

was a general election, in which Mr. Morris was again returned for the county of Leeds. In 1844, he was appointed to the Legislative Council by Governor General Sir Charles Metcalfe, and is one of the Life Members still forming one-third of the Upper House, as explained in the letter on the Political Constitution of Canada, in another column of this paper.

In 1851, he became the colleague of the Premier, Mr. Hincks, as Postmaster General. In 1853, being chosen to preside over the Upper House of Parliament, he vacated the Post-office. But on the dissolution of the Hincks Government in 1854, retired from that high position. In 1858, Mr. Geo. Brown, member of the House of Assembly for Toronto, Parliamentary leader of opposition, and proprietor of the *Globe* newspaper, having been entrusted with the formation of a new Cabinet, on the retirement of the Cartier-Macdonald administration, Mr. Morris accepted office as one of his colleagues. But on Sir Edmund Head, then Governor General, refusing to dissolve Parliament as desired by the new Ministry, the incumbency of office lasted only two days. The Cabinet of which Mr. George Etienne Cartier, one of the members for Montreal city, and Mr. John A. Macdonald, member for Kingston city, were jointly at the head, and which assumed office in 1854, surrendered their long tenure of power on May 27, 1862. Mr. Morris then accepted the office of Receiver General as colleague of the Prime Minister, Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald, member for Cornwall, and of the Lower Canada Premier, Mr. L. Victor Sicotte, member for the county of St. Hyacinthe. Mr. Morris has been spoken of by rumour as the probable successor to the Speaker's chair, vacant by the death of Sir Allan MacNab. But the members of Parliament being only on their way to Quebec when these lines are written, the new incumbent of that dignity is not yet known. If he be other than Mr. Morris his portrait will be published in this paper on an early occasion.

One of the near relatives of the subject of this hasty sketch, is Mr. Alexander Morris, a barrister of distinction at Montreal, and member of the House of Assembly for the South Riding of the county of Lanark. It is due to the members of the family in its several branches to remark, that they are all personal illustrations of what Canada can do for those who, by education, enterprise and integrity are faithful to themselves and to Canada.

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## THE CANADIAN Illustrated News.

HAMILTON, FEBRUARY 14, 1863.

### CANADA A FIELD FOR EMIGRATION.

TIME keeps moving on apace, and the season of revolvings and resolvings is drawing to its close. In winter the mind of the industrious is active, in devising the best methods for conducting the summer campaign, whether it be in the peaceful pursuits of business, or in the stern realities of destructive and desolating warfare. To many, this season will open with gloomy forebodings, being either mixed up in the deadly strife which is bringing sorrow to many a heart and poverty to many a home on this continent, or though remote from the scene, feeling keenly its paralyzing influences in the reduction of labor and pinching poverty. Nor is it possible to tell when this dark cloud shall be dispelled, and peace and prosperity bless our world. In Britain we perceive that philanthropists are bestirring themselves and looking round for some more permanent means of relief to the unemployed than that very precarious one of public charity. Besides its uncertainty

there is about it, no matter what the producing cause, something which an independent spirit can ill brook; and sooner than continue under it, is ready for almost anything which will restore him to a position of self-dependence.

Nor ought this spirit to be tampered with, for it constitutes one of the first elements of a nation's greatness. We perceive, therefore, with pleasure that emigration is beginning to be looked upon as the only permanent mode of relief, and societies have been or are being formed in many parts of Great Britain, to aid those who are desirous of trying to better their condition in a new country. But Canada has competitors for this surplus population. There are other colonies that are desirous to increase their numbers, and are already holding out inducements to attract emigrants to their shores. Canada, if she desires to take advantage of circumstances, must be something more than a passive spectator. She must act, and act promptly, and she can be as liberal in her offers, if not more so than any other of the colonies. It will only be necessary to put forth an effort, for we find our country looked upon with favor, as a home for the emigrant in many quarters.

The Paisley (Scotland) 'Independent,' in an article on this subject, thus speaks:

'The promoters of the colonization of Queensland are anxious to get the unemployed operatives of Coventry and other manufacturing towns to go out as laborers to that colony, and are taking advantage of their necessities, and offering free passages, to be defrayed by the subscriptions under the charge of relief committees; and it is held out by Mr. Jordan, the emigration agent for Queensland, that arrangements are now being made for allotting 100 or 125 passages to persons to be selected in Paisley.

'We are not advocates of emigration to Queensland; we sympathise with those who more rationally desire to go to Canada, aiming to become independent owners of farms of 100 acres of their own, as so many Paisley weavers have become and who were forced to emigrate by the very same causes in operation now. The letters from Canada, specially addressed to us for the information of intending emigrants, by Paisley men settled in Sebastopol, in Hopfield, and Sarnia—the two former places in the county of Renfrew, on the Ottawa, and the latter on Lake Huron—and lately published in our columns, hold out prospects of the most encouraging kind to all who are determined to be industrious and persevering. Great fortunes may not be realisable in Canada; but comfort and real independence are within the reach of every able-bodied man, who will be cheered in his labor by finding that every stroke of his axe and every shove of his spade are pushing him on more and more every day in a prosperous career.

It is not only handloom weavers but farmers, carpenters, masons, bricklayers and others who are contemplating emigration to Canada in the ensuing spring. The conviction is gaining ground every day that it is the natural, true and efficient remedy for industrial distress or the social evils which spring from non-employment and stagnation of trade.—Committees for promoting emigration, composed of men of high standing and members of Parliament, have been formed in Birmingham, Manchester and other towns; and a local branch or corresponding committee is in course of formation in Paisley to take charge of the intended emigration to Canada.'

Our Government, we trust, is alive to the favorable opinion entertained of this country, and that their measures to take advantage of this impression may be prompt, liberal, and highly successful, is the earnest wish of every lover of his country.

'My Diary, North and South,' by Russell. For sale by A. S. Irving, King street, Toronto.

### SUMMARY.

AMONG the news from Europe is a rumor which appears to have some foundation, that official instructions have been sent by the French Government to Washington, suggesting that Commissioners be delegated by the Federal and Confederate Governments, to meet on neutral ground and confer together, without hostilities being suspended, so that they might advise mutual concessions and effect a reconciliation. It would indeed be good news for the world if even a meeting for such a purpose could be brought about, and better still if the results of such a meeting were to terminate in restoring peace to that distracted country. It would hardly be fair to judge of the feeling of the North from the froth and bluster of the Press, and to what extent, therefore, a desire for peace prevails, we have no means of forming an opinion. The reverses the armies of the Union have met with, the depreciation of the currency, the fast accumulating national debt, and the valor and intrepidity of the South, have no doubt had a powerful tendency in inducing a desire for peace among the sensible portion of the community.

A conference has been held at Liverpool for the purpose of taking steps to ascertain the feeling of the inhabitants of that city with reference to the American war and Slavery. A resolution was moved and carried, though not without opposition, that the Federal Government was entitled to the generous sympathy and support of Englishmen.

France has ordered 6,000 additional reinforcements to Mexico. It is surely not without some definite object that the Emperor consents to the waste of all this blood and treasure.

Mr. Bright has made another speech at Birmingham, but not, in an oratorical sense, one of his great speeches. The subdued tone of his argument, first in favor of the abolition of commercial blockades, then of the cession of Gibraltar to Spain, may have been due in part to deference to his colleague, Mr. Scholefield, who had just been arguing that we ought to abrogate the provisions of the Congress of Paris, but was also apparently due to the proposed cession of the Ionian Islands, which had evidently partly appeased the famine of Mr. Bright's heart for radical reforms. It is this permanent hunger of his soul which makes him so eloquent; and Mr. Bright, half-satisfied, is almost an ordinary man. He reserved all the vehemence he could muster for the rashness of speakers like Lord Russell and Mr. Gladstone, and of writers like those in the 'Times,' in misleading cotton buyers and cotton sellers about the true prospects of the war.

Lord Russell, last session, made a speech which he happened to conclude by expressing the commonplace hope that the war would soon terminate. 'Everybody in Lancashire,' says Mr. Bright, 'thinks a Foreign Secretary is a most profound statesman, and has everything written down in the Foreign Office; and the consequence was that when the news reached the Exchange at Manchester, every one wanted to sell and no one to buy. I know a man who was then taking stock with a partner whom he was about to leave, and the effect of that speech was, by a stroke of the pen, to depreciate his share of the business by more than 2,000*l*. Well, that is very sad; but the evil seems to us to be one which is not chargeable upon influential statesmen and newspapers, but on the credulity of men of business. If they will regard statesmen and newspapers as inspired, they have not sat at Mr. Bright's feet, and he should denounce them, not the accidental causes of these allusions. The duty of treating the Stock Exchange as a sensitive invalid, and consulting anxiously its delicate nerves, is quite a new branch of democratic ethics.

A humorous comment on memory was made by a waiter at a hotel where Fenjaigie dined, after having given his lecture on artificial memory. A few minutes after the Professor left the table, the waiter entered, with uplifted hands, exclaiming:

'Well, I protest, the memory-man has forgot his umbrella.'

### HOME ITEMS.

The Volunteer Force already accepted by the Government exceeds twenty-five thousand. Nearly every county in Upper Canada has furnished its quota.

A company with a capital of \$250,000 has been formed in New York for the purpose of thoroughly exploring, early next spring, the mineral deposits of Canada.

Another company, with a capital of two million dollars, has been formed in Boston for the purpose of purchasing the most valuable mining locations now to be found in Canadian hands.

The Postmaster General intends asking for tenders for a weekly mail line on Lakes Huron and Superior. Goderich, Sarnia and Collingwood compete as points of departure.

Forty additional drill instructors were detailed on Saturday. Twenty for each section, with directions to report themselves for service, without delay, to the Brigade Majors.

The 16th and 47th Regiments are about to be removed from Montreal; the former will garrison Sorel, St. Johns and Chambly; the latter goes to Kingston. It is reported this change has been occasioned by the exorbitant demands for barracks there.

It is said that in the course of the past two months upwards of five thousand bales of cotton have been transferred from the railroads terminating in Detroit to the Great Western Railway of Canada, and a large number of bales are now awaiting transshipment at the depots.

A FLOWING WELL.—The Messrs. Evoy, on Saturday afternoon last, tapped a large vein of oil which is said to flow from 1,000 to 1,500 barrels per day. This, in the midst of an almost universal failure of the flowing wells, revives confidence in the supply of oil and raises the spirits of buyers.

The Montreal 'Transcript' says that about 400 workmen are at present employed at the Acton mines. The product this month will reach over 2,600 barrels; and the prospects of the mine have considerably improved. Its market value, according to quotation in Boston, is \$1,200,000.

The Sherbrooke 'Leader' says that Mr. Clarke, High Constable of Sherbrooke, has sold his copper mine, within three miles of that town for \$200,000, to Lord Aylmer. The mine was only discovered a few months since, but the richness of the ore taken out while sinking shafts to ascertain the extent of the copper was such as to indicate great value.

A Montreal paper says it is in contemplation, should it be feasible on the river in the course of three or four weeks, to have a grand sham fight, in which the whole garrison, regular and volunteer, will take part. The Island of St. Helena will be the point of attack, and with the large force at present in that city, the sight will be such as was never seen in Montreal before.

TO YOUNG LADIES.—Listen, my dears! The pretty hair-nets which have enjoyed so long a reign of popularity are only revivals of a fashion which prevailed to an equal extent in the fourteenth century, when the ladies used to draw their luxuriant tresses into similar nets, which then bore the fanciful name of dove-cots. We do not see why the rural appellation should not have been revived with the graceful article to which it formerly belonged.

A CLEAR TITLE.—A New Zealand chief maintained that he had a good title to his land, because he had eaten the former owner.

Uniformity of design is rarely found where accuracy of description is wanting.