

THE BURLAND-DESBARATS LITHOGRAPHIC AND PUBLISHING COMPANY issuing the following periodicals, to all of which subscriptions are payable in advance:—THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, \$4.00 per annum; THE CANADIAN PATENT OFFICE RECORD AND MECHANICS' MAGAZINE, \$2.00 per annum; L'OPINION PUBLIQUE, \$3.00 per annum.

All remittances and business communications to be addressed to "The General Manager, The Burland-Desbarats Company, Montreal."

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THE NEW STORY.

In this issue we give a further liberal instalment of WILKIE COLLINS' new story,

THE LAW AND THE LADY.

This story, considered the best yet written by Mr. Collins, was begun in the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS of Nov. 7, (Number 19).

Back numbers can be had on application.

We call the attention of News Dealers, &c.

We beg to call the attention of News Dealers throughout the country to the fact that we have secured the sole right for Canada of publishing "The Law and the Lady" in serial form.

FIRST-CLASS AGENTS WANTED

for the advertising and subscription departments of this paper. Good percentage, large and exclusive territory, given to each canvasser, who will be expected, on the other hand, to furnish security. Also for the sale of Johnson's new MAP OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

Apply to THE GENERAL MANAGER, The Burland-Desbarats Company, Montreal.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Nov. 21st, 1874.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We are compelled, to make a few remarks on a very vulgar topic. We do so all the more reluctantly, that we address more particularly, among others, some old supporters (!) of this journal. We are glad to see their names on our subscription lists. We are anxious to see them as well in our cash book. We are in a positive age. Support means money. We are doing all we can at present to improve the "CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS," and we intend further and constant improvement. We claim that we have a right to the cordial support of the country. We see a large number of respectable names on our lists. This is one part of the support; it is patronage. We now merely ask all our friends who know that they are indebted to this paper, to pay their dues. Gentlemen, do it as a matter of honor. Please do not wait to be dunned and bored for the money part of your support. But just examine your wrapper. We mean the slip of paper that envelopes the NEWS you receive each week. You will thereon see figures indicating the date to which you have paid. Some will see that they are in arrears; others, that they have done their duty, and paid us in advance. Now we do not intend to recur to this subject again. We are certain that our new subscribers are *en règle*, for we take their money and their names together, and we have no right to annoy them with calls for money. So once for all, we solemnly state that the subscription is now payable in advance, and that all names will be at once expunged from our lists, when the pay is in arrear. If therefore the figures referred to shew a past date, please pay up at once. Our new subscribers, on the other hand, and others who have paid in advance, are requested to notice on what date their subscriptions expire, and to kindly remit when the time comes, without putting us to the expense and labour of making and sending accounts, notices, &c. We ask a willing, ready, liberal support. The press from

one end to the other of the Dominion, has declared that this enterprise is a national one, worthy of encouragement and deserving success. We ask for a practical endorsement to the above.

TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

Permit us to call your attention to the advantages of publicity offered by the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS to Advertisers, especially Merchants, Manufacturers, Hotel-Keepers, Railway and Steamship Companies, Professional men, and others, desirous of reaching the best classes of the community in every part of the Dominion. It has other points to recommend it besides its large and wide-spread circulation. In the first place, it is a family paper, taken home, read from beginning to end, and kept on the parlor table throughout the week, and then put by, and finally bound; not, as befalls the daily paper, torn up, after a rapid perusal of telegraphic news. The children con over the pictures, read the stories and the funny column, and finally meander among the advertisements and call their parent's attention to those that suit them. The ladies peruse it from end to end, dwelling especially on the fashions and the ladies' column, and naturally turn to the advertising pages to know where to buy the materials for that dress, or the ingredients for that *Poulingue à la Czarevitch*. The men read the leading articles, the stories, the paragraphs, study the cartoons and other pictures, night after night, and while sipping their *hot stuff*, or enjoying their Havana, pore over the advertisements, and make up their mind to go next day and buy that fur coat, that hall-stove, or that superexcellent sherry. Then again, the limited space reserved to advertisements being less than one-fifth of the paper, secures to each advertisement greater attention, whilst most papers devote one-half or two-thirds of their available space to advertisements, which are mostly doomed to oblivion in the great mass. Also, the very low price charged, being much less than several weekly newspapers in Canada, and far lower than any Illustrated Paper in the United States, where the prices are from ten to forty times higher than ours, without an equivalent difference in circulation. And finally, remember that, while serving your own interests, by advertising in the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, you contribute to the support and improvement of this national enterprise, and consequently to the work of progress and education effected by the spread of art and literature.

POLITICAL CAUCUSES.

Up to a few years ago, the nomination of candidates for a Parliamentary seat was a primitive and very simple procedure in Canada. Any man who really had, or fancied he had, some claims upon a constituency, put forth his pretensions in the shape of an address, and thus stood forward as the champion and standard-bearer of his party. In old times, available or representative men being few and far between, especially in rural counties where residence was required, no further ceremony was demanded in the choice of candidates. On other occasions, the process was slightly varied by the principal citizens of a place signing a petition by which they called upon one of their leading men to present himself for Parliamentary honors. The favored individual either was or was not surprised, as the case might be, at the flattering testimonial, but he generally accepted and was forthwith installed as a candidate. Nothing more was done until nomination day, when his candidature was duly moved and seconded at a public meeting of the electors.

In the course of time, however, as the number of aspirants increased, and the difficulty of a choice was enhanced by the claims of ambitious rivalry, other more elaborate modes of nomination crept into vogue. At first it was the off-hand whip system of England. Then it degenerated into something akin to the more artful caucus system of the Americans. A com-

paratively few men in the large cities took the interests of their party, throughout a wide section of a Province, into their own hands. They constituted themselves the custodians of the solidarity of their party, whose triumph they pretended to make general and uniform. With this end in view, they foisted their own nominees on a distant constituency, without any consultation of, or regard for, the wishes of the electors. The electors might remonstrate, and we have frequent examples where they did remonstrate, but they generally had to submit in the interests of their party. So long as such nominations were of really available men, the mischief was trifling enough, and perhaps counterbalanced by a certain homogeneity of party action, but the practice at length degenerated, as such practices will, into palpable abuse, and the records show that many of these men were nominated only for their money, or their faculty of intrigue. The evil grew at last, of late years, to such proportions that people began to fear the worse results of the American caucus, and they have now resolved to rid themselves of this species of tyranny.

In several instances which have lately come to light, the mass of electors have protested against clandestine nominations. They have urged that, as the elections lie in their hands, and are dependent solely on their efforts to carry them through, they should have a free voice in the selection of the men who are destined to represent their interests in Parliament. They demand that the convention system be introduced here, that a public meeting be held, and that all the voters of their party, or such as may choose to attend, shall, after proper debate, and by a show of hands, decide upon their candidate. This is certainly a manly bit of reform, and there is more in it than might appear on the surface. It points to a lively interest in public affairs in the minds of the electors, proves that they appreciate the responsibilities of the franchise, and denotes that they are resolved upon choosing the best among the good men in their party, quite apart from the vulgar and narrow plea of availability. The reform has, furthermore, an equalizing and democratic tendency, in the best sense of that word. It places the working man and the labourer, who has a vote, on the same level with the wealthy elector. It forces the candidate to consult the interests of all, instead of the interested wishes of a class. Montreal has set a good example in this respect which will, no doubt, be imitated throughout the country.

THE IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE.

The Immigration Conference which has just been held at Ottawa is by far the most important domestic event of the month; and it is specially so from the result which, we learn, has been arrived at. We understand that His Excellency the GOVERNOR-GENERAL signified his appreciation of the meeting by personally calling to converse with the members at one of their sittings—but he was not, of course, present during their deliberations. Four Provinces were represented, namely, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia—Ontario by the Hon. Mr. CROOKS, Quebec by the Hon. J. G. ROBERTSON and the Hon. Mr. MALHOT, New Brunswick by the Hon. Mr. STEVENSON, and Nova Scotia by the Hon. Mr. ANNAND and the Hon. Mr. SMITH. The Minister of Agriculture, who is also the Minister for Immigration, the Premier, and several others of the Dominion Ministers, were also present. The distant Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia were not represented; and this we learn arose from the fact of the Conference having been convened at the request of the Provinces, in order to take immediate action on questions in which the Provinces represented were more immediately concerned. We have said that the result arrived at was specially important; and it is no less, we are credibly informed, than a resolution on the part of the Provinces represented to give up independent action, with which they are vested by the Confederate Act, on

the subject of promoting immigration from abroad, and to vest the entire control in the Dominion Minister of Immigration at Ottawa, who will exercise it by instructions through the Agent-General in London. The worse than waste of strength arising from divided councils, not to say conflicts, which have arisen within the last two years, from the presence of Dominion and divers Provincial agents in the same locality, has, in fact, rendered the resolution which has been arrived at by the Conference not only desirable but a necessity. The Provinces in the past have been very averse to give up their independent action; and they only do so after experience has taught them that divided action yields bitter fruits. Henceforward only one front, and that a Canadian, not a sectional one, will be presented to the people of the United Kingdom and Europe. The different provinces have stipulated for the right to make their several wants known if special circumstances render this advisable by their own agents, but a Canadian tone will be preserved by the exercise of Dominion control.

There is a further point of great importance to those interested in Canadian investments, and that is the representation of Provincial interests, as such, in London. For this purpose it is provided that the several Provinces shall each have sub-agents and office accommodation in the Dominion offices in London. But these sub-agents will be placed under the supervision of the chief officer of the Dominion Government. The Provinces have further agreed to supply the London office with all their statutes, printed public documents, and maps, since confederation. These, together with the Dominion statutes, and all printed documents and maps, will be carefully classified in the library and reading-room of the new London offices. The principal Canadian newspapers will also be kept on file. And the whole will be always open for the benefit of any Canadians who may visit England, or others who may desire to obtain information respecting Canada.

We understand that the Provinces will pay the salaries of the sub-agents they will place in the London offices, and also contribute a portion towards the increased expenses to the Dominion arising from the new arrangements. But the expenses will be much less to each Province than they would have been under the old divided system. And the expenses, in any event, are not at all a consideration to be set against the increased efficiency of action.

We, of course, understand that a conference of this nature has neither executive nor legislative powers; and that before its decisions can have effect they must be ratified by the Dominion and several Provincial Governments. It may, however, be taken for granted that a meeting of this nature, composed of important members of all the Governments concerned, would scarcely commit themselves to a series of important resolutions without knowing that they would receive the necessary final sanction.

The Dominion has no interest abroad which begins to approach in importance the proper making known of the advantages which it offers as a field for immigration, and the supplying in an authentic form the information required by those who desire to make investments in the Dominion.

OUR MILITIA.

It is a matter of congratulation that the militia movement is reviving throughout the Dominion. The circumstance is the more gratifying that the revival is not made, as formerly, under the stress of sudden and unforeseen necessity, but from a settled conviction of patriotic duty. While peace reigns within our borders, and while there is no reason to apprehend that it will be disturbed for years to come, if ever, the people have, nevertheless, reached the conclusion that we must have some sort of military organization to provide for any contingency that may arise. A standing army is out of the question for the present,