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NOTICE.

Any of our friends having copies of the ILLUSTRATED NEWS of 30th September and 7th October last, which they do not wish to preserve, will confer a favor for which we are willing to pay by sending them to this office.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, 4th Nov., 1876.

OUR INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS.

The original source of all wealth and well-being is in the gifts of Providence, and the men we want are those who can best improve them. In carrying on this work faithfully in regard to production and expenditure, we promote the good of all. If we do not save all our religion for Sundays we shall be likely to see in it a stewardship also. We rejoice to think that many in Canada do view the matter in this light, and that their number is increasing. Whatever his position in the muster-roll of industry, man himself, with his divinely arranged powers, is the chief element and most valuable factor in productive success. Still there can be little need for any bitter rivalry for population. Man is nothing without his skill—and the greater part of that skill is different for each separate order of production—and has to be formed. It takes long to perfect it. It is the "faculty" of our wise forefathers, who knew the value of both that and the "humanity" that preceded it in their educational course. There are plenty of people in the world, though unfortunately there will often be considerable deficiency of training for them. The training and organization of skill and labour can proceed wherever capital is present, to sustain or to encourage effort—and they will generally be the better for legislative guarantees, but whether acting under general or particular laws, all three are indispensable, and so is a clear unembarrassed control of every trading concern. If it be by a "board" there must be essential unity rather than perpetual divisions—a general absence of self-seeking, and the working manager must at least have scope for his powers. The monetary and working departments are best kept distinct, and have to be intelligently looked after—and the employees should have work suited to their capacities—with proper treatment generally—for work and good spirits go well together. A workman so placed is a valuable member of the commonwealth, while he who is cut adrift is, for the moment, of no economic value to a society. It thus becomes the interest of all to restore men to employment when by the vicissitudes of trade they have become removed from it. The hygiene of labour should be scientifically studied. All these are pretty generally accepted principles; but we believe that the distinction which is made between immigrants and residents to be often carried too far in this country. We have a duty to our own people, and more attention might be given to perfecting employment-agencies for all creditable persons. In case of actual need we think also the difficulty of transit should not be in the way, and that railways and steamboats should be made available for such—character being always considered. Though this would involve some expense, it would not be lost, but on the contrary would repay

itself many-fold to the community at large. A people imbued mainly with the idea of protecting itself as a community, will be likely to view things nearly in this light. It will all lead to greater discrimination and forethought—to putting the strong muscle to the indispensable plow, instead of delicate fingers—bone and sinew being recognized as eminently worth cultivation in sober and athletic lives. We are a free people—though we hope in the main an orderly one. What we chiefly want to get rid of is the individual helplessness that so often waits on freedom. Work has to be found for all, and the land—the primal soil—prepared through long ages by providential operations is always waiting our pleasure. But we now see the necessity of seeking fresh markets—in Australia—in the West Indies, and even in South Africa, all promising favourably. This is no more than would be expected from a large-minded people of some industrial and monetary and naval strength, who mean to leave off looking to the interference of outsiders to protect them against themselves, in the adjustment of relative profits and values within their own bounds, who being taught by the faith they profess that they are not to go beyond their neighbour to defraud him, will think if they can make the profits, it must also be possible to get them fairly divided amongst themselves, regarding both capital and labour. What the Atlantic and Pacific through Railway Line will do for the Empire, and ourselves as a portion of it, in the great group of new markets it will bring within the reach of all, we have till lately been almost afraid even to dream of. The greatest of through lines has been looked upon only as a great developing line. But it will yet form a grand item in the schemes of British Statesmen, as we hope and believe. These issues have already been grasped in a masterly way by Lord DUFFERIN, our Governor General, who adds solidity of judgment and a deep interest in federal progress to his lighter and more attractive qualities. Our Empire is greatly scattered and the new organization which, in general terms, both Liberal and Conservative leaders have recognized the importance of, although shrouded in the mists of the future, will come in time to be better understood and more fully arranged for. British-Indian experience in railway construction we believe will present instructive points for our own great work in Canada, while this Dominion would certainly promise a greater spring and elasticity of industry and trade than India has exhibited, to follow upon the construction of these great works of communication. For in our great North-West we have about the most productive country in the world to tempt our efforts, and the industrial forces of the most energetic types of mankind are only waiting the full initiation of the great railway and the interior navigation, to proceed with their work of development. From as far north as the Peace River District in Lat. 58°, Professor Macoun, of Belleville, has reported wheat 68 (sixty-eight) lbs. to the bushel, barley 58 (fifty-eight) lbs., and can exhibit the specimens. The gold and the coal fields of the Rocky Mountains and Vancouver and the Saskatchewan Valley will need systematic enterprise. The constitutional sense everywhere will be gratified by the governmental provision lately made for preserving order in the North West Country.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

We have intelligence from Portsmouth of the return of the British Arctic expedition under Captain Nares, comprising the naval steamers Alert and Discovery, to Valentia. The progress to the North Pole was found to be impracticable. Captain Nares reports that no land could be discovered to the northward of the highest latitude reached, namely 83.20, but in other respects the expedition was successful. The Alert has proceeded to Queenstown, and Captain Nares to London. All are well. The Alert arrived at Valentia

on the 27th, being the first land made since leaving the frozen regions. She parted company with the Discovery in the Atlantic. The Alert and Discovery left Port Foulke on July the 29th, 1875, and entered the ice off Cape Sable. After a severe and continuous struggle they reached the north side of Lady Franklin Bay, where the Discovery was left in winter quarters. The Alert pushed on and reached the limit of navigation on the shore of the Polar Sea. The ice varied in thickness, being in some places 150 feet deep. President Land does not exist. The Alert wintered in lat. 82.27. At this point the sun was invisible 142 days, and a temperature the lowest ever recorded was experienced. A detachment with sledges was despatched northward. It was away about 70 days, and reached latitude 83.20. Another party rounded Cape Columbia, the northernmost point of America, and traced 220 miles west from Greenland, and also explored far to the eastward. These sledge parties met with no game, and suffered from scurvy. Hans Petersen died from frost-bites. James Hans and Charles Paul, of the Discovery, died on the sledging expeditions. No Esquimaux were seen, nor were any icebergs met with beyond Cape Union. The expedition encountered great difficulties in returning. The Alert's rudder bolt was damaged. The vessel left Smith's Sound, September the 9th; spoke the Pandora, October the 6th—all well. The Alert parted from the Discovery in a gale on October the 9th. She will shift her rudder at Valentia, and proceed to Queenstown, to coal. The Admiral, at Queenstown, telegraphs that the Discovery is expected to arrive hourly. During the sledge journey the ice was so rugged that it was only possible to advance a mile a day. During the winter, rich collections in the department of natural history were made, and many valuable scientific observations were taken. Excellent coal was found near the place where the Discovery wintered. The expedition experienced the coldest weather ever registered in temperature, being 59 degrees below zero for a fortnight, falling once to 104 degrees below freezing point. The Pandora, when spoken by the Alert, reported her screw slightly damaged by the ice. The Pandora called at Littleton Island, Cape Isabella, but was unable to reach Cape Sabine. As the expedition did not touch at Littleton Island on its return, it missed the letters left by the Pandora. The health of the crews, with the exceptions already mentioned, has been good. Frost-bites were severe but not numerous. Petersen, the interpreter, died in forty days after both feet had been amputated for frost-bite. All the members of the expedition declare it impossible to get nearer the Pole than their northern exploring party, which penetrated to within 400 miles of it. On the return from their sledge journeys, the men were in a very helpless condition, and it was necessary to carry some of them on the sledges. The planking of the Alert was much damaged by the ice.

We shall wait with patience to see what the Board of Underwriters will have to say to Mr. Wood's proposal of Engines, Hose and low-level water sources for Quebec, in place of the proposed Reservoir, with appliances, on the Heights. The first thing to do, we should have supposed, would have been to have compared the altitude of the Plains on the Cape with that of the Reservoir on Mount Royal, being perfectly assured that from the same heights we should obtain the same hydraulic powers, where length and undulation of pipe do not greatly differ. In Montreal we know the grand result reached in that hose are enabled to do the work expected from engines. The chairman of the Quebec Finance Committee would have to go a little out of his own department to grapple with this question—and may perhaps see the wisdom of doing so. This will help us to forget that we have seen nothing as yet of the promised Hydraulic Engineer, or, more properly, arbitrator.

The *Photographic News* of Sept. 22, says:—Canada, in all its exhibits, is leaning more to America than to England. The similarity in all its proportions can be noticed very easily. Here and there are prevailing life-size pictures, which have received more or less changes by retouch; and we also notice here the same highly cultivated photographic routine. Ahead of all stands Notman. I am not satisfied with the painting in several pictures executed in oil. The groups in the skating rinks show skill, but what most attracted me was the smaller pictures, especially the handsome groups of hunters and skaters. In these Notman shows the man of inventive genius and taste.

It is encouraging that the Quebec Board of Trade has seconded the efforts, last week described to our readers, for increasing the security of life on the wharves of the city, and has petitioned the council for immediate and effective action to that important end. From a Commercial Body of high estimation such as the Board of Trade we expect both persistence and good faith in the pursuit of this public object.

ANSWER TO QUERY.

A friend from Toronto informs our "Lady Correspondent" that Messrs. Reid & Co., Crockery Merchants, London, Ont., are anxious to engage native talent in the adornment of chinaware. He trusts that this meagre piece of information may prove of value to our fair enquirer.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

TAMBERLIK has been engaged at Madrid.

FECHTER'S daughter has gone on the stage in Paris.

Senhor Bulhao Pato, a Portuguese poet, is engaged upon a translation of "Hamlet."

OFFENBACH has written a one-act operetta, called "Pierrette et Jaquet, for the Bouffes-Parisiens.

A MS. libretto, by the late Madame George Sand, will be set by Madame Pauline Viardot Garcia.

Franz Liszt has placed several of his laurel crowns on exhibition in the museum on Isle Marguerita, in the Danube, Hungary.

AT Pesth was lately produced a new opera, "The Bayadère," by Edmond Forkas. The subject is taken, like Auber's piece, from Goethe's celebrated ballad, "Dieu et la Bayadère."

Mdme. Nilsson receives for her Scandinavian engagement 70,000 crowns (£4,000). At Copenhagen, though the price of tickets was 12 crowns, an unheard of rate for that place, they were all taken long before her arrival.

THE library of the Grand Opera at Paris comprises 241 operas, with all their material for execution, 110 ballets, 184 scores without the parts for the orchestra, and 97 works without score. It also possesses the valuable collection of the eighteenth century of the Marquis de la Salle, from the library of the Sorbonne.

THERE is a rumour in Paris that Faure intends to quit the stage and to confine himself henceforth exclusively to concert singing. The reason assigned is that the eminent baritone is desirous to obtain the Cross of the Legion of Honour, and this cannot be conferred upon him so long as he continues to appear on the stage.

THE desire for engagements in New York dramatic companies is strong. Mr. McVicker advertised for actors and actresses for the Lyceum company, and now he says in a second advertisement: "The numerous applicants (over 300 in number) who have not received replies to their letters are hereby notified that their services cannot at this time be made available."

According to the *Dramatic News*, the actor, James O'Neill, has a photograph of Adelaide Neilson, inscribed in her handwriting: "To the most admirable of Romeo." She gave him the picture at the close of an engagement with her in the West, as a compliment to his good acting; but Lewis Morrison has a similar picture, similarly inscribed, and presented under similar circumstances. There are several *Romeos* yet to hear from.

A solemn requiem mass, ordered by Mlle. Aimée, was celebrated lately in New York, for the repose of the soul of Mme. Marie Blanc, the opera-bouffe singer, who was murdered by her husband, who also killed their child and shot himself. Mme. Blanc was much esteemed by her associates of the Aimée troupe and they were largely represented at church, among those present being Mlle. Aimée, Mlle. Duparc, and M. Duplan. The services partook of the usual solemnity.

THE sudden death of Mr. Ferris on the stage, in Baltimore, recalls the death in the same city of Helen Western, several years ago. After four nights' absence from the theatre on account of sickness, she learned that the belief was general that drunkenness was her ailment. Thereupon she insisted upon reappearing, although advised by her physicians against it, and her weak, staggering manner and husky voice convinced many that she was drunk. She was hissed, and the play was not completed. On the next day she died.

THE first act of Wagner's *Walküre*, lately performing at Bayreuth, represented an interior, with a prodigious fire apparently blazing on the hearth. In order to render the illusion more complete, Herr Wagner caused the machinist of his theatre to add dense clouds of smoke; these, however, incommoded the tenor singer Herr Niemann, to such a degree that he grew as hoarse as a cuckoo in June. "Can you not dispense with all this smoke?" he asked of the composer. "That will never do," answered Wagner; "as there is no smoke without fire, so there can be no fire without smoke." But this smoke," said the tenor, "prevents my singing properly." "Nevertheless you must sing," declared the composer. "The smoke is necessary to the perfection of my art-workmanship." "In that case nothing will be more easy than to arrange the matter," said Herr Niemann; "make the chimney sing, and I will do the smoking part of the business."