

**NOTICE.**  
—  
THE  
**BEST PRESENT**  
FOR  
**CHRISTMAS**  
AND  
**New Year's**

That you can make yourself, your family, relative or a friend, is a year's subscription to the

*Canadian Illustrated News,*  
THE ONLY ENGLISH  
Illustrated Weekly in the Dominion  
and the sole purely Literary  
Journal.

**OUR NEW SERIAL.**

With the first number of the New Year, we shall begin the publication of

**JOAN:**

A TALE, BY RHODA BROUGHTON.

All the critics speak in the highest terms of this the latest and best work of its author. Among others, the *N. Y. Home Journal* says: "Rhoda Broughton is unmistakably the most original and potent light that is now arising in the sky of English fiction. . . . For that native vigor of personalism which impresses the multitude, and that simplicity and strength of mental movement which mark the masters of literature, she holds a distinct and unique place among the newer English writers. The author has given a fresh illustration of her style in "Joan," a tale which the many readers of "Good Bye, Sweetheart," "Cometh up as a Flower," "Red as a Rose is She," will not long delay to plunge into."

**CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.**

Montreal, Saturday, 30th Dec., 1876.

**A GLANCE AT OTHER DAYS.**

It will, we suppose, be pretty generally admitted that drafts of cold air through the sleeping room are to be avoided. Our ancestors had elaborated this point by centuries of observation of their own sensations, and manful combat with discomfort, and had provided against such drafts in many ways, of which we may instance the old tapestried curtains spread over the entire surface of the inner wall of the building, and which, forming as it did an ample field for the work of the artist, was often decorated with the highest pictorial skill of the time. The old baronial castles, with their pervious though often very thick walls of rubble masonry, and very imperfect heating arrangements, and long drafty corridors everywhere, were doubtless sufficiently comfortless as places of habitation, especially in winter. They had been built for defence, not comfort. They must have wanted the element of snugness sadly, and the lighting also, through those picturesque lancet windows, must have been very deficient and injurious to the health of the inmates. When the wars of the Roses had come to an end, after decimating the fine old aristocracy of the land, and the country breathed once more in peace, the general desire for more human habitations came to be expressed in the ample and commodious Tudor and Elizabethan Hall, with its union of many styles in architecture, its oriel windows, its elaborate woodwork and carvings and needlework, its stained glass and pictures, and studiousness of the comfortable generally. At this time commenced also the monstrous custom of squeezing the female waist in tight corsets; before Elizabeth, the object of the fair ones having been to bring out the natural lines of the figures, which they did with success and modesty. In the new ideas, we suppose the active mind of the period thought it was conserving the

human frame to the best of its ability. The down-drafts froze the chimney corner in the very presence of the Yule log. When they did so, we have no doubt the social party heaped on more wood and so increased them. Good feeling supplied many deficiencies. Rich and poor felt their mutual dependence, and even the cottages of the agricultural people were rebuilt. In the mansions, the Tudor bedstead with its wide area, its pillars and complete envelopment of curtains and covered valance, of which the four-post bedstead, hardly yet gone out of mind, was the legitimate successor, was established in all its glory and state. In Shakespeare's time and long afterwards, fresh air was almost universally looked upon as an enemy, and to such an extent did the feeling exist that its absolute exclusion seemed to be the object always aimed at, though this, in the breathing interest, was happily found to be unattainable. The great body of the people had long been subjected to much discomfort in their dwellings, but they were well fed and clothed, and the fine practice of archery, that made men of them, was but just going out, and distilled spirits, being little known, were only on the threshold of their devastating work. Small freehold possessions were very numerous and gave them independence. As regards interiors, something of this state of affairs lasted down to the early days of many now living, for although the houses of the middle class, which then first began to be recognized as people with a voice in the State, were smaller and more compact, science had done little for them. A century ago, the germ of new arrangements was beheld in the discovery of oxygen by Dr. Priestley. Here was the foundation of a new order of things. Studious men came to know what were the true conditions of breathing as regarded the chemistry of the air. The idea of the value of fresh air began to diffuse itself in Britain very gradually, it must be admitted. Dr. Arnott invented his stove and wrote his "Physics." At length, at the building of the new Houses of Parliament, about the time of the accession of our present beloved Queen, the Northern Professor, Dr. Reid, found a sort of cathedra or chair of instruction prepared for him in the permission to test the value of his theories upon the new Palace of Westminster, as the chambers of the Legislature are strictly entitled. The members who were the first subjects of his experiments, which extended over a course of years, complained a good deal, but we suppose they are better suited now. These air-warming discoveries and adaptations have indeed been quite a tedious business in their development, and, to the hour in which we write, they have not come into anything like general use. We can talk learnedly in the departments either of pneumatics, chemistry or physiology; indeed, we have had in Canada also able discussions on these branches of the subject, but when it comes to practice, we reserve the advantage and comfort of our more practical elaborations for houses upon which large outlays can be incurred. We believe the true system will sooner or later be found to be quite generally adaptable. Many of our less wealthy citizens know, in a crude sort of way, how to keep a room warm and free from drafts, and sometimes, be it admitted, also, a little too hot and close. This faculty has developed itself under a quite different habitude, amid the winters, and by the aid of the woodstoves of North America. We all know now, pretty well, that though we absolutely need a renewal of the interior air, we also need it to be warmed in winter, and that though we generally gain rather than lose by exposure to the outer air in all its coldness and freshness, if well clothed and in vigorous exercise, we need a homogeneous atmosphere within doors, in the night time particularly, seeing that the delicate apparatus of the human lungs is unfitted to cope with two temperatures at one time.

In our great North West country we suppose no dangers from inundation are to be apprehended, as affects, at least, almost the entire area of that vast domain, for the country consists of a vast alluvial plain, converted into an almost regular slope at the period of the rise of the Rocky Mountains and foundation of the great chain of Lakes which stretches up towards the Northern ocean, and in this plain the rivers, having cut their channels deep into the soil, are now running many feet below the surface. The land, with all its sources of fertility and security, forms its own invitation to energetic and tasteful people everywhere. If they will only submit to vaccination, as doubtless the great majority will have no difficulty in doing, they will probably be as safe from contagion there as in any other part of the world.

Our rather bold suggestion of large rafts for the protection of the dwellers in countries exposed to the inundation of the sea or rivers would doubtless stand a much better chance of being adopted, in certain cases, if the rafts could be made available in ordinary and undisturbed times, as roofs for the shelter of sheep and cattle, on the farms. It would seem that a great want might be supplied in this way, also; for in no country can it be said that the cattle do not gain greatly by such protection from the elements. The precise nature of the upright supports for such cattle-roofs we would take leave to submit to the consideration of the architects generally.

THERE has been a meeting of citizens in Quebec pursuant to requisition on the pro-Mayor, to arrange for an investigation into the state of the principal public buildings, as likely to affect their inmates in the awful risk of fire. After a spirited discussion, resolutions were adopted unanimously having such an enquiry for their object, and also for petitioning the Legislature for the appointment of inspectors and renewable licenses on Certificates of Security for every such building in the city—embodying a project of law which, if too late for the present session, will yet, we trust, form an important chapter of the Statute Book.

It is only proper to state, in view of the discussion held, and the revelations made, in the papers of this city, with regard to the *Graphic* Company, that that company never had, and has not now, any connection whatever with the company which publishes the *CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS*, *MECHANICS' MAGAZINE*, and other publications. These journals are under the management of Mr. G. B. BURLAND, and the company of which that gentleman is President and General-Manager, is entirely distinct in all its relations.

THERE is nothing in the world a woman looks so well in as a fur cap, and yet this engaging half of the creation will persist in wearing those open hats at the risk of the exposure of their foreheads to the cold, and general depression of the cerebral power. Is it not almost time for a reform of this arrangement? We are quite aware that we have no little voice in a matter that will have to come before the conclave of fashions; but still we grudge fashion its victims.

**FUNERAL OF THE LATE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR CARON.**

The funeral of the late Lieut.-Governor Caron took place on the 18th inst., in the midst of one of the most terrific snow storms experienced in Quebec for some years past. The members of the Legislative Assembly met at Parliament House at 8.15 a. m., where they took sleighs furnished by the Government, and went out to Spencer Wood, where they assembled. Shortly after nine o'clock the corpse, which had been placed in a magnificent oak coffin, was borne from the house and placed in the hearse, which was drawn by four black horses. The procession, which consisted of some seven or eight hundred carriages, then started at a walk for Government House, where

it arrived after one of the most terrible of drives—the wind blowing across the Plains of Abraham in fitful gusts of great violence. On arriving at Government House (one of the most exposed positions in the City of Quebec), the Marshals, Messrs. Vohl, Hatt, Roy, Colfer, C. Pentland, and G. Amyot, the ex-aide-de-camp, did their best to get the procession in order. It was formed as follows:

Detachment of Police.  
The Brothers and Scholars of the Christian Brothers' School.  
The Students of the Seminary.  
Band.  
Guard of Honour.  
**THE BODY.**  
The Members of the Family and Relatives.  
The Family Physician.  
Chief Justices.  
Members of the Privy Council (not of the Cabinet).  
Members of the Senate.  
Puisne Judges of the Court of Queen's Bench and the Superior Court.  
Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court.  
Members of the House of Commons.  
Members of the Executive Council of the Province of Quebec.  
Members of the Legislative Council.  
Members of the Legislative Assembly.  
Foreign Consuls.  
The Judge of the Sessions of the Peace.  
The Recorder of the City.  
The Rector and Professors of the Laval University.  
Clergy of the Different Denominations.  
The Bar.  
The Medical Profession.  
The Notarial Profession.  
The Staff and Officers of the Volunteer Militia.  
His Worship the pro-Mayor and Members and Officers of the City Council.  
Mayors and Deputations from Municipal Councils of Other Cities.  
The President and Members of the Harbour Commission.  
The President and Members of the Board of Trade.  
The Press.  
The Superintendent of Public Instruction.  
Members of the Civil Service.  
Officers of the Several Courts and Officers of the Federal and Local Governments.  
The Rector and Professors of the Laval Normal School.  
The Students of the Laval University.  
The St. Jean Baptiste Society, of which the late Lieut.-Governor was one of the founders.  
The Other National Societies according to Seniority.  
The Literary and Historical Society.  
L'Institut Canadien.  
St. Patrick's Catholic and Literary Institute.  
Choral Societies.  
Students of Morin College and the High Schools.  
Workingmen Societies.  
Citizens.

The procession started and passed down St. Louis road, round the Place d'Armes to the Basilica, where the bells had been ringing a funeral peal. A royal salute was fired from the Citadel, beginning just as the procession started. The Basilica was hung in black and white, the colours of the late Lieutenant-Governor, with appropriate notices. The catafalque, prepared especially for the occasion, was placed immediately opposite the high altar, which was tastefully decorated and fairly blazed with candles. After Mass, which was said by Archbishop Taschereau, with Vicar-General Langevin, assistant priest, Rev. G. Drolet as deacon, and Rev. A. Legaré as sub-deacon, and Rev. Tatu and Leduc as assistant-deacons, Rev. M. Hamel, rector of Laval University, pronounced the funeral oration, in which he gave a brief description of the life of the deceased, and pronounced a most glowing eulogy on his character. All the Bishops of the Province were present. At the conclusion of the service the procession reformed, the pall-bearers being Sir N. F. Bellan, Chief Justice Dorion, Mr. DeBoucherville, the Speaker of the Legislative Council, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Mr. Langevin, Judge Stuart, and Mr. Joly, and proceeded as far as St. John's Gate, when the various societies dispersed and the other mourners took sleighs to Belmont cemetery, where the body was placed in a vault. Hon. Letellier de St. Just, the new Lieutenant-Governor, was present at the funeral with his aide-de-camp.

**LITERARY.**

ROBERT BROWNING objects to the publication of Mrs. Browning's juvenile letters and poems, which she wished to have suppressed.

MARIA ROSETTI, the author of the "Shadow of Dante" and the sister of Christina Rossetti, and William Rossetti, the well-known writers, died recently in one of the Protestant ritualistic sisterhoods. She was of an almost morbidly religious turn of mind, and so far as her former associates were concerned she has for some time been already dead, but she will continue to be mourned by all who knew her fine qualities of heart and head.

It is said that Gustave Planché, the distinguished reviewer, read so much that he had seldom time to wash his hands. One day, however, a lady with whom he was engaged to dine, succeeded in persuading him to accept a ticket for a warm bath. He took the bath, but presented himself at dinner with his hands still unwashed. During his immersion he had read incessantly, and, holding the book in his hands, had not once dipped them in the water.

THE Benedictine monks of Monte Cassino are at present engaged in the publication of all the codices they possess in their invaluable library. These are published *in fac simile*, and are accompanied by full and detailed descriptions. The offices for printing in ordinary type and chromo-lithography are contained within the monastery walls. The work is entitled *Bibliotheca Cassinensis*, and forms one of the most beautiful and important specimens of the paleographic art. Two volumes of this valuable work have already appeared, edited by the illustrious Father Abbot Don Luigi Testi, who has prefixed to the first volume a most interesting historical summary, relating to the growth and fortunes of the library from the earliest period, beginning with the foundation of the monastery, passing through the various misfortunes that accompanied the various invasions that the Middle Ages brought about down to the latest dispersal of its treasures at the end of the last century. The services rendered by the Benedictines to literature and science, and their devotion to these, are fully vindicated in the elegant and elaborate work now in the course of publication.