

## TO ENGRAVERS.

**WANTED,** a First-Class Script Engraver and General Designer. One competent to take charge of the Designing and Engraving Departments in a large business, can have a first-rate position and good salary. Apply, with references and specimens, to

G. B. BURLAND,  
General Manager,  
BURLAND-DESBARATS LITHO. CO., MONTREAL.

## OUR CHROMO.

As it is our desire to extend the benefit of our beautiful Chromo to as many of our friends as possible, and with the view of preventing all misunderstanding in regard to those who are entitled to it, we take the opportunity of stating once more the conditions under which it is issued.

1st. To all those who have paid up to the 31st December last, or as soon thereafter as their subscriptions could reach us.

2nd. To all new subscribers who pay their subscriptions in advance.

As many persons who receive the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS through News-dealers, apply to us for Chromos, although they are not on our books, and wishing to enable them to get the Chromo through the same channel as they receive the paper, we are prepared to furnish the Chromo to News-dealers on the same conditions as to our regular subscribers, allowing them, of course, a commission.

Our object being to gather in all our standing accounts, our friends need not wait till they are called upon by our collectors for payment, but will oblige by sending in the respective amounts directly, when they will be at once served with the Chromo, by return mail or otherwise.

## NOTICE.

We call the attention of our subscribers to the fact that we are now removing our offices and works from their present stand to our large and commodious premises on Bleury street, near Craig. This provision has been made to prevent any interruption in the regular publication of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS during the interval of this change, but as some unforeseen accident to the machinery may possibly occur, we wish our friends would take notice of the circumstances and excuse any little delay that may happen. In any event, the delay will not extend beyond a day or two.

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal Saturday, 19th. Feb. 1876.

## THE SESSION.

The Parliament of Canada was opened on Thursday, by Lord DEFFERIN, with the old forms, and much brilliancy of display. The Speech from the Throne does not give any definite information, except to those who can read between the lines. The prospects are that there will be a good deal of warm debating. The Ministry will be reproached by British Columbia; and the Opposition will make the most out of the depression, which has prevailed, to attack Mr. CARTWRIGHT'S tariff arrangements. We believe the rumours which have prevailed relative to a large deficit of four or five millions are not well founded. We understand there will not be a deficit, but a small surplus of about three quarters of a million of dollars; and that may be held to be satisfactory in view of the severe depression. As matters have turned out it is well that an increase of the tariff was made last session, or the country would have suffered for want of means and also in its credit. Of course these points will be matter for debate; and we shall have an angry struggle. The Ministry is especially vulnerable on the point of the tea duties. Their having got rid of the Agent-Generalship in London has lightened the slip considerably. But we shall probably hear a good deal about this. It is not a strong point for the Government.

Indian matters will come up and be fully debated; and this is well. It may lead to better understanding on some vexed questions. The majorities of the Government will probably be as strong as heretofore; but Mr. MACKENZIE will likely find some defections; and also that the actual practice of carrying on a Government involves difficulties which cannot always be met, and imply so much weakness. He will find, too, that defending is not quite the same thing as attacking, which he practised for so many years, with success.

## THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Parliament was opened on Thursday, the 10th inst., with the usual imposing ceremonial. The Governor-General promptly arrived at the regulation hour of three, and the House of Commons having assembled in the Senate Chamber, His Excellency proceeded to read the Speech from the Throne. He stated that he had pleasure in again calling Parliament together to attend to the business of the country. Since they had last assembled it had been his happiness to visit the Mother Country, and to have had the opportunity while there of calling public attention to the remarkable progress of the Dominion and of giving expression to the feelings of attachment to the person of Her Majesty and the interests of the Empire which animate the Canadian people. The great depression which has prevailed throughout neighboring countries for several years and which has more recently been felt in the old world, causing a general stagnation of business, has extended to Canada and has seriously affected our trade. At the same time we have reason to be grateful for an abundant harvest and while he deeply regretted the suffering, which exists among certain classes and in particular localities, he believed nevertheless that the great bulk of the people continue to enjoy a condition of reasonable prosperity. He was happy to be able to congratulate Parliament on the fact that the great railway undertaking connecting the former Provinces of Canada with the Maritime Provinces provided for by the Act of 1867 is approaching completion. Early in the coming summer the small portion of the Inter-colonial line not already in operation will be opened when the connection with other systems of railway will be formed, so as to enable passengers and traffic to pass over a continuous line of railway from Halifax or St. John to the extreme western railways of Ontario.

The opening of the Prince Edward Island Railway during the past year marks an epoch in the history of that Island, and cannot but exert a beneficial influence on the people, and add to their material prosperity.

Every effort has been made to obtain an easy settlement of the claims of Canada for compensation for the use of her fisheries by the United States, as provided by the Treaty of Washington. Her Majesty's Government in the early part of last summer, at the instance of his advisers, appointed the British Commissioner, but he regretted to have to state that the United States Government have not yet appointed a Commissioner, and that, consequently, no progress has been made.

He had given effect to the Supreme and Exchequer Court Act of last Session by issuing the proclamation, and by appointing the Judges and officers of the Court. A Bill to simplify and amend the law relating to common carriers will be submitted for consideration.

A bill will be brought before Parliament containing provisions for affording greater security to policy-holders in life assurance companies.

The want of reliable and systematized information relating to the several classes of crime and the importance of collecting and classifying criminal statistics have engaged his attention. A bill will be introduced to provide for what is most essential in this direction.

Parliament will be asked to make provision for the commencement of the work of consolidating the statute law.

The acts relating to the enfranchisement of Indians and the management of Indian affairs have been fully considered, and steps have been taken to ascertain the views of the Indians themselves. A measure on this subject will be submitted for approval.

A measure will be introduced to provide for the better administration of the estates of insolvent banks.

The accounts for the past and the estimates for the next financial year will be laid before the House of Commons. The estimates have been framed with every possible economy consistent with the public interest. He regretted that the depression in trade to which he had alluded had seriously affected the revenue. It will be necessary in view of this circumstance to curtail the expenditure in the several branches of the public service.

During the recess a deputation from the Government of Manitoba visited Ottawa to invite the attention of the Government of the Dominion to the circumstances of that Province. They represented that the income of the Province was insufficient to provide for its ordinary governmental expenses. The papers on this subject will be laid before Parliament and certain propositions will be submitted for its consideration. The Legislature of Manitoba has, in the meantime, adopted some measures to reduce the expenditure of the Province.

## OUR INDIANS.

At a time when the troubles at Oka are causing a more than usual attention to the subject of the condition and treatment of our Indian population, some statistics and information regarding these remnants of the old inhabitants of Canada may not be uninteresting. The latest information upon the subject of the Indian tribes generally is contained in the Blue Book for 1875.

At the close of the year 1874, the number of Indians in the Dominion of Canada was 94,163. In the four older Provinces there was an increase of 321; but in Prince Edward Island a decrease of 21. The Indians were divided among the several Provinces, as follows:—

P. E. Island	302
Nova Scotia	1,837
New Brunswick	1,629
Quebec	10,991
Ontario	11,606
Rupert's Land	4,370
Manitoba & North-West Territories	31,908
British Columbia	28,520

Total . . . . . 94,163

The extent of the Indian Reserves, so far as has been ascertained, is in P. E. Island, 1,509 acres; in Nova Scotia, 21,830 acres; in New Brunswick, 69,083 acres; in Quebec, 293,669 do; and in Ontario, 201,897; but only one half of the areas in this Province had been ascertained. In Manitoba and the North-West, 111,899 acres had been surveyed; and 4 reserves set aside. Five areas of a square mile each had been reserved for Indian farming lands, and a tract on Rainy River of 36 square miles had also been reserved to be disposed of for the benefit of the Indians. In British Columbia, the Indian Reserves only amounted to 18,405 acres, not nearly an acre a piece for the Indian population; and a much larger apportionment of land is required to be made to place these Indians on any thing like the same footing as the other Indian tribes of the Dominion. Of the lands held in the Dominion for the benefit of the Indians 29,074 acres were sold during the year 1874, and there remained of lands surrendered and surveyed over 600,000 acres.

The receipts from the Indian Fund during the year were \$259,789; the expenditure \$225,379. The balances at the

credit of the Fund at the close of the fiscal year 1873-74 were \$2,844,603 an increase during the year of \$34,410. The Indians of P. E. Island received during the year \$633; of Nova Scotia \$6,014; of New Brunswick \$4,667; of Quebec and Ontario \$187,608; of Manitoba and the North-West \$92,140; and of British Columbia \$17,539.

There were, in 1874, 68 Indian schools in the Dominion, viz: In Ontario 46; in Quebec 9; New Brunswick 1; Manitoba 4; and British Columbia 8. In Nova Scotia there were none; but steps were being taken to establish them. One in P. E. Island, which had been in operation, was closed.

The Indian affairs are administered by a Deputy Superintendent General at Ottawa, acting under the Minister of the Interior; and 30 Agents or Superintendents, of which P. E. Island has 1; New Brunswick 2; Nova Scotia 8; Quebec 7; Ontario 8; Manitoba and British Columbia 2 each. A Board of Indian Commissioners for British Columbia was constituted in the early part of 1874, to settle, among other things, the principles and general policy of dealing with the Indians of that Province. Considerable difficulties have arisen from misunderstandings with the Local Government, who are not disposed to place in the hands of the Dominion Government a sufficient area of land to put the British Columbian Indians on an equality with those of the other Provinces, nor to deal with them in the spirit of liberality which it has been always hitherto the just pride of Canadians to believe the aboriginal natives have received at their hands.

## ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

The official correspondence relative to the purchase by Great Britain of the Khedive's shares in the Suez Canal has been made public. It is in every way creditable to the wisdom and moderation of the British Government. Much of the sense of the transaction is brushed away, but in the place of it, we have the more substantial satisfaction of knowing that a conservative and prudent business spirit presided over the whole proceeding. In November last the Egyptian Minister of the Interior assured the British Agent that the Egyptian Government considered England her most sincere friend, and would infinitely prefer Egyptian interest in the Canal transferred to England than to any other power. The Rothschilds receive 2½ per cent commission on the twenty millions advanced, and five per cent interest until the British Government refund. The correspondence includes letters from Lord Odo Russell, the British Minister at Berlin, reporting that Bismarck had mentioned the purchase in terms of high appreciation and approval. This detail is of no importance except to show that the Continental Powers clearly understand the importance of English intervention in the Canal, for the sake of the Canal itself. But even if Germany had demurred, we have no idea that the fact would have influenced the forward action of the DISRAELI Cabinet. The letter of the British Agent at Cairo shows that the Khedive offered to sell England the right to 15 per cent of net revenue of the canal, to which he was entitled after earnings of the canal exceed a certain specified sum. The Khedive recommended the purchase, as giving an additional control over the canal. The Earl of Derby refused, and stated that England would regard as inconsistent with the integrity of the Ottoman Empire any act by which the Khedive dispossessed himself of control over the canal. This clause, if it is to be taken literally—as perhaps it is not—is additional indication that Great Britain has at least no present purpose of turning a commercial bargain into a scheme of political aggrandizement, although the future may determine that the one must be the logical sequence of the other.