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THE NEW STORY.

In this issue we give a further liberal instalment of WILKIE COLLINS' new story,

THE LAW AND THE LADY.

This story, considered the best yet written by Mr. Collins, was begun in the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS of Nov. 7, (Number 19).

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We beg to call the attention of News Dealers throughout the country to the fact that we have secured the sole right for Canada of publishing "The Law and the Lady" in serial form.

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The new secret society of the Patrons of Husbandry. The illustrations will be accompanied by full letter-press descriptions of the aims, character and purpose of this important association.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Jan. 16th, 1875.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

The proclamation summoning Parliament, for despatch of business, on February 4th next, has been published. Ministers will certainly meet Parliament in a quiet time. There is an absence of political excitement, which seems to arise from the very strength of their majority. As far, therefore, as can be seen, the way is clear before them, but it is yet impossible to say what disturbing questions may come up during the course of the session. They will, probably, have to hear something about the Election Courts; but anything which might have been said on this subject is weakened by what happened in the case of the election of Sir John; and the fact that remains, after all the summer's war, is, that they are stronger than they were by two seats.

MANITOBA MOUNTED POLICE.

We have received a communication on the subject of the Mounted Police, from a gentleman in Manitoba who evidently is acquainted with the subject whereon he writes. As the matter is one of public interest, we judge it right to make known his ideas, leaving, of course, all the responsibility with himself. He reaffirms the numerous desertions from the Force, which were persistently denied in certain papers, and rehearses all the hardships which the

men had to endure on the line of march. He charges that Col. FRENCH was too much interfered with and dictated to, instead of being left to his own devices. "The authorities," whoever they were, "were wrong in urging him to leave Toronto and Dufferin before the men and horses were perfectly trained." Our informant states that FRENCH had more difficulties to encounter than WOLSELEY did in 1870. The Force travelled over 300 miles where there was no grass, and it was wonderful that all the horses did not die. "He positively could not bring back the three troops which he left at 'Hoop-Her-Up.'" It seems that personally the Colonel is popular with his men who understand that he is obliged to act according to his instructions. Short rations are said to have been the rule, rather than the exception, and the sufferings encountered on the route are represented as such that the expedition is rather boldly set down "as unsurpassed in the whole British annals." A singular grievance is said to be the fines imposed upon the men for misdemeanors. Cases are given of men who had their whole month's wages taken from them in this way and the very natural remark is added that this "joined with hunger is not fit to keep a man in the good spirits so much required on the prairie." There is no doubt that such a force as the Mounted Police of Manitoba is both useful and necessary, but it should be maintained on strictly military principles, else it may result in more mischief than benefit. What it accomplished on its summer and autumn march through the Great Lone Land is not yet very clear, because not generally known, but we hope soon to be able to publish a full and consecutive account of it with appropriate illustrations.

PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Some of the surveying party have returned from the Pacific coast, and the air is naturally filled with rumours. It is said, and we are inclined to think, correctly, that a very favourable route has been found along the valley of the Fraser. Some boring will, it is said, be required; but with this, to a moderate extent, the line will present no difficulties greater than those which have been surmounted in the case of railways actually constructed in the old Provinces of the Dominion. If these rumours be well founded, the information is of the greatest importance. A line by the valley of the Fraser, would, of course, take the Tête Jaune pass and find a terminus probably at Bute Inlet. This line of route passes moderately near the U. S. frontier; and would render unnecessary the continuation further West of the Northern Pacific Railway; and probably, for the purposes of commerce, will fulfil the conditions required from the proposed work. The objection is, that it will pass between Manitoba and the Rocky Mountains, through about 300 miles of comparatively worthless country, and this is a great drawback. It has been contended with much force that, if the line were carried five or six hundred miles further North through the Peace River country, it would pass through a region altogether more fit for settlement; find passes through the Rocky Mountains of less elevation than the Tête Jaune; and find easy access to the Pacific in some of the numerous harbours higher up the coast in British Columbia, without materially, if at all, extending the length of the railway. The reports of surveys, so far as published, have not been sufficiently perfect to enable us to judge with positiveness of these questions; but the importance of the interests involved is so great, that no hasty action ought to be taken. British Columbia, on her side, is pressing the immediate commencement of the work; and influential British Columbian interests seem to have favoured the Fraser Valley route, which is now said to be feasible. But these are really small matters to enter into the consideration of so vast a question. We have already stated, that by the compromise which has been effected

by the good offices of the Imperial Government, the time for building the Pacific Railway is extended to 1890; and that two millions of dollars a year are to be spent on its construction within that Province. One incident of this arrangement is, that there appears to be a good *entente* between the Government of British Columbia and that of Mr. MACKENZIE. One straw indicating this, is that Mr. WALKER, who went to England to invoke the aid of the Imperial Government against the Canadian Government, after the very angry correspondence that was laid before Parliament last session, dined with Mr. MACKENZIE, at Ottawa, the other day. This is very much better than the Western seaboard province kicking up its heels in futile rebellion.

THE AMENITIES OF POLITICS.

It has been said, over and over again, that we have nothing to learn from the manners of American politicians. That is true after a fashion. We have copied, with servile closeness, the asperities and personalities of public men in the United States, until, like Shylock, we have bettered the instruction. Any one who reads our daily papers, especially those actively engaged in political debate, must feel pained, not to say disgusted, at the acerbity and the injustice steeped in the gull, which characterize them. Our best men, our most honored names, are dragged in the mire of impersonal and irresponsible abuse, by writers who, if they were known, are not fit to hold the position of literary men to the persons whom they so atrociously vilipend. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD, whose deeds have made him a great man, is treated like a common party hack. Mr. MACKENZIE, whose talents and honesty are above cavil, is spoken of as a mere trickster and charlatan. Mr. BLAKE is denied his unquestioned gifts of eloquence and statesmanship. Dr. TUPPER is written down as a simple harlequin.

The papers are followed by public speakers. Our political meetings are distinguished by nothing so much as by vulgar personal abuse of the men opposed to them in politics. Outsiders reading the articles of our journals, and the speeches of our politicians, must set down the chief men in Canada as a set of scoundrels and incapables. This may serve the purpose of a local election, or it may flatter the prejudices of a local editor, but it disgraces the country, demoralizes the public feeling and results in mischief to both parties. He must be hopelessly blind who does not recognize patriotism, talent and efficiency in the Conservative party and its leaders. He must be narrow minded, indeed, who denies that the party in power, is ably led, and is actuated by honest intentions to govern the country with integrity. There are good men in both parties, as there are intriguers in both parties. Neither, so we far as we see, is better than the other. Both, in their essential elements, deserve the support of their friends and are a credit to Canada. Circumstances have put the one in power for the time being. But there are no circumstances which can prevent the other from succeeding to office when the natural train of events shall have taken their necessary course. The sooner mere politicians understand this fact, the better. All the rant of Liberal writers will not wipe out the magnificent record of the Kingston Knight, any more than the railing of Gratiano could rail the seal from off the Israelite's bond. All the high-flown sarcasm of Conservative editors and speakers cannot obliterate the sterling merits of the present Prime Minister. Let us respect our country, if we cannot respect our principal men. Americans have certainly given us a bad example in all these things, but there have been of late remarkable instances of cordiality among politicians which, if it would be well if we set ourselves to imitate. A bright exemplar comes to us from New York, the greatest state of the Union, larger than the whole of Canada, and the model in culture of

all her sisters. Mr. TILDEN ran against General Dix for the Governorship of the Empire State. He not only defeated his distinguished antagonist, but ousted him from office. When his inauguration took place on the 1st of this month, what happened? Did the two gentlemen indulge in mutual recriminations? Did they hold aloof from each other? The contrary was the fact, and their respective speeches on the occasion are worthy to be set down for the guidance of Canadian politicians. The inaugural procession was composed only of the two Governors, arm-in-arm, and with uncovered heads, the staff of each following, and forming a double file of handsome uniforms. The military had been left outside to that silence which the Latin maxim prescribes. The Governors parted in front of the Clerk's desk, and passing around the opposite sides, met face to face behind it, while their staffs fell back from each other and halted. Gov. Dix then addressed Gov. Tilden as follows:

"Mr. TILDEN: The people of the State have called you to preside over the administration of their Government by a majority which manifests the highest confidence in your ability, integrity and firmness. I need not say to you, who have had so long and familiar an acquaintance with public affairs, that in a state of such magnitude as ours, with interests so vast and diversified, there is a constant demand on the Chief Magistrate for the exercise of the essential attributes of statesmanship. It is gratifying to know that the amendments to the Constitution, approved and ratified by the people at the late general election, by limiting the powers of the Legislature in regard to local and special laws, will, in some degree, lighten the burden of your arduous and responsible duties. While a material progress has been made during the last two years in the correction of abuses, much remains to be done, and the distinguished part you have borne in the work of municipal reform in the City of New York gives assurance that under your auspices the great interests of the State will be vigilantly guarded. I tender you my sincere wish that your labours in the cause of good government may be as successful here as they have been elsewhere, and that your administration may redound to your honour and to the lasting prosperity of the people of the State."

At the close of his remarks Gov. Dix shook hands cordially with Gov. Tilden, who replied as follows:

"Gov. DIX: It is he who has completed a period of distinguished public service, and having gathered all its honours, has nothing left to him but to lay down its burdens; it is he who is to be congratulated on this occasion. I cannot stand in this hall to assume the Chief Executive trust of the people of this State, now to be transferred by you, without my thoughts turning on him (Silas Wright), your friend and mine, and my father's, who held it in early manhood. I come here to sustain his administration. In the interval how vast and diversified have the interests become, which are under the guardianship of the State administration. To build up this great Commonwealth in her polity and institutions, until they shall become a greater blessing to all the people within her jurisdiction, and an example worthy of imitation by other communities, is a work far surpassing any object of human ambition. I had hoped to pass the coming winter in the cradle of ancient literature and arts. In the exchange in which I undertake duties you have so honourably performed, I understand that you find an opportunity to visit a portion of our own country not inferior in natural advantages to the renowned climes of the Old World. I felicitate you on the pleasures which you may look forward to by reason of your fortunate transfer, and beg to assure you that you and your accomplished lady and the other members of your family will carry with you my warmest wishes for your happiness in those recreations, and in all your future."