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G. B. BURLAND, Manager.

The Burland-Desbarats Lithographic Co.,
PUBLISHERS,—MONTREAL.

Subscribers wishing their pictures neatly framed, will please send in their orders to our office, No. 115 St. Francois. Xavier St., where samples are now on view.

On the 1st January we shall begin the publication of

OUR CENTENNIAL STORY,

an original historical serial, founded on the AMERICAN INVASION OF CANADA IN 1775-76. We can promise our readers a work of varied entertainment and deep emotional interest. A liberal instalment will be given every week. This, added to other inducements, should prevail on our friends to renew their subscriptions at once. Orders should be sent in without delay as back numbers are generally difficult to obtain.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Dec. 25th, 1875.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876.

ON THE OPENING OF A NEW YEAR we feel justified in calling upon the public in every part of the Dominion to aid us in making the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS second to no journal of its class in the world. We have accomplished much in the way of improvements, and we think we have fulfilled the promises we made twelve months ago. *But we feel that there still remains much to be done*, and we call upon our friends to assist us in doing it. This is the only illustrated newspaper in the Dominion. As such it has special claims upon the patronage of Canadians. It is a national undertaking, designed to reflect PICTORIALY and EDITORIALY the life, the sentiments, and the daily history of Canada. No other paper can do this in the same way, and hence the ILLUSTRATED NEWS has an intrinsic value quite distinct from any other publication.

Its principal features are:—

- 1st. The pictorial illustration of all leading Canadian events as they occur.
- 2nd. A complete gallery of all Canadian celebrities with biographies attached.
- 3rd. The reproduction of the finest works of art.
- 4th. A great variety of original and selected literary matter.
- 5th. Stories, sketches, poems, and other contributions by leading Canadian writers.
- 6th. Special attractions for the home circle.

Every Canadian ought to be interested in the success and continued progress of the ILLUSTRATED NEWS, and should consider it is his duty to encourage it to the extent of at least one year's subscription. None know better than ourselves how much it can still be improved, and we

warrant that if we receive the patronage which we solicit, no effort on our part will be left untried to introduce a number of the most desirable improvements. Let the public throughout the country come forward generously with their support and we guarantee to furnish them a paper which shall be a real credit to the Dominion. We will supply the material if our friends will only furnish the patronage. Our terms are very moderate:—

1st. FOUR DOLLARS in advance, including the postage paid by us.

2nd. To those who neglect paying in advance, FOUR DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS will be charged to cover postage and other expenses.

3rd. Clergymen, Professors, and School-teachers, THREE DOLLARS in advance.

OUR PREMIUM CHROMO.

Another year is about to close, and we are on the point of concluding the twelfth volume of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS. We have endeavored in various ways to improve the character of the paper. We stated that we have had to contend against difficulties which only initiated and professional journalists understand; that these difficulties could be overcome only one by one, but that they would all be surmounted, and that speedily, was a further promise which we felt justified in making to the public. The paper is in the hands of a Company anxious to make this national enterprise of ours a thorough success, and it is managed by business talent well-known in every part of the country. Both the Company and the Manager believed, and still believe, that there is a field for such a journal as ours, and the assurances they have received personally in all the Provinces are to the effect that our people are most willing to encourage it, provided it is a faithful reflex of the spirit, events and general features of Canada. This we were determined from the first that it should be. Our artistic department was raised to a higher standard of excellence, and arrangements will be perfected which will result in still further improvements therein. The letter press aimed at more variety, freshness, and lightness, always coupled with literary finish. Our paper is intended to be a family journal in the largest and highest sense of that word. We promised to try and please every body, and for that purpose our tendency has been to write, collate and edit such matter as would procure pleasure, entertainment and instruction to the greatest number, while we carefully abstained from all political or religious partisanship. New features were introduced as opportunity offered, or necessity demanded. While on our side, we endeavored to do all we could, we trusted our friends would see the propriety of aiding us to the full extent of their influence. We are pleased to admit that our efforts met with a ready and generous response, but, with the view of still further advancing the prosperity of the paper, we decided, early in the summer, upon issuing a Premium Chromo entitled the YOUNG FISHERMAN, after a painting by the celebrated English artist, W. M. Wyllie, which in design and execution would vie with any production of the kind ever published in America. The subject was one of popular interest, and was to be finished in the highest style. To prevent any mistake, we wish our subscribers to remember that the conditions upon which this Chromo was offered were the following:

1st. To all new subscribers paying for one year in advance.

2nd. To all subscribers on the books whose current subscription was paid up to the 1st July.

3rd. To all subscribers in arrears who would pay up arrears, and current subscription, prior to the 1st July last.

We have strictly kept faith with our readers and the Chromo, which is now ready, will be faithfully delivered in accordance with the terms and conditions above cited. There has been some delay in the production of the Chromo, but that delay was inevitable on account of the ex-

cellence of finish which we had warranted and were determined to secure. It was not a mere colored print that we intended to offer, but a genuine Chromo, a real work of art, which would be worthy of a rich frame and a conspicuous place on the walls of any drawing room. To complete such a picture required time, labor and care.

Owing to the delay, however, and to give our subscribers every chance to profit by our offer, we take the opportunity of still further extending the advantages of this premium plate. In addition, therefore, to the conditions laid down in July, we are prepared to furnish the Chromo:

1st. To all those who will pay up their subscription to the 31st December 1875, and continue their subscription for the ensuing year.

2nd. To all new subscribers who will pay their subscription for 1876 in advance.

There certainly could be no stronger inducement than this. By asking the payment of what is due us we are doing only what is right, and the premium plate is thus so much pure gain for our friends. The Chromo is now ready and will be delivered as rapidly as our conditions are complied with. To suit every taste, the picture will be sent so that it may be mounted either as a water color, or as an oil painting, according as the owner may prefer. Those who desire it, may have their pictures framed by applying at our office, 115 St. Francois Xavier Street, where samples of different styles of frames will be on view.

We may take the occasion of Christmas and New Year to urge upon our friends the propriety of spreading the circulation of the paper. If they are pleased with it, let them pass it to their neighbors and induce them to subscribe. Our subscription list is already large and steadily increasing, but it must be doubled in the course of the next year. Let all our patrons assist us therein. All the money thus received, it is intended shall go into the paper, to improve and beautify it still more. This is the only illustrated paper in the country, and it has long struggled in the cause of popular art and literature. Let the people of Canada show that they can appreciate and are prepared to encourage a national undertaking of the kind. Let the patronage come and we shall not be slow to introduce still further improvements.

MR. ROBBINS' LECTURE ON HARMONY.

We regret that this lecture, on Thursday of last week, was but thinly attended. It would seem as though our younger musical students were afraid of the theory of Harmony, which they have been taught to look upon as a mystery, and which Mr. Robbins reduces to such simple lessons that children may learn it; and as though more experienced musicians feared to be shown that their knowledge of Harmony was not perfect. We have been requested to state, relatively to the class which Mr. Robbins proposed to form, that should a sufficient number of names be handed to Mr. De Zouche within two or three weeks, Mr. Robbins will return to the City and give the course. The terms to be \$20.00 for each member of the class.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

"THE TWO ORPHANS," undoubtedly one of the most beautiful and best constructed of modern dramas, has been produced on the boards of this theatre in a very complete and artistic manner. Every care has been taken with the accessories, and the scenery, costumes, and music are all that could be desired. The cast is one of unusual excellence, and each actor and actress of Mr. McDowell's well balanced corps of artists, seem specially fitted for their part. The result has been a succession of full houses. This is as it should be. No play has ever been so thoroughly and cleverly put on the boards in Montreal, and we hope that the rush will continue every night this week. Every body should see this play, which recommends itself by the intense interest it awakens, and the absence of the immoral tendency which pervades most French dramas. For Christmas week, we hear it stated that Rossini's "Cinderella" is to be given. We hope so, and bespeak for the Academy during the holidays the hearty support of our citizens.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING.

Thanksgiving is just now over, and there lacks but a day to Christmas. Then only a week and it will be New Year's. Instead of waiting till "watch-night" to review the year,

wouldn't it be wise to begin a month earlier? Then, if we find important work undone, there is a little time in which we may do something toward bringing up arrears, so as to show a better balance when 1875 appears. If one intends to turn over a new leaf with the new year it is certainly wise to get all ready, so that the leaf will stay turned over, and not blow right back where it was before with the first sharp blast of temptation.

Christmas is coming, and the more hearts we can gladden between this time and that, the merrier will be our Christmas carols, the brighter our joys, the deeper our content. No sound is sweeter than an echo, and a carol sung by a merry heart to a sad one which echoes it again—is not such singing angelic?

Christmas is coming. How invention and ingenuity and self-denial and generosity are all at work? What shall the gift be this time for father, for mother, for each brother and sister, for the expectant and non-expectant friend? For those who need let the gift be useful, and meet the greatest want; for those who have whims or hobbies, let it gratify the prevailing taste. A year or two ago, a famous stock-breeder was perfectly delighted with a present from a friend, which was simply a little pig, made of white canton flannel, stuffed with cotton and lop-eared. All winter that little pig stood on his mantle-piece, and was regularly introduced to visitors. It cost nothing but an hour or two of stitching, and it gave great pleasure. These "hard times" when there is so little money to spend, we must go without some things we had hoped for, that we may have wherewith to make glad the hearts that look to the Christmas time as the brightest season of the year. But not the amount of the money spent is the measure of joy in any household. Love, tenderness, delicate recognition of tastes and preferences—these going with gifts make their real value.

Nor should the shadows of the year darken too much the joy of this festive season. Whatever we may have lost in the year past, Christ is still the centre of human hope and human love; the "inheritance incorruptible, undefiled and that fadeth not away," is still in reserve, and all around us is young and growing life in its sweet Spring time in which and with which we may rejoice, ignoring and forgetting as far as possible whatever tends to sadden and depress.

HUMOROUS.

You will notice that when a boy steps on a Canada thistle, or sticks a splinter into his foot, it's invariably a few seconds before school.

ONE of our merchants sat his umbrella against a tree while he stepped into a store to ask a question. When he came out the tree still stood there. No one had taken it.

To Girls who "Walk with the Guns." Ethel—Aren't you going to shoot to-day, uncle? Uncle—Not if you are, my dear. When I was young, the men shot the birds, and the women stayed at home to cook them.

THE shortest way the best.—Mamma (to Ethel on their way to the latter's first party)—Now, mind, darling, if you see any nice things on the table that you'd like to eat, you mustn't ask for them. Ethel—Oh no, mamma! I'd take them!

"MR. BUSBEE says you needn't send the paper to him any more," said a little urchin who stuck his head into the ranctum. "All right." "An' he said to tell you he wouldn't stop it if only you didn't say nothin' about the big hog he killed last week," continued the youth, and then he slid down the banister into the street.

SMALL boy: "Say, p', will you buy me a new sled for Christmas?" Close-fisted parent—Johnny, I don't think there's going to be much snow this winter, and you wouldn't have a chance to enjoy a new sled; but I'll tell you what I will do. You just be a good boy and I'll get your saw filed so that it will cut through a stick of wood just like cheese.

It was the night on which John Todd made his great speech to the colored population of Manjoy, Ill. Capt. John Morrill from time to time awoke the echoes with his cannon. A man rushed up to him and said, "For God's sake don't fire anymore." "Why not?" asked the astonished John. "There's a dead person lying in the next house," said he. "Well," said John, "if she's dead the noise won't hurt her, and the country must be saved." "Yes," groaned the man, "I know that, but she's my mother-in-law, and I've heard that guns will awake the dead."

The other day, an absent-minded gentleman inadvertently entered the cabin of a Fulton ferry boat smoking a cigar. "You can't smoke here, sir," exclaimed an irascible passenger. "This is the ladies' cabin." The gentleman paused, looked around him, and hastily retreated. Reaching the door, he turned around, and addressing the person who had spoken to him, remarked politely: "I beg your pardon. I ought to have known that this was not the gentleman's cabin when I saw you here." The anti-smoker failed to understand what his fellow passengers were laughing at.

LITERARY.

M. DE LESSEPS has finished his "History of the Suez Canal."

M. THIERS has completed the first of the three volumes of his new philosophical work "Man and matter."

MR. HALLIWELL is at work again on his materials for the illustration of the "Life of Shakespeare." He calculates that it will take him ten years at least to work up the collections he has already made for the purpose.

MRS. HARRIET LEWIS, the authoress of "The House of Secrets," "Lady of Kildare," &c., according to *Women and Work*, is said to receive a regular salary of \$10,000 a year from an American publisher, and her husband Leon Lewis, author of the "Boy Musician," a famous story of two or three years ago, to get a like amount, making an income of \$20,000 for the two.

BAYARD TAYLOR claims to have discovered the source of the Nile in a poem, which he quoted at the meeting of the American Geographical Society. The poem is susceptible of a confirmatory interpretation like that which finds in Genesis a confirmation of the development theory and the nebular hypothesis. Like that, also, it is susceptible of any interpretation you please. The poet is an all-comprehensive person.