

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at 26 Beaver Hall, Montreal, by THOS. D. KING, for the week ending Feb. 10, 1873.

	Mean Temp. 7 A. M. to 9 P. M.	Max. Temp. of day.	Min. Temp. previous night.	Mean Rel. Hum. 7 A. M. to 9 P. M.	Mean Height of Bar.	Gen. Direction of Wind.	State of Weather.
Feb. 4	31.0	38.0	18.0	80	29.39	Vari.	Thawing.
5	20.8	25.0	12.0	81	30.06	Vari.	Cloudy.
6	30.8	43.0	17.5	85	29.85	S S W	Clear.
7	23.6	35.2	15.8	80	29.80	N E	Clear.
8	9.5	13.2	9.0	78	29.83	W	Snow.
9	2.5	12.0	-5.5	75	30.17	W	Clear.

ALMANAC OR KALENDAR.

FEBRUARY, 1873.

	Toronto.	Montreal.	Quebec.	Halifax.	St. John's.
Sun Rises.....	7.00	7.04	7.04	7.02	7.09
Sun Sets.....	5.27	5.23	5.23	5.26	5.19
Full Moon on the 12th.....	6.16 a.m.	6.30 a.m.	6.45 a.m.	7.19 a.m.	8.02 a.m.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1873.

SUNDAY.	Feb. 16.— <i>Sextagesima Sunday.</i> Melancthon born. 1497. Admiral Coligny born. 1516. Baron Trenck born. 1726. Dr. Kane died. 1857.
MONDAY.	" 17.—Francis, Duke of Guiso, born. 1519. Michael Angelo died. 1563. Moliere died. 1673. De Saussure born. 1740. Partition of Poland. 1772.
TUESDAY.	" 18.—Canada settled by the French. 1534. Luther died. 1543. Balzac died. 1854. Volta born. 1745. Charles Lamb born. 1773.
WEDNESDAY.	" 19.—Copernicus born. 1473. Sir Roderick Murchison born. 1792.
THURSDAY.	" 20.—Voltaire born. 1694. Garrick born. 1716. Tithes abolished in Upper Canada. 1823. Joseph Hume died. 1855.
FRIDAY.	" 21.—Spinoza died. 1677. Eugene de Beauharnais died. 1824. Rev. Robert Hull died. 1831. Ninety-two Resolutions passed by the Assembly. 1834.
SATURDAY.	" 22.—Washington born. 1731. James Barry died. 1806. Sydney Smith died. 1845.

OUR CHROMO.

Owing to the large number of copies of the Chromo now being printed the delivery to subscribers has been unavoidably delayed. We are printing in three tints more than we originally intended, and are thus necessarily somewhat behind. The work is being proceeded with with the utmost diligence, and our subscribers may expect the delivery at an early date.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters on business matters should be addressed to the Business Manager.

Communications intended for the Editor should be addressed to The Editor of the *Canadian Illustrated News*, and marked "Communication."

Rejected contributions are not returned unless stamps for return postage have been forwarded.

THE CANADIAN PATENT OFFICE RECORD AND MECHANICS MAGAZINE.

PROSPECTUS.

The undersigned has the honour to announce that he has been entrusted by the Honourable Commissioner of Patents for the Dominion of Canada, with the publication of the OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE PATENT OFFICE, to be illustrated by diagrams of all the patents susceptible of illustration. This Official Record will be published Monthly, and will be combined with letter-press and illustrations selected from the best English and foreign scientific papers, thus not only placing before the public of the Dominion the products of native genius and industry, but also keeping them posted on the progress of Science and Mechanics in other countries. Inventors will thus know in what direction to apply their ideas. Mechanics will note the advances in labour-saving appliances, and the improvement in tools. Manufacturers will be prevented from employing obsolete methods, while new machinery and modes of operation are in use elsewhere. Builders and contractors will know where to apply for all the latest productions in their line combining economy, beauty, and utility. Chemists and Druggists will be saved useless search for compounds already invented by others, and be told where to get the most recently discovered curative remedies and toilet perquisites. Farmers will see every new agricultural implement illustrated and described. In a word there is not a scientific, industrial, mechanical, or commercial pursuit that will not be benefited by this publication. It is therefore expected that a very large circulation will take place among all classes, and the price is fixed correspondingly low.

THE CANADIAN PATENT OFFICE RECORD AND MECHANICS MAGAZINE will be published once a month. The official portion will cover from 16 to 32 pages, comprising from 100 to 240 patent claims, specifications and diagrams. As the publication will commence with the patents issued under the new Act, which came into operation September 1st, 1872, the first four issues will contain 240 patents each, and each successive number will contain the patents issued during the preceding month.

The unofficial portion, or MECHANICS MAGAZINE, will give in each number 32 pages of carefully selected articles and items, gleaned from the very best foreign technical papers. Every branch of Engineering, Mechanics, and Manufactures will be treated, especially such as have a practical application in Canada. For instance, Railways, Shipbuilding, Lumbering, Mining, Architecture, Machinery, Cabinet-making, and the manufacture of Cloth, Linen, Cotton, Paper, Tobacco, and other articles of Home Industry. Practical Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Natural Philosophy, will also receive attention. Original articles will be contributed by distinguished Canadian scientists, engineers and manufacturers, and the whole will be profusely illustrated.

The subscription price of the CANADIAN PATENT OFFICE RECORD AND MECHANICS MAGAZINE is fixed at ONE DOLLAR and FIFTY CENTS per annum, invariably in advance. Single numbers will be sold at 15 cents. Appropriate advertisements will be inserted at 10 cents per line for each insertion.

The first issue will be dated 1st March, 1873, and will be distributed about the 25th instant.

ADDRESS: GEORGE E. DESBARATS,
PUBLISHER, MONTREAL.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

This great event of the week which has elapsed since the publication of our last issue is the opening of the Imperial Parliament on the 6th instant. The Speech, which was delivered by Royal Commission, opens with congratulations on the peaceful relations of the United Kingdom. Allusion is made to the suppression of the East African slave-trade and the mission of Sir Bartle Frere; the Geneva and San Juan awards; the extradition treaty with Belgium; the satisfactory condition of the country, and the subject of education in Ireland. But on the subject regarding which the most curiosity was expressed, and perhaps a certain degree of anxiety was felt, viz., the progress of Russia in Central Asia, the Speech from the Throne is most provokingly reticent. "It has been felt," it says, "for some years by the Government of Russia and the United Kingdom respectively, that it would be conducive to the tranquillity of Central Asia if the two Governments should arrive at an identity of view regarding the line which describes the northern frontier of the Dominion of Afghanistan. Accordingly correspondence has passed of which this is the main subject. Its tenor, no less than its object, will, I trust, be approved by the public opinion of both nations." "Papers will be laid before you," it goes on, "with relation to awards delivered under the Treaty of Washington, to the commercial negotiations with France, and to the northern frontier of the Dominion of Afghanistan." This much was known before, and on all hands some indication of the Imperial policy on the Central Asian question had been expected. But on this point the Speech has been obtusely silent, and we are left as before to surmise what the upshot of the Russian expedition may be. Its object, according to Russian authorities, is merely to chastise the Khan and his unruly subjects for numerous depredations and violence inflicted on Russian subjects. In this respect it will, it is said, exactly resemble the Abyssinian Expedition. After having taught the Khivans how to behave, the Imperial troops will, to the last man, leave the country. No attempt at extension of territory is aimed at, and there is no desire on the part of the St. Petersburg Government to break the existing friendly relations with Great Britain. Such are the assurances of Count Schouvaloff. It is, however, well that they should be taken *cum grano*. The policy of Russia in the East is too well understood to allow of any diversion caused by her in that quarter passing unchallenged. Her progress India-wards has always been characterized by the extreme caution and stealthy movement which has been so well depicted in the Kladderadatsch's cartoon on the Asian question—Russian snakes entwining the British Laocoon, with the motto, "Slow but Sure." It is time, if British supremacy is to be maintained in the East, that Laocoon should be up and doing.

The Laurion mines difficulty is one of which we have of late heard a good deal in the daily press, but with the merits of which very few newspaper readers appear to be acquainted. The following are in brief the facts of the case. Not far from Cape Colonna (the ancient "Sunium Promontorium") lie the old silver mines of Laurion, which at the time of Pericles were among the most productive in the world. Later on they were abandoned as exhausted, and at the time of Pausanias were no longer being worked. Until within a very few years the piles of slag and rejected ore left by the Athenian miners have marked the spot where the precious metal was dug from the earth. About ten years ago a rich Marseilles merchant of the name of Roux, conceived the idea of submitting the slag and refuse ore to a second smelting, judging—as the sequel shows, very correctly—that by the imperfect process employed by the ancients, much of the silver was lost. He accordingly associated with himself a practical miner, a Sardinian, named Serpieri, and in the spring of 1863 purchased the glass-grown ore heaps which had lain undisturbed for over two thousand years. A company was formed, roads were built, a railway was constructed through the desolate country lying between Laurion and the coast, machinery was erected, and work commenced in good earnest. The support and protection of the Greek Government were obtained by the payment of a royalty, in consideration of which the latter surrendered to the company all rights and titles; it might possess to the purchased property. All went well for a while, if we except sundry envious demonstrations on the part of the Laurion villagers who had sold to the foreigners what now appeared to be an almost inexhaustible source of wealth. The company met with success that surpassed even the most exaggerated hopes and dreams of its founder. Wealth was pouring into its coffers, when suddenly a cloud appeared on the horizon. For a long time the Greek Government had looked with envious eyes upon the operations at Laurion, but did not dare to interfere with the privileges of a company working under French and Italian protection. In 1870 came the Franco-German War, and the Government, emboldened by the repeated defeats of the French, and the weakened condition of France—imagining too, perhaps, that Italy had enough to do with her home affairs without troubling about the rights of her citizens abroad—introduced a bill declaring

all the mines and mining remains to be Government property, the effect of the bill to be retroactive. Not content with thus violating its engagement, it further served a caveat on the company, forbidding further operations, and demanded the payment, in addition to the royalty already mentioned, of two million francs as part compensation for the treasure taken from the mines during the preceding year. The company declined to accede to such an exorbitant demand, but offered to give up all claim to the mines on the payment of fourteen million francs. The then leader of the ministry, M. Komonduros, was disposed to accept this offer, but the rapacity of the people had been aroused, and the result was the dismissal of the Premier, and the appointment to that office of a man who was untroubled by any conscientious qualms. The new minister, M. Deligeorgis, insisted upon the payment of the two millions, but the company stood firm. Finally the French and Italian Governments interfered to protect the rights of their subjects, but for some time without any further effect than the exchange of numberless diplomatic notes. The action of the Greek Government provoked very severe criticism, and for some time matters wore a very threatening aspect. Thanks however to the intervention of the Great Powers, an arbitration has been agreed upon, and there is every prospect that the dispute will be amicably settled. It would appear from all accounts that the mining company are likely to come off second best in the arbitration. The Government argument is that the company have transcended the powers given them by the text of the contract, which allows them only to extract silver from the refuse ore and slag, and makes no provision for the working of the rubbish from the mines. As it seems that the company have actually been engaged in working this rubbish, the judgment of the arbitration commission is looked for with much eagerness by the parties concerned.

OBITUARY.

COMMODORE MAURY.

Commodore Matthew F. Maury, the distinguished American hydrographer and naval officer, died at Lexington on the 1st inst., in his 68th year. He was born in Spottsylvania, Va., in January, 1806. At the age of nineteen he entered the navy as midshipman on the "Brandywine," then fitting out at Washington to convey Lafayette to France. He subsequently served on the Pacific Station, where he commenced his work on navigation. On his return home he received the appointment of Astronomer to the South Sea Exploring Expedition, and on his retirement was put in charge of the depot of charts and instruments, which served as the nucleus for the United States National Observatory and Hydrograph Office, of which he, later on, became superintendent. In 1854 Mr. Maury visited England, and on his return published "The Physical Geography of the Sea." On the outbreak of the Civil War he embraced the Confederate cause, of which he was a staunch champion. Commodore Maury received, in recognition of his services in the cause of science, gold medals from the King of Prussia and the Emperor of Austria. As an author, he was widely known. His principal works are his letters on the Amazon and the Atlantic Slope of South America, the Relations between Magnetism and the Atmosphere, reports of astronomical observations and investigations, &c.

THE MAGAZINES.

Littell's Living Age for last week is full of sound mental pabulum, in the shape of well-culled selections from the leading English magazines. It opens with a paper from the *Contemporary Review* on "The Three Interests in Old English Literature," followed by an instalment of an amusing story, "His Little Serene Highness," translated from the Platt-Deutsch of Fritz Reuter. Kingsley's now celebrated Essay on Heroism, which appeared recently in the *Cornhill*, is given in this number, which is completed by "Some Curiosities of Criticism," from *Fraser's*, "A Slip in the Fens," from *Macmillan*, "Paganini," from *Good Words*, and "An Ugly Dog," from the *Cornhill*, together with several short poems. *The Living Age* is a publication the importance of which cannot be too highly estimated.

The Penn Monthly comes to hand this month later, but by no means less welcome, than usual. The contents do not form a very long list, but in this matter the quantity is entirely subordinate to the quality, the latter being as usual of the very best. Passing over the opening paper, on the Tax System of Pennsylvania—well worth perusal, though of secondary interest to the general reader—we come upon a very excellent article (the first of a series, we are glad to see) on the Childhood and Youth of Luther. The writer takes as his chief authority Jurgens' "Luther von seiner Geburt bis zur Arblasse-streite," and quotes at considerable length from the "Tischreden." This is decidedly one of the most interesting magazine articles we have come across for some time. It is followed by an account of Speech Day at Haileybury—one of the most flourishing, though most recent public schools in England. We are aware that there are several old Haileyburians in this country, and we invite their special attention to the description of the school and its system as viewed by American eyes. A pleasant paper on the Antiquities of Syracuse will be appreciated by all who, under the guidance of Thucydides, have followed the Athenian fleet to Sicily and endured that seemingly never-ending siege. We take great pleasure in recommending the *Penn* to all lovers of sound literature.