

The CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is printed and published every Saturday by THE BURLAND LITHOGRAPHIC COMPANY (Limited) at their offices, 5 and 7 Bleury St., Montreal, on the following conditions: \$4.00 per annum in advance, \$4.50 if not paid strictly in advance.

All remittances and business communications to be addressed to G. B. BURLAND, General Manager.

All literary correspondence, contributions, &c., to be addressed to the Editor.

When an answer is required, stamp for return postage must be enclosed.

## NOTICE.

### OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

The next number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be wholly devoted to the celebration of the great

### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

There will be a number of appropriate stories, poems and articles, while the illustrations will comprise:—

THE HOLY FAMILY WITH CHARACTERISTIC EMBLEMS. (Double page.)  
CHRISTMAS SCENES IN CHILDHOOD.  
THE TOY CARNIVAL.  
CHRISTMAS WELCOME.  
THE CHRISTMAS PROLOGUE.  
PUSS' CHRISTMAS LUNCH.

### AN OFFER.

Our readers are aware that the subscription price of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is \$4 paid in advance and \$4.50 if not paid in advance. In consideration that the times have been hard, and because we should like to begin the new year with as many clear accounts as possible, we have concluded to offer the following reduction:—

All subscribers who will pay up the arrears by the 1st January will be required to pay only \$4.00, the same as if they had paid in advance. After this notice any of our subscribers who do not accept these terms will lose a favourable opportunity of reduction, as the \$4.50 will have to be collected in all cases.

In connection with this offer we cannot too strongly impress upon our readers and patrons the propriety of assisting us as much as possible by prompt payments, and inducing their friends to subscribe, to make the NEWS more and more worthy of a permanent place in every household of the Dominion.

## 1880.

With the first number in January we begin the XXI. Volume of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, and have the pleasure to inform our numerous friends that we have resolved to increase our efforts toward making it more acceptable than ever. The NEWS being first and foremost a pictorial paper, the artistic department will be materially improved, current events of interest being sketched and attention paid to all important incidents abroad. Our Canadian Portrait Gallery, now considerably over three hundred, and the only series of the kind attainable in Canada, will continue to be a leading feature. No pains will be spared to make the literary character of the NEWS equal to that of any journal in America. Original articles, stories, and poems will be contributed by several of our best writers. Different series of literary papers will also appear, chief among them being Pen Pictures of Canadian Statesmen, beginning with the Opening of Parliament, and Studies on the Literary Men of Canada, a work hitherto never attempted. The NEWS being the only illustrated paper and the only purely literary weekly in the Dominion, and having taken the field early at great expense, we solicit encouragement thereto as a national institution. Our friends are respectfully requested not only to renew their own subscriptions, but to engage at least one of their neighbours or acquaintances to try the paper for one year.

### OUR NEW STORY.

Our readers will doubtless give us credit for our efforts to continue presenting them with original serial stories, in pursuance of the course we have followed till now. We have the pleasure to announce that, with the first number of January, we shall begin the publication of a new original romance, entitled:

## CLARA CHILLINGTON,

OR  
THE PRIDE OF THE CLIFF.  
A STORY OF 100 YEARS AGO,

BY  
THE REVEREND JAMES LANGHORNE BOXER,  
Rector of La Porte, Ind., U. S., formerly co-Editor with  
Charles Dickens of *All the Year Round*,

EDITED BY THE  
REV. WILLIAM SMITHETT, D.D.,  
of Lindsay, Ont.

The scene of this very interesting story is laid on the Kentish coast, and the characters are representative of English life at the beginning of the century. The plot is full of interest, the incidents are well constructed, the tone is manly and thoroughly English, while the style is often enlivened with racy humor. The story will run through several months, and now is the time to subscribe.

### CONTENTS.

ILLUSTRATIONS.—The New Queen of Spain—The Meeting of the French Senate in Paris—The Meeting of the French Assembly in Paris—Abd-el-Kader—Col. John Hay—Cetewayo and the Bagpipes—Forest Clearing, III.—Reception of the Queen of Spain at Paris—The Game of Draughts—The Commercial Traveller Among the Carl-Players—View at Beauharnois—The Telephone Test.

LETTER PRESS.—Editorial Paragraphs—Canadian Literature—Federation of the Empire—Forest Clearing—To Ninon—Short Stories—St. Helen's Island—The Egyptian Pyramids—The Gleamer—Brelouques Pour Dames—Kurataef—Varieties—Literary—Humorous—Artistic—Hearth and Home—Our Chess Column.

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, December 20, 1879.

ANOTHER evidence of prosperity is in the announcement that the Grand Trunk intends shortly to lay a double track between Toronto and Montreal. This would not be thought of, unless the increased demands of transportation required it.

THE situation in Afghanistan is anything but reassuring. The British army of occupation is small, the hill tribes are swarming and snow is appearing on the mountains. What adds to the public anxiety is that no reports from special correspondents are allowed to see the light.

IN Quebec a scheme is talked of for the settlement of Crown Lands. It is to the effect that the French-Canadians shall colonize Lake St. John, the Irish the Ottawa Valley, and the English and Scotch the Eastern Townships. This is sensible, and we shall look out anxiously to see what will come of it.

THE CHAPLEAU Ministry appear to be in earnest. It is stated that they intend making no sweeping changes in the personnel of the Civil Service, will not at all interfere with Speaker TURCOTTE, and are determined to cut down expenses to the lowest limit. The salvation of the Province lies in the latter policy.

WE have done our share, by several illustrations, in placing before the public the feasibility of manufacturing our own cannon. We are glad to learn, therefore, that the Government have decided upon this course, as also upon getting their ammunition for small arms in this country. A beginning has already been made in ordering military clothing from Canadian houses, and altogether the result is satisfactory.

THE Ministerial crisis in France, to which we referred last week, is about to culminate in the retirement of M. WASHINGTON from the Premiership. It is too early to predict what change of policy this step may entail, but there is some satisfaction in learning that M. WASHINGTON will retain the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. He is a calm, moderate man, with much of that hard common sense, necessary to counterbalance the excess of Gallic vivacity.

### THE FEDERATION OF THE EMPIRE.

Imperial Federation is a gorgeous dream. And yet—who knows?—it may become a reality. We have had reason to treat of it in these columns, giving our ideas both of its feasibility and its manifest advantages. Other writers have studied the plan in detail, but perhaps the most interesting of these schemes is that presented in the last number of the *Westminster Review*. The author proposes an Imperial Parliament, in which representatives of the Colonies shall sit, and which shall deal with Imperial measures alone. A Local House of Parliament would be formed to legislate on mere local wants. Irish Home Rule would dovetail nicely here, an Irish Local Parliament being suggested. The Local Colonial Legislatures would remain much as they are at present. The writer goes so far as to propose that England be placed under a Viceroy or Governor, appointed by the Queen in Council. The ad-

visers of the Viceroy would be chosen from the members of the Local House, and the relations of the Viceroy to his Ministers would be precisely analogous to those of the Queen to her Ministers. All measures passed by the Local House would require the assent of the Viceroy before they became law. The Imperial Parliament would consist of 300 members:

England .....	185
Scotland .....	25
Ireland .....	40
The Colonies.....	50

This apportionment appears rather arbitrary but of course would be subject to modification without any difficulty. We have not space to rehearse all the other details of the plan, but enough is given to render the whole clear to our readers. Neither is this the time to discuss the matter, the only remarks which we need make being that the scheme is by no means visionary and that its publication in such a periodical as the *Westminster Review* is sure to challenge general attention.

### CANADIAN LITERATURE.

Our excellent contemporary, the *Mail*, has gone off on a tangent. In a short editorial paragraph the other day, after citing the rather uncomplimentary comment of an Atlanta writer on Southern Literature, it follows in the same strain and pours a broadside into our Canadian literature. To a portion of the same it applies the elegant expression of "hogwash." We might afford to reply in a merry mood, as we cannot believe our contemporary to be in earnest, but we prefer to take another view of the subject. Friendly criticism of our native literature is always in order, because it is needed and because it cannot do otherwise than result in good. But abuse is not deserved, considering what has been attempted and accomplished, and we are surprised that the *Mail*, which is itself so fair a specimen of Canadian talent and literary culture, and which has done so much by precept and example to foster the literary spirit among us, should stoop to such abuse. We know that it is rather the fashion for young Englishmen, University-men or otherwise, who come over here and find a refuge on the press, often as a *pis aller*, to sneer at our native writers, but fortunately we can stand this small hostility, in consideration of the source from which it emanates. No one pretends that we have a Canadian literature, properly so-called, with distinctive traits, and fed from the fountains of inspiration which are natural to the country, but we have writers who have entered the various field of letters and distinguished themselves therein. History and biography have no unworthy representatives; science has produced names that have travelled abroad, and we have at least two poets, whose claims to original genius are undisputed. Because a production is from the pen of a Canadian it should not therefore be received with applause, but when a native production carries its own applause along with it, there surely is no reason why attempts should be made to curtail its merits. Our press will compare favourably with that of the United States, at least, and we need not go further than the columns of the *Mail* in proof of this. We hold that, at no time, should we go out of our way to discourage, much less abuse, the efforts that are being honestly made in the different fields of literature, and we rather incline to the opinion that it is better to sit on the side of leniency. The creation of a native literature is not the work of a generation. In the United States, it was only in the fourth quarter of a century that a beginning was made. But we venture to say that Canadians have shown a commendable spirit of initiative, which only requires time to evolve into a very high development. Meanwhile, we conceive it to be the duty of every lover of this young country to assist in every way possible the growth of aesthetic taste and literary culture.

### FOREST CLEARING.

In continuance of this subject we come to the description of brush burning, having left off in our last issue with the winter's chopping, consisting of ten acres full of cut timber and brush awaiting the hot spring sun to prepare it for the merciless flames by drying the sap in the branches and so rendering the whole of it highly inflammable. The settler now selects a favorable time to put the match to it, having procured a torch of dry cedar bark and prepared a few of the piles with dry birch bark, pine cones and chips, these especially situated so as to start the fire to run evenly over the clearance. He also takes care to wear nothing but a flannel shirt in case any sparks alighting on him may cause him to stop in his career to extinguish the fire on his own back, which is anything but pleasant. This, however, is sure to be the case if he wears a cotton one. At noon, when the sun is the hottest, the fire is started, dense black clouds of smoke from the pine brush being seen to rise for a moment, succeeded by a loud, crackling sound as the flames in an instant leap from one brush heap to another with amazing rapidity, until the whole is flame and heat, consuming all the smaller branches, leaving nothing behind but the larger logs reduced to dismal masses of blackness in a valley of charcoal. The fire once started, the next work of importance is watching that the shanty, with its tools, &c., does not go with the rest, and great care is required in smothering the sparks as soon as they alight upon it. The whole scene is changed now, the fire has burnt over every part of it and has crawled into the woods around taking hold of the dry pine stubs and other dead timbers, burning them down. This goes on for some days and looks very beautiful at night time as the green woods seem to be illuminated, and the fire climbs up the limbs burning away at the crotches until the upper part gives way and falls with a crash lighting up the scene with myriads of sparks. The settler, however, can retire to recline his weary limbs and rest his smoke blinded eyes in perfect safety, as the fire makes no headway at night on account of the dew. He next calls a logging bee, which means inviting all his neighbours to help him to pile the logs for burning in heaps or monster bonfires—and they muster on the scene bright and early to the number of twenty-five or thirty, or even more, according to the size of the fallow that is to be logged. Four or five yoke of cattle are employed. The scene at breakfast is indeed lively; the long distancesome have had to travel so early having had the effect of sharpening their appetite which is soon appeased by the spread of the host. For the order of the day is from labour to refreshment and *vice versa*, and he has taken care that nothing should be lacking in the way of refreshments, as he expects his neighbours will fulfil the labour part of the programme. The cattle also have their wants seen to even before their masters, for it will be a hard day for them. As soon as the somewhat skirmishing breakfast is over, they gradually file off and muster in full force on the battlefield of the day, which has been staked or measured off some time previous into widths running through the entire length of the field, they having formed into companies of five or six men with a team, and armed themselves with handspikes of hickory, ironwood or some other kind which will not break very readily. They then take different positions in the field for a start and the men prepare for work by divesting themselves of any unnecessary article of clothing, placing them carefully where they will be safe from fire or being trampled over. Considerable chaff is exchanged as each party declare their intention of being at the end of the fallow first, keen competition being the principal object that stimulates them all through the fatigues of the day. Unfortunately at some bees, however, there is too much of another stimulant in the form of very bad whiskey. At last every thing being ready there is a general shout,