

The CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is published by THE BURLAND-DESBARATS LITHOGRAPHIC AND PUBLISHING COMPANY on the following conditions: \$4.00 per annum in advance, \$4.50 if not paid strictly in advance.

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## PROSPECTUS OF VOL. XX.

We have the pleasure to announce to all our friends and patrons that this is the XXth Volume of

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, and in it we introduce a number of improvements tending to make it still more worthy of public encouragement. We have engaged the services of a talented Superintendent of the Art Department, competent to infuse new energy and excellence in our illustrations; and to show what we intend to accomplish in the Literary Department, we have only to publish the names of the following Canadian writers of note who have kindly consented to be occasional contributors to our columns:

J. G. BOURINOT, Esq., Ottawa.  
 REV. A. J. BRAY, Montreal.  
 DR. CAMPBELL, London, Ont.  
 S. E. DAWSON, Esq., Montreal.  
 F. M. DEROME, Esq., Rimouski.  
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 H. H. MILES, LL.D., Quebec.  
 HENRY J. MORGAN, Esq., Ottawa.  
 HON. E. G. PENNY, Senator, Montreal.  
 REV. JAMES ROY, M.A., Montreal.  
 JOHN READE, M.A., Montreal.  
 MRS. ALEXANDER ROSS, Montreal.  
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 FENNINGS TAYLOR, Esq., Ottawa.  
 THOMAS WHITE, Esq., M.P.  
 REV. S. W. YOUNG, M.A., Toronto.  
 COUNT DE PREMIO REAL, Spanish Consul at Quebec.

In addition to these attractions we beg to call attention to the following special features of the NEWS:

I. It is the only illustrated paper in the Dominion; the only purely literary weekly, and in every respect a family paper.

II. It contains the only Canadian Portrait Gallery in existence, numbering already over 300, and containing the picture and biography of all the leading men of the Dominion in every department of life. This collection is invaluable for reference, can be found nowhere else, and ours is the only paper that can publish it.

III. It gives views and sketches of all important events at home and abroad, as they transpire every week.

IV. It has been publishing, and will continue to publish, illustrations of the principal towns, manufactures and industries of the country, which, when collected in a volume, will constitute the most complete pictorial gazetteer ever printed.

V. Its original and selected matter is varied, spicy, and of that literary quality which is calculated to improve the public taste.

VI. It studiously eschews all partisanship in politics, and all sectarianism in religion.

The expenditure of an illustrated journal is double that of any ordinary paper, and to meet that we earnestly request the support of all those who believe that Canada should possess such a periodical as ours. The more we are encouraged the better will be our paper, and we promise to spare no effort to make it worthy of universal acceptance. A great step will be made if, with the new volume, all our friends help us to the extent of procuring for us an additional subscriber each.

## OUR NEW STORY.

In this number we continue the publication of our original serial story, entitled:—

### MY GREOLES:

A MEMOIR OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY,  
 BY JOHN LESPERANCE.

Author of "Rosalba," "The Bastonnais," &c.

This story will run through several months, and we bespeak for it the favour which was accorded to "The Bastonnais," originally published in these columns two years ago. The subject is new and interesting. The book will deal, *inter alia*, with the mysteries of Voodooism, and touch delicately upon several of those social questions which have so thoroughly agitated the North and South since the war. Begin your subscriptions with the opening of this story.

## NOTICES.

To prevent all confusion in the delivery of papers, our readers and subscribers are requested to give notice at this office, by post-card or otherwise, of their change of residence, giving the new number along with the old number of their houses.

Subscribers removing to the country or the sea-side during the summer months, are respectfully requested to send their new addresses to our offices, 5 and 7 Bleury Street, and the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be duly sent to them.

### TEMPERATURE.

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

THE WEEK ENDING					
August 3rd, 1879.			Corresponding week, 1878.		
Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.	Sat.
Max. 82°	Min. 62°	Mean. 72°	Max. 75°	Min. 61°	Mean. 68°
83°	62°	74°	75°	62°	71°
85°	67°	76°	77°	62°	71°
86°	66°	76°	77°	62°	71°
87°	70°	80°	78°	64°	70°
87°	73°	80°	80°	62°	74°
85°	73°	79°	83°	66°	74°

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, August 9, 1879.

### A LAST WORD ON THE LETELLIER CASE.

The dismissal of M. LETELLIER did not create the sensation which everybody expected and many feared. The reasons? First, because it was the final solution of a problem kept so long before the public that all were sick of it, and actually relieved when it was got rid of. Secondly, because there was really nothing to build an excitement upon. Spite of all that has been said and written, the mass of the Liberals were not confident of the wisdom of M. LETELLIER'S act, and for our part, after conversation with scores of our Liberal friends, both English and French, we found not a solitary one that defended it, while several admitted, *sotto voce*, that it was a mistake. On the other hand, the Conservatives instinctively felt that they had strained a point far enough in procuring the dismissal, without forcing it still further by any public rejoicing. Thus the episode passed off quietly enough, and a veil may now be drawn over it.

One last word, however, before dismissing it altogether. When we analyze the action of the Federal Government in regard to the case, this singular repetition of events—a *circulus in circulo*—is found. Thus:—

I. M. LETELLIER dismissed his Ministers.

The Federal Government dismissed M. LETELLIER.

II. M. LETELLIER had the right to dismiss his Ministers.

The Federal Government had a right to dismiss M. LETELLIER.

III. M. LETELLIER dismissed his Ministers for cause (as it appeared to him.)

The Federal Government dismissed M. LETELLIER for cause (as it appeared to them.)

It is not more complex than that. You cannot get out of it. The same chain of reasoning which defends the one, defends the other, and *vice versa*.

For ourselves, while we always held that M. LETELLIER was unwise in acting as he did, doing his party more harm than good, we have believed that the Federal Government committed a political error in dismissing him. With their overpowering majority, they might have shown themselves more generous, being content with a vote of censure, which would have served all practical purposes, at the same time that it would have conciliated many of the moderate Liberals. This we think was also the personal view of Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. But when the supreme act was resolved upon, we were of the few who altogether approved a reference of the case to England. We think that the result has justified us. The reference to England has removed all doubts about the constitutionality of the dismissal, thus taking away every pretext for any agitation on that score. For it must be remembered that our Constitution—embodied in the British North America Act of 1867—is a free grant to us by the Imperial authorities, bearing the august signature of VICTORIA R. It is part of the Imperial function, as represented by the Colonial Office, to see that that Constitution is preserved intact. If, therefore, the Colonial Office refused to interfere in the case, it was because it recognized no violation of the Constitution. This is elementary. But there is more. We have the best of reasons for believing that, owing to the peculiar relations of the Marquis of LORNE to the Royal Family, more than ordinary attention was devoted to the matter, and fuller instructions were sent back than the Imperial Government would have taken the trouble to indite for the sake of helping any other Governor General. Thus the whole business has dwindled down to a mere political question, to be incorporated with other political questions and to be debated on a thousand hustings in the next year or two to come. Our belief is that, in the presence of other weightier topics that will soon arise, the question will have little or no effect on either party six months hence. And this were only a subjective justice, for if there is any one matter that has kept the country in a turmoil for over a year, and actually hampered the Federal Government in the prosecution of those wider designs for which they were more especially elected, it has been this unfortunate LETELLIER business.

### AS OTHERS SEE US.

As bearing on the gloomy prospects of the agriculturists in England in view of the present depression, we showed in these columns, last week, that it was possible to put down a bushel of Manitoba wheat at the docks in Liverpool for 80 cents. We have since received the July number of the *Nineteenth Century*, and in it we find a very striking and confirmatory article on the same subject by M. T. T. VERNON SMITH, under the heading of "Our Wheat Fields in the North-West." The statements and the conclusions in this article are so remarkable that Englishmen will probably hesitate about receiving them. In as far, however, as they are accepted, they will assist the Canadian Ministers who are now in England in floating their Pacific Railway scheme. On this subject we may remark that so disinterested a witness as the Editor of the *New York World* took pains some days ago to inform his readers that the product of wheat on the prairies of Minnesota and Dakota is now nearly double that of the States of New York and Pennsylvania; while on the prairies still further north, in British territory, the product per acre is still greater; while the acreage available is to be counted by hundreds of millions. The *New York* editor further fore-hadows that there might be such a thing as the shifting of the seat of power, not only of the Continent, but of the globe. The article of Mr. VERNON SMITH may be taken as a sup-

plement to this. He tells us that the rush which is now going forward to these new wheat fields, from other parts of North America, and which is also beginning to set in from Europe, is something which is quite unprecedented. He states that in 1876, which is not very long ago, the total sales of land to 807 settlers in Manitoba were 153,535 acres. In 1877 the sales were 1,392,368 to 8,648 applicants, while in the month of April of 1878, the Emerson Land Office alone had disposed of 52,960 acres, and in the first week of May, of 30,400. Mr. SMITH expresses surprise at this "rush of immigration," and contends that when the railway communication is complete it will be "something beyond all previous experience." He next goes on to show that according to the actual operations in Minnesota, "wheat can be got into the railway elevators at a cost of from \$7½ to \$8½ (say under £2 sterling) per acre, including fall ploughing, seed sowing, harvesting, threshing, hauling to the railway, depreciation of land and machinery wear and tear, and interest on the capital employed." Our author finds this fact quite as remarkable as the "rush of immigration" and the vast areas of land available; and he comes to this conclusion: "thus 30 bushels to the acre of the first crop clears all the outlay up to that time, returns the capital invested and leaves a first-rate fenced farm in a high state of cultivation for succeeding agricultural employment." This conclusion would be correct if 30 bushels per acre could be counted upon for the crop; but our information, which we believe to be reliable, is to the effect that only about 16 bushels to the acre can be relied upon for the average of the first crop, and that it requires very good land indeed to give an average of 26 bushels for subsequent crops. It is true, however, that not only 30, but 40 bushels of wheat have been obtained, in favorable circumstances, from an acre in Manitoba. But it is better, in writing estimates of this kind, to keep within moderate figures, especially when those moderate figures are in themselves sufficiently striking and something which it is quite out of the power of the English agriculturalist to compete with. Our space will not permit that we follow Mr. VERNON SMITH through the whole of his figures, but we may notice he tells the people of England that the last acquisition of Canada in the North-West comprises a territory of 2,984,000 square miles, whilst the whole of the United States south of the boundary contains 2,933,600 square miles; further that the united length of the waters in this great North-West territory, which in Europe would be styled as first-class rivers, is not less than 10,000 miles, of which 4,000 are available for steamboat navigation. He cites from the *London Times*, Lord DUFFERIN and the late American Statesman, Mr. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, to the effect that people have not yet begun sufficiently to appreciate the vastness of the forces which go to make a great state waiting for development in the immediate future. The American statesman wrote: "I have thought Canada a mere strip lying North of the United States. I have dropped the opinion as a national conceit. I see in British North America, stretching as it does across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, in its wheat fields of the West, its invaluable fisheries and its mineral wealth, a region grand enough for the seat of a great empire." As the minister of the civil war between the North and the South in the United States, under Mr. President LINCOLN, Mr. SEWARD was an American of Americans, and quite too bitter against England to be regarded as anything but an impartial witness, in this quiet reflection which he made in the later years of his life. We shall only make one further remark, that however imperfect may be the knowledge of what is lying, as it were, at our own doors, the actual existence of great physical facts, which are available for satisfying the greed and enterprise of man, will not long remain unknown.