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NOTICE.

In order to prevent any delay in the delivery of the NEWS, or loss of numbers, those of our subscribers who change their place of residence will kindly advise us of the fact.

TEMPERATURE.

as observed by HERN & HARRISON, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

May 16th, 1880.				Corresponding week, 1879			
Mon.	Max.	Min.	Mean.	Mon.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.	75°	55°	65°	Mon.	70°	47°	58° 5
Tues.	74°	56°	65°	Tues.	75°	62°	68° 5
Wed.	68°	48°	58°	Wed.	76°	56°	66°
Thur.	55°	40°	47° 5	Thur.	79°	56°	67° 5
Fri.	57°	39°	48°	Fri.	75°	60°	67° 5
Sat.	65°	45°	55°	Sat.	73°	55°	64°
Sun.	65°	52°	58° 5	Sun.	61°	48°	54° 5

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, May 22nd, 1880.

A FINANCIAL PROBLEM.

The financial condition of the Province of Quebec has an interest beyond its own borders, because it indirectly affects the whole of the Dominion, and presents lessons which all the other Provinces should take to heart. Mismanagement is a rather hard term to use, but practically the actual straits of the Province are attributable to nothing else. From the date of Confederation until 1874, there were yearly surpluses, some of them quite considerable in extent. Since then there has been a downward tendency and deficits have been gradually accumulating. Owing to the extremely unfortunate political troubles of the past two years, growing out of the Letellier crisis, the finances were relatively lost sight of, and things were allowed to dwindle to such a pass that no one really seemed to know how the exchequer stood. The day of reckoning had to come, of course, and it has arrived now. Better late than never. The situation is bad enough as it is, but there is no telling what it might have been if neglect had continued another year. The long and short of the matter, is that the Province owes about \$15,000,000. That debt has been almost entirely contracted for railway purposes, more especially the North Shore. Warnings were not wanting at the time that the latter was assumed by the Government, but there was hardly any alternative, and the usual promises of prudence and economy were profusely made. The road is doubtless a splendid property, and its possession will prove a valuable asset to the Province, but in the meantime it is bearing hard upon our resources, and may be denominated the chief ground of our troubles. There is no need of lamentation, much less of recrimination, and it is the duty of genuine statesmanship to face the situation and meet the problem squarely. On a debt of \$15,000,000 there is an interest of \$750,000. If we add to this, as we must, an annual charge of \$150,000 to provide for a sinking fund, we have the very considerable sum of \$900,000 to meet every year. Of course, the ordinary sources of revenue will cover a fair proportion of this sum, but there must be a deficit, and it is this deficit which should

be narrowed down as much as possible. All eyes naturally turn to the Q. M. O. & O. Railway. Its net revenue is set down at \$200,000, but there seems to be no other basis for this than the estimate prepared by the syndicate to M. Joly last summer. With proper and economical management, with speedy union to the other trunk lines of the country, it ought to yield \$300,000. Indeed, we may look for a steadily-increasing revenue from this railway, but it will have to be carefully handled and closely watched by the Government. We have no doubt, whatever, that the present officers are not only capable, but entirely disposed to do their best in the premises, and that they appreciate the weight of public responsibility which lies upon their shoulders. To fill up the deficiency still more there will have to be rigid curtailments in all the departments, and really we feel that we should begin with the Legislative Council. That venerable body ought to take the initiative, and in view of the critical state of the Province should vote themselves out of existence. That patriotic step would entail a saving of \$100,000 to the Province; or, if this is asking too much—as we do not doubt it is—suppose they dispense with their salaries for the next five years, always excepting mileage? Another \$100,000 could be saved in the Civil Service by dispensing with a number of useless hands. Certainly the need is so pressing that the dread alternative of direct taxation presents itself, and before the people submit to that they will want to be sure that their leaders have exhausted all other efforts to raise money.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE SENATOR BROWN.

From an early hour of Wednesday, 12th inst., the city of Toronto was crowded with strangers who had come from all parts of the Province to pay a last tribute to departed greatness. The coffin in which the remains of the deceased were laid was made of solid black walnut heavily moulded at the top and base, ornamented with massive silver handles the full length of the frame, and also shorter ones at the ends, with silver plated lifters. A handsome silver wreath of laurel encircled the words "At Rest," and the plate bore the following inscription beautifully engraved:—

GEORGE BROWN,
Died 9th May, 1880,
Aged 61 years.

The inside of the casket was elegantly upholstered throughout with the richest satin heavily quilted, the words "At Rest" being worked in floss at the head, together with other suitable designs. On the casket were spread wreaths of flowers. At half-past two o'clock the members of the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Societies met at Erskine Church, Simcoe street, and after arranging the order of procession, proceeded to the deceased gentleman's late residence, where had already collected thousands of citizens and carriages. At about the same time the employees and employees of the *Globe* office arrived at Beverley street, and under the direction of Mr. Robert Gay and the foremen of the various departments, took up a position to the south of the residence, where they could fall into their proper places. Carriages containing the Corporation, Senators, members of Parliament and citizens generally were continually arriving, and before three o'clock both streets passing the family residence were densely crowded. A few minutes after three o'clock, the Rev. Mr. King, who had been Mr. Brown's pastor, entered the room, and shortly afterwards religious services were held. After a passage of Scripture had been read, prayers were offered up, and the funeral service was impressively concluded, those present being visibly affected. Immediately after the service was concluded, the casket was carried to the hearse, which had been drawn up to the roadway in front of the gate, and the procession was formed, the following gentlemen acting as pall bearers: Sir A. A. Dorion, Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, Sir William Howland, Hon. Edward Blake, Sir Richard J. Cartwright, Sir Alex. Campbell, Senator Allan, Senator Christie, Senator McMaster, Professor Wilson, Professor Greig and Hon. L. S. Huntington. First in the solemn procession were the officiating clergymen, Rev. Mr. King, Prof. Greig, Prof. McLaren, and Dr. Reid, Moderator of the General Assembly; then followed the medical attendants of the deceased, Drs. Thorburn, H. H. Wright, Clarke and Leslie, after which came the hearse and pall-bearers. The chief mourners followed the hearse, and amongst them were Mr. Gordon Brown, his son Edward, Rev. W. S. Ball, of Guelph, and his sons Peter and Alfred, Mr. Thomas Henning, Mr. Belvey and others. The employees of the *Globe*, past and present, some three hundred in number, then took their places followed in a carriage by the Lieutenant-Governor and Secretary. The

Senators, members of the House of Commons and Ontario Legislature came next, both Houses being largely represented, as were also the clergy who followed. Next in the line were the Mayor and Corporation, Public School Board, delegation from the country, Board of Trade, Corn Exchange, Stock Exchange, St. Andrew's, Caledonian and other national societies, journalists, printers and citizens generally. Those without carriages marched four abreast. The funeral procession consisted of 2,148 persons and 351 carriages; the procession occupied 48 minutes in passing a given point. It proceeded along Baldwin, McCaul, Caerhowell and Elm streets, to Yonge street, the sidewalks being lined with a dense mass of people, who stood in respectful silence, broken by whispered words of regret. Proceeding across Yonge street through the attending throng, the slow journey of the dead was made along Carlton and Parliament streets to the Necropolis, where a great gathering was awaiting the cortege, and as many of those attending as could find admittance entered the city of the dead, and made their way to the grave prepared for the reception of the remains. The pall-bearers lent their last aid. Rev. Mr. King, assisted by brother clergymen, conducted the burial service, and the earth closed upon what was mortal of one of the fathers of the country. A cast in plaster was taken of the face of the deceased Senator, and will be reproduced in marble.

BOOK TITLES.

It is difficult to lay down in so many words the conditions necessary for a title to hit the popular taste and yet preserve artistic decorum; but there is no doubt that both very long and very short (that is, monosyllabic or single-word titles) names ought, according to current preferences, to be avoided. Those containing two or three words are, perhaps, the most successful, whilst a dash of alliteration, wisely applied, is not without its charm. Leigh Hunt devotes the first article of the *Indicator* to the "Difficulty of finding a name for a work of this kind," and he lays down the following hints to be observed in the selection of a title:—"It is to be modest; it is to be expressive; it is to be new; it is to be striking; it is to have something in it equally intelligible to the man of plain understanding, and surprising for the man of imagination—in a word, it is to be impossible." After the last despairing exclamation the founder of the *Examiner* proceeds to give some of the suggestions which were made by a party of friends to whom he applied in his perplexity for aid in his exhausting task. All of them were conceived in a spirit of burlesque as a sort of consolatory exercise after the failure of their more sober efforts: "The Cheap Reflector; or, Every Man his own Looking-glass;" "Nonsense, To be Continued;" "The Crocodile; or, Pleasing Companion;" "Blood, being a Collection of Light Essays;" "The Hippopotamus: Entered at Stationers' Hall;" "with an infinite number (adds Leigh Hunt) of other mortal murders of common sense, which rose to 'push us from our stools,' and which none but the wise or good-natured would think of enjoying." For examples of witty burlesque in literary nomenclature, however, none equal those of the inimitable Hood, which grace the shelves of the Chatsworth library, and which are too well known to require repetition here. A similar list of imaginary books adorned Dickens' study at Gad's Hill, but they chiefly embodied a humorous satire of modern tendencies. "Was Shakespeare's Mother Fat?" being a sarcastic reference to the laborious attempts of the Shakespearean *scholar*s to explore the commonplace of the poet's life and to theorise thereon.

The elaborately descriptive character of the title-pages of pre-Victorian times is amusing to us who are accustomed to a less ceremonious baptism. Even the plays of Shakespeare, who appreciated the value of brevity, were in their early dress overloaded with the titular verbiage of the time. The earliest edition of *Richard the Third* bore the following title:—"The Tragedy of Richard the Third, containing his treacherous plots against his brother Clarence; his pitiful murder of his innocent nephews; his tyrannical usurpation with the whole course of his detested life and most deserved death. As it has been lately acted by the Right Honourable the Lord Chamberlain, his servants." Title-making was evidently as serious a business with Elizabethan writers as it is to-day, the difference being that, as a modern wit has observed, we "take time to make it short." Even down to 1818, however, the year after the death of the Princess Charlotte of Wales, the contents of some books were summarised on the title-page. A biography of the lamented Princess Charlotte of Wales and Saxe-Coburg, who died November 6, 1817; containing numerous anecdotes of her early life; an account of her happy union with Prince Leopold; her residence at Claremont; her last illness and lamented death; a description of the funeral ceremonies; and a collection of characters (*sic*) selected from the most elegant and well-written eulogies that have appeared; with a variety of other particulars highly interesting to every British subject. Some of the headings given to odd verses by the older poets, read in the light of changed fashions, are very diverting. Cowper, for instance, whose principal poems are christened with model brevity and taste, writes "Stanzas off the late indecent liberties taken with the re-

mains of Milton;" "To the immortal memory of the halibut on which I dined this day (Monday), April 26, 1784," in the course of which extraordinary apostrophe the modest recluse says:—

Thy lot thy brethren of the slimy fin
Would envy, could they know that thou wast doomed
To feed a bard, and to be praised in verse.

An observation which, besides showing vanity, sounds somewhat cold-blooded in a man who tamed a hare and prided himself upon his humanity. How shocking too are these gutter subjects which "suggest" so much to bards of the Cowper school to the refined poetical sense of admirers of Tennysonian elegance, Browning's metaphysics and Longfellow's dusky grandeur! Within a score of pages of the halibut rhapsody we find "Verses written at Bath on finding the heel of a shoe," in which that discarded trifle is invested with surprising properties.

Generally speaking, good authors select good titles. Dickens knew the advantage of happy names and phrases better than most writers, and spent much of his time in evolving, constructing and comparing them. Mr. Forster's "Life" contains a list of two or three hundred names which the novelist had invented or noted down, some of which now belong to familiar characters, such as Gargery, Podsnap, Meagles, Clennam, Stiltstalking, &c., whilst others were destined to remain unapportioned waifs of the author's fancy. Few of his titles were more successful in every way than the name ultimately given to his periodical, *Household Words*. The christening of that enterprise was a source of the greatest cogitation to Dickens. Numbers of suggestions were made to Mr. Forster before the final selection was decided upon. "The Robin," "Mankind," "Charles Dickens, conducted by Himself," "The Household Voice," "The Comrade," "Everything," and many others being thought of. "Nobody's Fault" was an alternative title for "Little Dorrit," and "Two Generations" for "A Tale of Two Cities." "Master Humphrey's Clock" is an instance of a title being withdrawn, though to be sure the scheme which it was intended to cover was withdrawn too. The multiplicity of books, plays, &c., not unnaturally gave rise to complications in the matter of titles, and although it is competent for an author, having secured his literary trade-mark in his own mind, to go to Stationers' Hall and secure it legally, yet it is practically impossible for him to guard against unwittingly reproducing the property of others occasionally. This was demonstrated only a short time ago, when Messrs. Hatton & Albery had to alter the title of a play twice, and more recently still, when Miss Braddon was compelled to yield before the claims of an obscure story which had been previously published under the title she had selected. There is a good story told of Douglas Jerrold, who was consulted by Mr. Bentley, the publisher, as to the title of a periodical which he contemplated, and which was afterwards well-known. "I think of calling it 'The Wits' Miscellany,'" said the publisher. Jerrold demurred on the score of modesty, to which Mr. Bentley responded, "Well, suppose we call it, 'Bentley's Miscellany'?" "There," retorted Jerrold, "you needn't go to the other extreme."

A CAVE NINE MILES LONG.

AND SO FULL OF BATS AS TO GIVE A DARK SHADE TO THE CEILING—OTHER CURIOSITIES.

Wyandotte cave is in Crawford county, Ind., near the Ohio river. It is not accessible by rail, but must be reached by packet from Louisville or Evansville, and from there by carriage. The carriage ride is five miles, over as bad a road as can be found this side of the Sierras. The country is very hilly, heavily wooded, and sparsely settled. Wyandotte is smaller than Mammoth cave, and much larger than either of the Virginia caverns. In its general character it resembles the Mammoth, and, like the latter, is vastly inferior to the Virginia caves in beauty. It is unguarded, and visitors have been accustomed to wander through it unattended, committing every kind of vandalism. Patent medicine advertisements have been painted upon the walls, ceilings have been blackened with smoke, and the best of the stalactites have been broken.

It is said to be 23½ miles long, but this estimate is untrustworthy. The writer carefully paced, in the presence of one of the proprietors, a section embracing four of the supposed 23½ miles and found it to measure 2,600 yards. This ratio of reduction applied to the whole estimate makes the entire distance about nine miles, and this is probably about the actual length of the cave. The overestimating in this case is not exceptional. Few caves have been surveyed, and measuring by even steps, when the way is through low passages and over jagged rocks, is very laborious, while distance underground is very deceptive. One of the caverns in Virginia, which is said to be two miles in length, and is comparatively level and straight, measures just three-fourths of a mile, and another, that contains a route for visitors said to be five miles long, all lies within the diameter of half a mile.

At Wyandotte, as at Luray, and the recently-discovered Newmarket caves, openings are to be seen that lead to chambers beyond the furthest points that have been visited, while in Weyer's and one or two others of the smaller caverns an end to progress is found in heavy stalagmitic