

The Dominion Illustrated.

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PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

SPECIAL.

During the month of December we will give to new subscribers the current first six months, twenty-six numbers, of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, making a volume of 416 pages, containing over 250 beautiful engravings, and a great amount of interesting and instructive reading, ALL FOR ONE DOLLAR, the conditions being that the subscriber remits, *at the same time*, \$4.00 for a full year's subscription, beginning 1st January, 1889. In other words, we offer eighteen months' subscription for \$5.00, or again, we give away three months' subscription gratis. Persons wishing to form clubs can obtain their own subscription FREE, by sending us the price of *four* subscriptions, as now offered.

This offer is open for December only, and should be taken advantage of *early*, as our stock of back numbers is limited.



What shall we call that queer strain of mind which leads to the belief in a certain principle; then swings about and becomes as devoted to the very opposite? We have a striking case of this from Philadelphia. Young Crawford Hening won a prize of \$250 for the best paper on Protection, and, shortly after, published a second, on the advantages of Free Trade, having become a sincere convert to the latter in destroying his own arguments for the former.

There is often ground for sorrow and grumbling at the neglect and destruction of relics and landmarks of Canadian history, but we are not single in that respect, the Americans also being open to the charge of wholesale levellers. Nothing remains of one of the very oldest English settlements—that of Jamestown, in Virginia—begun in 1607, one year before Quebec, save the ruins of a church tower, and churchyard slabs cracked by tree roots.

A pleasant and curious case occurred lately at the dedication of a church to St. Augustine, in Toronto. In the opening address the Bishop spoke of St. Augustine of Canterbury; while Professor Clarke's discourse hinged on St. Augustine, or Austin, Doctor of the Church, and Bishop of Hippo. The *Dominion Churchman* leans to the latter. We think the former was meant, because he is an English saint, the apostle of the Angles to whom Pope Gregory the Great sent him as among angels. *Non Angli sed Angeli.*

Who is responsible for having introduced the English sparrow into America? To Blanton Duncan, of Louisville, Kentucky, is attributed the questionable honour for the United States. It was he who brought over a lot from England to guard his orchard from other birds and his bushes from worms. Singularly enough, the story goes that the new Quebec Minister of Agriculture Colonel Rhodes, is *the* man who did the same

service for Canada. The least he can do now, officially, is to destroy that bird of prey.

A new word has been coined at the Antipodes—Froudacity. The "Oceana" of John Anthony Froude is a very interesting work, sparkling with the author's well known style and off-handed fault finding; but the Australians hold that it is full of mistakes, and mischief as well, and hence the word "froudacious." The people of Bristol, from which town he hails, we believe, have long given him the further nickname of "Nemesis" Froude.

If the spread of schooling is a sign of a nation's progress in civilization, then we have a new and striking argument in favour of the United States. England had, in 1882, 5,500 students in her universities, out of a population of 26,000,000; Germany, with a population of 45,250,000, had 24,000 students. In the same year, with a population of 60,000,000, the United States had 66,437 students in colleges, 4,921 in theological seminaries, 3,079 in law schools and 15,151 in medical schools; total, 89,538. With a population of over 4,000,000 at that date, how many scholars had the Dominion of Canada? We call on Mr. George Johnson, the Ottawa statistician, to tell us.

France is acting with her usual pluck in the matter of the Panama Canal. Some Washington politicians are talking about American interference and the enforcing of the so-called Monroe Doctrine. The enterprise has been French from the beginning, and, spite of international jealousies, as in the case of the Suez Canal, France will see that it is carried through. It must not be forgotten that France is an enormously wealthy country, spite of her public debt, and French loans never go out of France to be covered.

A queer story comes to us from Paris. Madame Boulanger, in an interview, denied that she had refused to live with her husband. She said he was trying to play Napoleon and make her Josephine. She then burst into tears and begged to be excused from answering further questions. Now it is hard to believe that the good lady should have said such a thing. Napoleon eschewed Josephine, whom he fondly loved unto the end, to wed Marie Louise of Austria, because he wanted an heir, and Josephine, who was mother of Prince Eugene and Queen Hortense, bore him no children. It seems to us that we read only lately of a daughter of the Boulangers who entered a convent.

By the one mail, last week, we received letters from four widely separate points of the Dominion, set in heartiest greeting, on the artistic and literary excellence of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, and its well established claim to be called a national paper. One of these is from Hon. J. W. Longley, Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, with two sonnets from Rev. A. J. Lockhart, whose poems we reviewed last week; a second is from Charles Mair, of Prince Albert, with a characteristic poem of the prairie, "Kanata," to appear next week; a third from Mr. H. J. Woodside, of Portage la Prairie, Man., with information on the Heavy and Light Brigades; and a fourth of Mrs. L. A. Lefevre, of Vancouver, B.C., with "A Christmas Eve in Canada," which will be found in the present number.

The question of College Federation in Ontario has been discussed with great fulness and some bitterness, without having reached any definite result. It seems to us from the outside that the

late Cobourg meeting, to which we referred at the time, consolidated the opposition of Victoria's alliance with Toronto university. Letters rained upon the papers on the subject, until the *Globe* felt called upon to put a stop to them, when the correspondents poured their missives into the *Mail*. The outlook is that the matter will be shelved for a time, until some financial plan shall be devised to conciliate all local interests.

The clash between the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railways has taken place over the baize tables of the shareholders in London. To any far-sighted observer on this side that result has long been inevitable, and the sooner the matter is settled, the better for the companies themselves, for the country at large, and for the Government in especial. There is room for the two trunk lines in a vast country like this. A level-headed man, Mr. Duncan McIntyre, has been chosen as umpire, and he will likely succeed in striking an equitable balance.

The Hudson's Bay Company has been drawing a full share of public attention lately, and our despatches from London have made almost daily reference to them. Although the bulk of their almost boundless territory in the Northwest has been sold to the Dominion of Canada, they still hold vast spaces of land, and retain all their old trading posts, from Labrador and Red River to the Arctic outskirts of the Athabasca-MacKenzie Valley. The old historic company is still one of the mightiest corporations in the world, and when the three reforms that are being mooted by the shareholders' committee in London—reformation of the board, production of fuller accounts, and thorough inquiry into every branch of the land and trading departments—the company will doubtless return to its former vigour and thrift.

CHRISTMAS.

Civilization is a state of society which is difficult to define in scientific terms, but it is a fact which all men can approximately recognize, whether in the case of living nations or in those instances where the only records by which a people can be judged are scanty remains of art and literature. Civilization, moreover, is a state of society the benefits of which can be appreciated by all reasonable men. A civilized nation may lapse into semi-barbarism by the force of inner and outer circumstances, as Greece sank under foreign domination, but it does not make a conscious endeavour in that direction. When a nation once emerges from an entirely savage state its natural tendency is in the direction of civilization. The reason of this is not far to seek. The first benefit conferred by an upward step is generally the construction of a less rude sense of justice between man and men. The path from this point onward to the highest civilization is often long and sometimes retrograde; but the sense of justice, having its roots in the natural instinct of self-preservation, causes such an amelioration of the conditions of life that men do not willingly recede from a more to a less civilized state.

But if it is possible to recognize readily a state of civilization in a living nation or to discern it more or less distinctly in the memorials of one that has passed away—and to account perhaps in part for a man's tendency in this direction—it is, on the other hand, a difficult task in any given instance to trace all the factors which have gone