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NOTICE.

We are constantly receiving letters and messages for back numbers or extra numbers of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS. Our friends should remember that, in every case, a sufficient sum should be enclosed to pay for the price of the paper and the postage.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, 14th Oct., 1876.

REBUILDING OF ST. HYACINTHE.

It is pleasant to learn from St. Hyacinthe that favourable progress is being made in the work of repairing the ravages of the late sweeping fire, and that the municipality are taking active measures against a similar liability in future. Amongst these plans, we are told the abolition of shingled roofs has been determined on, and we also learn that the water supply and the sufficiency of the engine-power are receiving attention. All this is very satisfactory, so far—but there will still remain the liability described as "ignition by contact," if wooden buildings shall be allowed to be placed in contiguity with one another. We are sorry this should be looked upon as a necessity in any part of the town. If wooden constructions were kept separate from their like, being furnished at the same time with fire-proof roofs, the only danger that would arise to them would be from "ignition from within" and that would then involve all the horrors of a spreading fire. Even party-walls, so essential in rows of buildings, would only partially avail where the rest of the structure was of wood, for though they might fend off the fire for a considerable time, there would always be the danger arising from a great heat and the curling over of a mass of flame. In the crowded part of the town it would therefore be most desirable that the structures should be of brick or stone—or, at the worst, frame buildings cased with brick—while the wood buildings should be reserved for "garden-suburbs." If it be pleaded that hard necessity will not admit of this better arrangement, what is to be done? The point is a crucial one for all, and should receive the closest and most patient attention. No city that could enforce the better rule would for its own interest adopt the weaker one. Party walls would, we must still admit, not be useless even between wooden structures. Their efficiency also might be increased if they were made to project on the front as well as above the roof. They would allow time to the firemen to bring all their appliances to bear—and time is the chief and best auxiliary of our brigades. Supposing this unfortunate state of things to exist that wooden houses and stores have to be erected even in some of the closed up lines of streets, in our country towns, the first consideration will be these very party-walls. They could be built of brick or stone or concrete. An extremely inexpensive form of party-wall or division between houses would be realizable by a separation between the wood-buildings, of a foot or more between each pair—with only a casing of brick on the elevation which should project somewhat in front of it. This would leave an interstice where the ordinary party-wall would be, such interstice to be filled to the roof with sand. Thus would be formed a sand-wall or division between the buildings, and on the occurrence of a fire on one side the

division, the sand would have to be saturated with water from the engine-hose which would be effected by removing one of the plates of the roof (marked for the purpose) and introducing the stream above. It would be nearly useless to make the connexion of the hose at any but the highest point—but if done as described, the separation or interval of non-combustible matter would be secured between the two buildings by a complete party-wall of sand and water—and by keeping the sand fully wetted, the flames would be unable to act upon the wooden casings or outer walls of the two buildings. Metal plating would be necessary for the ends of the roof-timbers which would of course be separated for the two buildings. The whole plan would be vitiated, if the interstice were not kept entirely filled with the sand, compacted so as not to subside by the incursion of the water. Upon this plan the danger of communication of the flames would be confined to the drying, calcining and fitfully advancing powers, which the fire would still possess, but which by the presence of the sand-and-water-wall, the firemen would obtain considerable assistance in battling with. The plan, though important in the circumstances supposed, is not now suggested as anything but a concession to unavoidable weakness in a municipality, and could not of course command the most favourable rates in effecting insurance on the buildings.

THE NEW MONTREAL POST OFFICE

We publish to-day an interior view of the new Post Office, opened in this city, on Monday last, and will continue further views in our next issue. On July 23rd, 1873, we gave an exterior view from the architect's design, at the time of the laying of the corner stone. This splendid building has been erected by the Dominion Government on the site of the old Banque du Peuple, St. James Street, corner of St. François Xavier Street, and adjoining the Montreal Bank. The foundation was laid on the 12th July, 1873, by the Hon. the Minister of Public Works. The structure has 120 feet frontage on St. James Street, and 92 feet frontage on St. François Xavier Street, the whole being built of Montreal grey stone, the internal faces having an air space and brick lining for protection against dampness. The facade on St. James Street has an imposing appearance, the ground floor story being in the Doric style, and the second and third stories having full carved Corinthian columns, pilasters and window dressings of a rich design. On St. James Street front there is an arcade or portico for summer and winter entrance with the latest improvements for the convenience of the public, with letter and paper slides inside and out of the building. The facade on St. François Xavier Street is in keeping with St. James Street, this facade having Corinthian pilasters, and being finished in every other respect similar to the main front. The other fronts are of a plainer character. The top cornice for the two principal fronts is of a rich finish, with ornamental fascia with pateras, dental blocks and carved modillions with pannelled and moulded top finish to the roof. The roof as well as the towers are in the French style, with crescent work for top finish; the centre or main tower, terminating above the Mansard roof with a cornice and cresting work, will have a clock showing three faces. This clock will have an ornamental finish. The angle pedestals above the cornice, including returns, as also chimney stacks, are highly moulded and finished with finials. The main lucarnes or dormer windows, including the circular roof-lights, are of a neat style, giving an imposing appearance. The interior is finished in keeping with the general design, and has the latest and most approved arrangements for the public, and the Post-Office officials and employees. There are strong fire-proof safes for all documents, letters, and papers, and hydrants and hose are also provided in the building. The basement is occupied by

the newspapers and mail-bags department, also keepers' apartments, coal cellars and furnaces. The ground or principal floor is occupied by the Post Office department, including Post Master's offices, Assistant Post Master &c. The second story is occupied by the Post Office Inspector, and others; leaving a third story to be laid out hereafter as occasion may require. The general arrangements of the ground floor will be more fully understood from our engraving, which is so thoroughly done, as to be able to serve for a guide to that part of the building which is the only one open to the public.

The addresses of Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. LOWE and of Professor FAWCETT and Mr. MUNDELLA and others upon the unquenchable Eastern question will be found grand efforts and replete with the fire that spring only from a good cause. Popular discussion is needed not for the purpose of arousing a conflict of opposing wills, though that is sometimes inevitable in a free country, but as a check against oppression. Appealing to broad and general sympathies, these speeches exhibit the rising of the spirit of humanity and civilization all informed by Christianity against the antique barbarisms of Asia, so long permitted to occupy and lord it over some of the fairest tracts of the European continent. In a home sense they recall the great days of British parliamentary and popular eloquence, when men were not deterred from giving free course to the utterances of the heart. The young men of the British Empire should not fail to study these speeches, and for that purpose they will well deserve publication in a collected form.

The Hon. the Postmaster General has given notice that hereafter registered letters on which both the postage and registration fee are paid by registered stamp only cannot be forwarded to destination, but will be treated as unpaid, and sent to the Dead Letter Office. Registered stamps are to be used exclusively for the prepayment of the registration fee on such letters, and cannot be accepted in prepayment of postage.

THE HEALTH OF MONTREAL.

Dr. A. B. Larocque one of the two Health Officers of Montreal has published a sanitary report which merits attention for its exhaustive nature and conscientious study of details. We are not used to such work in this country, and hence its appearance partakes somewhat of a pleasurable surprise.

The first thing laid down is a statistical table affording an insight into the population of the city. Calculating the increase in the last four years, that is, since the census, on the scale of the preceding decade, the Doctor sets down the figure at 132,000. Some put it at 126,000, others at 125,000, and still others at 130,000. Counting in Hochelaga, the Tanneries, Mile-End, Outremont and other municipalities, on and around the Mountain, separated from us only by invisible lines, and doing all their business within our limits, the total easily reaches 150,000, placing Montreal among the chief cities of the Continent.

Taking the births and deaths according to the French, Irish-Catholic and Protestant populations, we have the following table:—

	Population	Mortality	Mortality p. 1000
French-Canadians	92,000	2,500	42.50
Irish-Catholics	30,000	600	20.00
Protestants	34,000	700	20.58
Total	156,000	3,800	24.36
	Births	Increase	Births p. 1000
French-Canadians	4,621	1,531	65.01
Irish-Catholics	969	282	32.00
Protestants	1,114	374	32.00
Total	6,704	2,187	49.10

A remarkable point is the difference between the births and deaths among French-Canadians—65.01 per 1000 against 42.50. There is perhaps no more fertile people on the face of the earth.

Still the mortality among children under the age of a year is certainly abnormal. Hygienists estimate that the mortality of towns should not exceed 18 in 1000. With proper sanitary measures, Montreal ought to diminish its mortality by at least 1400 a year. Among these measures, as regards children, our author suggests the opposite of the following evils:—premature weaning, bad artificial foods, nursing bottles, soothing syrups and adulterated milk.

Eight policemen were employed last year as Sanitary Inspectors. They did their work well, but a more thorough classification of the streets would have enabled them to do it much better. The subject of vital statistics has received some attention, but much more is required, and

Dr. Larocque has traced out a programme, which, if carried out, will serve for all practical purposes.

The Meat Inspectors are two in number, and there are 85 slaughtering places in the city. Whatever precaution be taken, these are always more or less hurtful to the public health, and a frequent cause of typhoid fever. An appropriation of \$100,000 has been voted by the Council for the construction of slaughter houses outside of the limits.

The question of foundlings is treated at great length and with special reference to the experience of older countries, especially France where the matter has risen to the dignity of a State question. The greater number of Montreal foundlings come from the different parishes of the Province of Quebec, from the Lower Provinces, from Ontario, the United States and even from Europe. After full investigation, the conclusion is reached that the only way to save these infants is to procure fit nurses, no appliances being calculated to replace woman's milk. A Home outside of the city is suggested under the following calculations. Of 700 children admitted there during one year, allowing that the death-rate for the first year would be 30 per cent., 490 would survive. As nurses would have to be paid \$7 or \$8 a month, the first year would be the most expensive—about \$35,000. From \$20,000 to \$25,000 would cover the outlay of succeeding years. At the end of 18 years—the total would be about \$1,000,000, but then the surviving children would begin to produce and remunerate. According to Dr. Farr the value of a child at its birth is \$20; at 5 years, \$224; at 10 years, \$461; at 20 years, \$936; at 25 \$984. Then it diminishes, till at 55 years, the value is \$552. Following these calculations, of 700 children received in one year, on the supposition that only 350 would survive at the end of 18 years, with an average value of \$500, the profit would be \$280,000. In ten years at the same ratio, the total would reach \$2,800,000. Deducting from this sum the expenses of the Home during the same period, there would remain a balance of \$1,120,000 to the good.

The report of the Health Officer is full of such information as this, not perhaps always practical or practicable, but useful nevertheless as stimulants in the right direction. It is a pity that, through mistaken economy, the Board has published only a couple of hundreds of copies, instead of scattering it broadcast over the city.

THE DUDSWELL LINE KILNS.

THE SHERBROOKE AND DUDSWELL LIME AND TRADING COMPANY.

The accompanying photograph of the Dudswell Line Kilns situated near the centre of the Township, County of Wolfe, shows the position they occupy, from a point south of the kilns. They stand about two miles from the Quebec Central Railway, which now runs forty-three miles from Sherbrooke and is intended to pass through to the city of Quebec. They are distant from Sherbrooke 24 miles, and the quality of the lime manufactured cannot be surpassed, according to an analysis made by Dr. Girwood, of this city. There is 93 per cent. of pure lime in the stone, in its natural condition.

The quantity of limestone is unlimited, and is taken from a mountain distant about 100 feet from the kilns. The ledge is nearly perpendicular, and some eighty to ninety feet in height, and the stone comes off the face of the ledge in layers perpendicularly, in thickness of from three to six feet each. The rock is conveyed to the kilns on a tramway, in small cars, on a level with the tops of the kilns, so that there is no lifting of material required to place it ready for burning. The kilns are about twenty-four feet square at the bottom, and lessening to about sixteen feet at the top, with three furnaces in each, and are capable of turning out three hundred bushels of lime each kiln daily, and numbers of kilns can be erected alongside of those now erected, and all that is required to make them a perfect success is a tram or railway to connect with the Quebec Central Railway.

If you intend taking Quinine Wine, do not be induced by over-advertising and bill-posting to try any of the so-called preparations that are spread over the country. Make up your mind to it and get one that you know something about. Now DEVINS & BOLTON'S Quinine Wine has received the approval and sanction of the Medical Faculty, and with just merit, as it is a pure Wine scientifically prepared, possessing the medicinal properties of this valuable tonic in a simple, pleasant and reliable form. Now, what other preparation of the kind can show such flattering testimony in its favour?

ROUND THE WORLD.

THE reported capture of Massowah by the Abyssinians is unattended.

Unsuccessful attempts have been made to assassinate the President of Hayti.

THE first snow of the season fell on Lake Superior on the 29th ult.

Gen. Martinez Campos has been appointed Governor-General of Cuba.

FEARS are entertained of a general uprising of the Ute Indians in Colorado.

AUSTRIA has very plainly refused the Russian proposition for a joint occupation of the Turkish Provinces of the Danube.

A report comes from Vienna that Russia has concluded a treaty with the United States, ceding a portion of Oahotok, in Siberia, in return for iron clads.