

not increased his desire to again assume their direction. He had been elected to Parliament, in which he held a position that was honorable and satisfactory to himself; but his present situation in relation to the Government required the surrender of the position. The crisis, by which he was placed in his present position, he was not responsible for. The branch of Parliament in which he occupied a seat had no direct agency in bringing it about. Soon after the crisis had taken place, overtures were made to him to accept office. He resisted the urgent wishes of many of his friends to accept a post in the Government, and after a good deal of negotiation, this issue was clearly put to him. He was asked:

'Will you help to organize a Government; will you run the gauntlet of a Parliamentary election; will you relinquish your present position of comparative ease and comfort; or will you render the formation of a Government impossible, and thus permit the direction of the policy of the country to pass into the hands of the former administration, by whom the country was reduced to its present condition?'

Rather than assume the responsibility of such a result he consented to accept the post he now holds. He felt that the commercial policy which he with other friends, (among whom were Mr. Young, Mr. Dorion, and Mr. Galt, when that gentleman was acting with him in Opposition,) had in former years advocated, could not be carried out if he declined, and rather than that this policy should fail he would surrender his position in the Legislative Council—among the Lords of Canada. (Cheers.)

#### NOTICE.

The public will please beware of a smooth-faced young man calling himself T. Dodd, as we understand from letters in our possession, that he has been canvassing for the 'Canadian Illustrated News.' Dodd canvassed a few days for us in Toronto, and not liking the gentleman's manner of doing business we discharged him. Without our knowledge or consent he has taken money from people in the country, representing himself sometimes as an agent, and at other times proprietor of the 'Canadian Illustrated News.'

#### NOTICE TO CANVASSERS.

ALL parties heretofore canvassing for the *Canadian Illustrated News*, will please call at the office and settle up. The public are cautioned against subscribing, or paying money to any one for said paper, unless the name of the party soliciting such subscription appear in the paper as Agent, or have the written authority of the undersigned that he is a properly authorized Agent.

W. A. FERGUSON.

Hamilton, April 7th, 1863.

#### OUR AGENTS.

W. M. ORR, J. H. CROOKER RICHARD A. HURST, and THOMAS COSBY are authorized agents for the *Canadian Illustrated News*. When we appoint others their names will be announced.

Subscribers will please bear in mind that the paper is stopped, when the period for which they have subscribed expires.

If any of our Agents have back Nos. 1, 2 and 3, on hand, they will confer a favor by returning them to this office.

Any person sending us the names of ten Subscribers for three, six, nine, or twelve months, will receive a copy free of charge, for each of these periods, respectively. Should those Subscribers, for any term less than a year renew their subscriptions, the paper will be continued to the getters up of the club.

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## THE CANADIAN Illustrated News.

HAMILTON, JUNE 6, 1863.

### THE GENERAL ELECTION, WHAT SHOULD IT ACCOMPLISH?

THE General Election of Members of the House of Assembly, resulting from the non-confidence vote of 8th of May, absorbs public attention in the first week of June, and disturbs the industrial business of the Province. If any great principle of Constitutional Government, or very important measure of practical legislation were at issue, the disturbance of the people's industry would be excusable, the public excitement would be at once necessary and wholesome. There are such principles, and might be such measures, but none of them are raised to prominence in this electoral contest.

Let us inform persons who are imperfectly acquainted with Canada, that in this Province the office-holders, compared with the two and-a-half millions of inhabitants, are greatly more numerous than in an old

nation settled and consolidated. This is a necessity unavoidable. The executive institutions of this country are inseparable from constitutional freedom, and a high standard of civilization, imitated as that is from France in part, from Great Britain largely, and from the United States also largely. Those executive institutions are as numerous and various as they would require to be were the population five times larger than it is. Hence the excessive number of office-holders.

Then, again, there being no social class which by custom supplies, as in old countries, many of the public offices with incumbents; and no army, navy, nor other national establishment to absorb the younger members of families which have risen to opulence by useful industry, but who are too ambitious or affluent to go into the backwoods to hew out new property and livelihood for themselves; and again, as the constitution both in theory and practice, and society in practice as well as in social theory, assigns equal political privileges to all men, the applicants to fill any of the public situations which are scattered over fifteen hundred miles of territory, are largely in excess of what is seen in Great Britain.—Like Republican America, self-governing Canada is one vast, seething mass of office-seekers. A vacancy in a rural post-office in Upper Canada, a few months ago, attracted nine hundred and sixty applicants.

Party tactics are healthful in their ultimate result; one party checks the other.—But a higher law than policy determines that question, and makes party legislation and party government a necessity in the moral nature of man. From the minutest atoms of matter, to the solar-planetary systems and the transcendent systems of the Universe which embody the solar-planetary, all motion, or government of motion, results from the laws of attraction and repulsion inherent in matter.

As in physical, so is it in moral nature. By whatever grotesque appellative man may designate his political circles, and antagonisms, however foolish or wise may be their various aims and operations, as Tories and Whigs in Great Britain; Democrats and Republicans in the United States of America; Rouges and Blues in Lower Canada; Clear Grits and Corruptionists in Canada West, they are all logical products of moral nature, all cohering, repelling and attracting by laws as true as the operating forces of the planetary bodies in their smaller circles, and in the transcendent orbits which embrace all the smaller circles in the Universe. They are all indispensable to progression and moral vitality.

A true conservative philosophy, which humbly we hope to represent in the literature of the *Canadian Illustrated News*, rises above them all; appropriates their antagonisms, their impelling and vitalizing forces, and uses all as products of natural laws, to assist in accelerating the progress of mankind from a lower and ruder, to a higher and more refined condition of self-government, called freedom and civilization.

But though the formation and opposition of parties be natural, and to the political constitution of a free country necessary and healthful, they have their obliquities and immoralities; and at times, positive iniquities. The questions which should at present overshadow all others in Canada are: How to people the vast territories still lying wild; how to concentrate a denser population in the districts already peopled; how to keep the peace with our nearest national neighbor—the United States; but before, and above all these, how to defend the Province now that a section of the newspaper press in this country, and the atrocious brotherhood of Alabama builders, and Liverpool pirate adventurers have made alliance with Southern rebels, and exasperated the Federal Americans to an angry hostility

against Britain, and especially against Canada. These should be the issues: they are not.

At the present elections such interests as are implied in nine hundred and sixty applicants having last year sought one post-master's place in a rural township of Canada West, overcome, and in the scramble push off the track all such higher issues as military defences. The government now in office having the privilege to give such a post-master's emoluments to one person in one political set of nine hundred and sixty applicants; or another government to be in office, if its party can succeed at the elections, to have the privilege of giving that post-master's emoluments to some other one in another set of nine hundred and sixty applicants—these are the issues now before the people of Canada at the general election.

In both political parties we might name Statesmen to whom the honor and safety of the country are paramount questions, their personal interests trifles, except perhaps their indulgence of ambition. And in the general mass of the industrial population there is a true, a strong heart of patriotism. But neither the high-minded Statesmen nor the honestly working multitude of the people, regulate political agitation and rule elections. Lofly patriotism and honest industry are alike subjected to political tricksters loose in principle, needy, shifty, or undisguisedly selfish.

How to people the Province is a simple problem not difficult of solution. A letter recently included in the official reports of emigration agents, points to the same conclusion as we propounded in this page of our last week's issue.

An Irishman corresponding with the government agent at Liverpool looks at the question at the right end, which is, not alone how to induce emigrants to come, but to ascertain in what manner and to what extent the government and people of Canada will employ them, or settle them on land when they do come? That is the problem demanding practical and immediate solution. Mr. Dennis Brennan writes in these words:

'Cork, March 14th, 1863.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Esq., Liverpool:

Dear Sir:—I am this evening in receipt of yours of yesterday, and shall get the article inserted in the *Cork Examiner*, the most influential journal in the South of Ireland. As to changing the emigrant from the United States to Canada, the matter rests entirely with yourself. Use your influence to get the promised Line for Canada started 'regularly' every fortnight from this port, and when you can assure the people 'officially' that employment can be obtained in Canada, I have no doubt whatever, that in a very short time you will HALVE the emigration with the United States. At present there is no facility for passengers getting to any port but New York, and the people must leave this country.

Emigration offices and agencies are not useless; but it may be affirmed as a cardinal truth, that to populate Canada is to make it attractive by providing allotments of land, food, implements of work, and seed to sow, to be paid for on easy terms; the primal condition being that the land shall become the settler's freehold at the end of five years. The hesitating family will be drawn by those inducements, while by persuasion alone they would not come hither. On the contrary, if sensible persons, they will remain in the old country, rather than scramble in Canada for a bare existence, on the verge of starvation for one half of the year.

In these remarks nothing is said that will ultimately restrain the inflowing current of the coming population. Our object is to urge those who may wield executive power after the General Election to make provision for the coming emigrants of 1864, letting it be widely and timously known during the current year. Then will Canada begin to be peopled. Then will Emigration be a branch of Economic Science.

#### EDITORIAL NOTICES.

MANCHESTER SCHOOL.—Although concurring with Mr. Buchanan in his expositions of the currency question, we find it necessary to dissent from his remarks about the Manchester School and Free Trade. Free Trade in grain had become an absolute necessity in Britain, in order to provide a home market for the domestic products of an improved system of agriculture, by extending the foreign market for manufactures. The Corn Laws had not been the protection, but the bane of agriculture.—We shall amicably discuss this part of Mr. Buchanan's Economic theories on another occasion. Nor do we assent to his remarks on the English Church occupying so much of the time of the British Parliament. It has for many years become a habit of Radicals or Dissenters, several times every session, to assail the Church. Hence the occupation of the public time in debating its privileges and rights. And may Heaven avert the time when the Church of England, and the Church of Scotland too, might not defend and preserve their institutions.

Dellwa's lively sketch is inserted; but the haste and inaccuracy of his penmanship causes much trouble and uncertainty.—Though saying this, we thank him heartily. After another sketch we might the more clearly judge how to answer his query.

'The Indian Legend.' The young Poet who is introduced to Canadian literature in this number will be heard of in still sweeter, grander songs, else we greatly err in estimating his quality. His second piece, 'Unwritten Music,' is not so musical as that just printed. At a personal interview, the defective cadences, and one or two other objections might be suggestively spoken of. Not having read the poems before last week the present Editor was unacquainted with their beauty and melody of rhythm. There are one or two defects in the flow of the Legend, but they rather enhance its charms than mar its music. We found it necessary to break the poem into paragraphs, which in all cases all authors should do for their own compositions.

Mr. W., Niagara Falls. Some verses bearing your name led us a year ago to exclaim, 'Niagara Falls has at least one Poet.' Why do you send an imperfect fragment and bid us make corrections? We have no time; and if we had nothing else to do, it is undesirable to change an author's words or sentiments. You write the whole sketch in one paragraph; that is wrong. You do not tell the reader where Chippawa harbor is. We might supply that, but cannot supply your omission in not saying where the steamer came from with the Prince of Wales on board. We shall send you a private letter saying what you might do for us in the matter of Niagara Falls literature. Send your address.

'Will,' of Hamilton; 'Will,' of Brampton; 'Adam,' 'Harold' of Waterdown, and other Enigma writers will see their pieces next week.

Mr. B. of St. Catharines, has sent a lively, readable sketch. It will be printed with some historical matter about St. Catharines. We thank Mr. B. Write again when at leisure.

Mr. —, of Montreal. The memoir and portrait of Mr. Dorion are received. Accept thanks for your courtesy. The portrait is now under the engraver's hand.

#### Publisher's Notices.

I. C. K., Beamsville.—Let us know by mail the name of the agent whom you paid and gave the papers to.

C. G. S., Orono.—The price to subscribers is six cents; single copies seven cents. No agent gets a free copy at the terms you mention.

H. N. C., Waterdown.—Back numbers sent.

Dr. W. C. S., Dereham.—Back numbers sent. We cannot supply you with No. 2.

J. W. T., Ottawa City.—Back Nos. sent.

W. W., Millbrook.—We have sent the paper from the number requested.

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