

# The Dominion Illustrated.

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The ceaseless rains of the last three months—beginning in August and not over yet—have drawn so much damp from the high heavens that there will not be vapour enough left for early snow. So speak some scientific men. The French farmer forecasts a late and open fall, owing to the second crop of tufted grass which the rains have brought, and whereon the kine will graze. The Indians—the best seers of them all—foretell a mild winter, because furred animals have not soothed their coats, and the birds of the air are sparse in feather.

It sounds like blasphemy to ask whether marriage is a failure, and answers are being poured in upon the American papers from thousands of pens, some of them steeped in scepticism, some in scorn, some in sneers, and almost none in submission to first principles. And yet no rule of life is so elementary. Marriage is a rite or a sacrament. It is indissoluble except for the one cause set down in the Bible. The family and society are rooted in it. The morals of the Christian world are fastened on the sanctity and inviolability of the wedding tie.

Although the returns for the month of October will soon be forthcoming, we think it well to publish the mortuary statistics of our chief towns for September, the last known up to date: Montreal, 526; Toronto, 226; Quebec, 158; Hamilton, 73; Ottawa, 71; London, 27; Winnipeg, 60; Belleville and Kingston, 22; Brantford, St. Thomas, and Gault, 16; Guelph, 21; Peterboro, 14. The mortality of Hull, 17, was the greatest for its size, Winnipeg, Montreal and Quebec following.

Archdeacon Farrar finds time to forward the fancy of vegetarianism, holding that it improves health and tends to simplicity of life; is a practical remedy for poverty, and an absolute check to the curse of drink. Vegetarianism would promote the cultivation of fruit and the distinguished divine grieves that English apples are not so delicious as when he was a boy. Mr. Gladstone is also urging English farmers to grow fruit for jam, whereupon the Archdeacon must have his joke, saying that thus would be fulfilled in two senses the words of the Roman satirist: *Jam dabitur jam-jam.*

The French themselves are awaking to the fact that they are fast declining through decrease in population. We have the warning of several of the chief Paris papers. One of them admits that the tendency of the population is to run down, while England and Germany run up by half a million a year. The Anglo-Saxon race, originally much inferior to the old Gallic race, is now two or three times more numerous. Within a century, for one man speaking French there will be ten speaking English. The increase of the sur-

rounding nations ought certainly to open the eyes of a military people who are obliged to keep up a great army.

*La France* passes in review all the proposed remedies, and concludes that the only one is to revive the old spirit of the nation. This is true. That spirit is religion. This, however, cannot be done by decree. True again. It can be done only by early marriages, the "cult" of children, and fidelity to wives. The *Univers* says: "We can fix the day, not distant, when, by the perennial falling off of births, France will have lost one-third of its population. The result is fatal. Within half a century France will have fallen below Italy and Spain to the rank of a second-rate power. There is no denying the figures. If this continues, in addition to other causes of decadence, we are a lost nation."

If there is an excess of women in Europe, let them come over here and get married. The Romans want more Sabines. According to the report of the Society for Promoting the Employment of Women, there are three million more women than men in the United Kingdom. About half of them are married, indeed, but over 60 per cent. are single and dependent on their own handiwork for livelihood. Whereupon a Victoria paper calls them to British Columbia, where the wages asked for by the Chinese would seem to these British spinsters as beyond their most sanguine hopes.

Sir Adolphe Caron, whose portrait we published last week, spoke within our hearing, at Ottawa, on the unveiling of the Sharpshooters' Memorial, and took the opportunity of naming most, but not all, the chief monuments of Canada—about sixteen—a respectable number. We shall give them in their chronological order:—Nelson's column, at Montreal; Brock's pillar, at Queenston Heights; the Wellesley and Parker statue, at Halifax; the Wolfe-Montcalm shaft, at Quebec; the Wolfe column, on the Plains; the monument of the Braves, at Ste. Foye; the De Salaberry statue, at Chambly; that of the Queen, at Montreal, and in the Parliamentary Library; the Volunteers' memorial, at Winnipeg; the Brown statue, at Toronto; that of Cartier, at Ottawa; of Lavolette, at Three Rivers; that of Dr. Ryerson, at Toronto; the Brant Memorial, at Brantford; that of the Sharpshooters, at the Capital; the projected colossal figure of the Virgin on Cape Trinity, and the monument to the Iroquois virgin and saint, Catherine Tegakwita, the gift of Canon Walworth, of Albany, which lies uncovered near Caughnawaga because Customs dues have not been paid!

It is not generally known that there are still pelicans in the Mississippi valley and our Northwest. Lately two big flocks flew over St. Louis, Missouri, hovering above the Father of Waters for a time, then slowly sailing, single file, and in a bee line, for the southeast. In olden times the sight of those birds, with a pouch under bill, would have been regarded as a holy token, recalling the fine lines of the eucharistic rhythm:

Pie Pelicane \* \* \* \* \*  
Me immundum munda tuo sanguine,  
Cujus una stilla saluum facere  
Totum mundum quit ab omni scelere.

The plea for union and the feeling of good fellowship among all the people of Canada dates back over one hundred years, to the very days of the Conquest, when Murray and Guy Carlton set

the example. In 1790, when the Duke of Kent, father of Her Majesty, was commanding his regiment at Quebec, having opportunity to address the Grand Lodge, on an important occasion, and amid peculiar circumstances, he made use of these words, with deepest feeling: "Let there never more be heard among you 'the King's old and new subjects,' 'the French and English inhabitants.' You are all the King's Canadian subjects." We could not say better to-day.

The Mormon question has been settled in the Northwest Territories, through the voluntary renunciation of polygamy by the new settlers there. These people were as good as driven away from Utah by the Congressional suppression of a plurality of wives on the one hand, and the dissolution of their church, with the confiscation of all their property for school purposes, on the other. After that the waters of Salt Lake became bitter of a truth, and the far-seeing faithful are hieing to better lands of promise. The Northwest colony is already doing well, the Twelve Apostles having established the new church, and the Aaronic Priesthood having been conferred on worthy heads.

Now that all the returns from the crops have come in; that the harvest has been moved from the farms to the rail and shipping, and from these to the warehouses, we are in a position to estimate that the whole yield of the soil, throughout the whole provinces, is far better than was feared, rising even above the standard of the average. The public feeling, in consequence, will be one of trust, in spite of the dullness, which is usual at this season. Two or three articles of food have risen only a little—bread, through artificial causes, which must collapse—but the working-men all over the country will work full time the whole winter, with no rebate in wages, and will thus manage to live without hardship till the revival of spring.

## COPYRIGHT IN BOOKS.

According to promise, we lay before our readers an account of the question of copyright, from the beginning to our day. The material is drawn from a lecture given by Mr. S. E. Dawson, of Montreal, before the Law School of Bishop's College. The author's views are strongly one-sided, but he presents both sides with fairness, and hence we are safe in drawing from his stores.

Copyright is the right of multiplying copies of literary and artistic works. It is regulated by statute, and begins at the instant of publication, but there is a party holding that copyright is a natural right, embodied in Roman Law, and quite independent of government grants in the interests of literature. In 1469 the Senate of Venice began issuing privileges to printers, thus giving authority to the Printers' guilds which existed during the Middle Ages, and the Stationers' Company was established in England, under Philip and Mary, with privilege to license and regulate the printing and sale of books, as well as the monopoly of multiplying copies. As far back as 1530, Henry VIII. issued something similar to "Master Jehan Palsgrave Anyloys, natyf de Londres et gradué de Paris," for the printing a book called "Lesclairissement de la langue francoise"—a coincidence interesting to us in Montreal, and the printers' craft in Canada, from the name of the late Mr. Palsgrave, who