too much to expect that Turkey could proceed with financial reforms, while she was compelled to keep half a million men in arms watching against invasion.

The Earl of Kimberley thought the Government ought to have made the Turks believe that England would go to war with them, unless they yielded to the demands of the Conference. Of course, he did not mean that we should go to war, but only make believe.

The Marquis of Salisbury replied that the Turkish diplomatists were not such fools as the noble Lord seemed to take them for. Even if the Government would lend itself to such a course, it was out of their power to make the Turks believe them. They were blamed for not following up the rejection of their advice by "coercion"—but no one would tell them what was meant by coercion, or how it was to be applied. Were we to take the fleet up the Bosphorus and burn Stamboul? It was said: "Oh! if you threaten to do it, the Turks will yield." Those who spoke in this way did not know the Turks. The fact was that neither we nor any power in Europe would be justified in trying to cut this knotty question with the sword, and all we could do was to wait and watch in hope that Turkey would yet awake to her danger, and carry out those reforms which alone could save her.

The Earl of Granville said that if the Government could show how Turkey could be induced to do justice to her subjects without coercion, they might be assured of general parliamentary support.

Lord Beaconsfield rose at a quarter to eleven to close the debate. He spoke for about an hour and devoted a great part of his speech to a review of the policy of England for many years past, desiring to show that her traditional policy had always been to maintain the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire. He disclaimed any idea of coercion so far as England was concerned. Lord Salisbury had gone to Constantinople as a mediator, and in that office he had succeeded; his only fault being that he gave the Turks credit for more common sense than they seemed to possess.

After a few words from the Duke of Argyll the House adjourned.

The House of Commons, on the night of the 16th, was a scene of great excitement. Every seat in the galleries and on the floor of the House was occupied when Mr. Gladstone rose to call attention to the despatch of Sir Henry Elliot, dated 18th December, of which he had given notice.

He criticized at some length the obligations of the existing treaties and defended the action of the late Government in connection therewith. He spoke with considerable force, but was evidently embarrassed by his anxiety not to commit himself or his party to any definite expression of opinion as to the course to be adopted. The early part of the debate was therefore somewhat tame and narrowly escaped being brought to an ignominious termination during the dinner hour by a "count out."