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All remittances and business communications to be addressed to G. B. BURLAND, General Manager.

All correspondence of the Papers, literary contributions, and sketches to be addressed to "The Editor, The Burland-Desbarats Company, Montreal."

When an answer is required stamps for return postage must be enclosed.

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

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## THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be particularly adapted to the holidays. There will be a series of

### ALLEGORICAL AND REALISTIC PICTURES,

illustrative of the various religious and social phases of the festival, together with a number of appropriate

### Stories, Poems and Sketches,

the work of Canadian writers. The edition will be a large one, and we invite our friends to avail themselves of this opportunity for PROFITABLE ADVERTISING.

On the 1st January we shall begin the publication of

## OUR CENTENNIAL STORY,

an original historical serial, founded on the AMERICAN INVASION OF CANADA IN 1775-76. We can promise our readers a work of varied entertainment and deep emotional interest. A liberal instalment will be given every week. This, added to other inducements, should prevail on our friends to renew their subscriptions at once. Orders should be sent in without delay as back numbers are generally difficult to obtain.

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Dec. 18th, 1875.

### OUR PREMIUM CHROMO.

Another year is about to close, and we are on the point of concluding the twelfth volume of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS. We have endeavored in various ways to improve the character of the paper. We stated that we have had to contend against difficulties which only initiated and professional journalists understand; that these difficulties could be overcome only one by one, but that they would all be surmounted, and that speedily, was a further promise which we felt justified in making to the public. The paper is in the hands of a Company anxious to make this national enterprise of ours a thorough success, and it is managed by business talent well-known in every part of the country. Both the Company and the Manager believed, and still believe, that there is a field for such a journal as ours, and the assurances they have received personally in all the Provinces are to the effect that our people are most willing to encourage it, provided it is a faithful reflex of the spirit, events and general features of Canada. This we were determined from the first that it should be. Our artistic department was raised to a higher standard of excellence, and arrangements will be perfected which

will result in still further improvements therein. The letter press aimed at more variety, freshness, and lightness, always coupled with literary finish. Our paper is intended to be a family journal in the largest and highest sense of that word. We promised to try and please every body, and for that purpose our tendency has been to write, collate and edit such matter as would procure pleasure, entertainment and instruction to the greatest number, while we carefully abstained from all political or religious partisanship. New features were introduced as opportunity offered, or necessity demanded. While on our side, we endeavored to do all we could, we trusted our friends would see the propriety of aiding us to the full extent of their influence. We are pleased to admit that our efforts met with a ready and generous response, but, with the view of still further advancing the prosperity of the paper, we decided, early in the summer, upon issuing a Premium Chromo entitled the YOUNG FISHERMAN, after a painting by the celebrated English artist, W. M. Wyllie, which in design and execution would vie with any production of the kind ever published in America. The subject was one of popular interest, and was to be finished in the highest style. To prevent any mistake, we wish our subscribers to remember that the conditions upon which this Chromo was offered were the following:

1st. To all new subscribers paying for one year in advance.

2nd. To all subscribers on the books whose current subscription was paid up to the 1st July.

3rd. To all subscribers in arrears who would pay up arrears, and current subscription, prior to the 1st July last.

We have strictly kept faith with our readers and the Chromo, which is now ready, will be faithfully delivered in accordance with the terms and conditions above cited. There has been some delay in the production of the Chromo, but that delay was inevitable on account of the excellence of finish which we had warranted and were determined to secure. It was not a mere colored print that we intended to offer, but a genuine Chromo, a real work of art, which would be worthy of a rich frame and a conspicuous place on the walls of any drawing room. To complete such a picture required time, labor and care.

Owing to the delay, however, and to give our subscribers every chance to profit by our offer, we take the opportunity of still further extending the advantages of this premium plate. In addition, therefore, to the conditions laid down in July, we are prepared to furnish the Chromo:

1st. To all those who will pay up their subscription to the 31st December 1875, and continue their subscription for the ensuing year.

2nd. To all new subscribers who will pay their subscription for 1876 in advance.

There certainly could be no stronger inducement than this. By asking the payment of what is due us we are doing only what is right, and the premium plate is thus so much pure gain for our friends. The Chromo is now ready and will be delivered as rapidly as our conditions are complied with. To suit every taste, the picture will be sent so that it may be mounted either as a water color, or as an oil painting, according as the owner may prefer. Those who desire it, may have their pictures framed by applying at our office, 115 St. Francois Xavier Street, where samples of different styles of frames will be on view.

We may take the occasion of Christmas and New Year to urge upon our friends the propriety of spreading the circulation of the paper. If they are pleased with it, let them pass it to their neighbors and induce them to subscribe. Our subscription list is already large and steadily increasing, but it must be doubled in the course of the next year. Let all our patrons assist us therein. All the money thus received, it is intended shall go into the paper, to improve and beautify it still more. This is the only illustrated

paper in the country, and it has long struggled in the cause of popular art and literature. Let the people of Canada show that they can appreciate and are prepared to encourage a national undertaking of the kind. Let the patronage come and we shall not be slow to introduce still further improvements.

### EXPLORER AND MISSIONARY.

MR. STANLEY is a man both kindhearted and vigorous, with some impetuosity of temperament. In his conversations with KING MTEA, who appears to rule over a fine agricultural country near the sources of the Nile, he was struck with the great desirability of imbuing the monarch and his people with the principles of Christianity, and took the opportunity, when addressing his friends and supporters in Britain and America, to urge the importance of one more attempt to evangelize Central Africa. The opportunity would seem to be open to himself, but he says he is no missionary. The last effort of the kind promoted by the heroic LIVINGSTONE we remember to have been signally disastrous in its results, and the present traveller has been little able to protect his following in his progress from the east coast. STANLEY recommends that the district should be approached southwards by way of the Nile. That is a bright idea, but cannot be said to be greatly more; and it will be for the Christian people of the time to define as best they can the means of realizing it. It would seem the missionaries had need to be almost as robust and full of resource as STANLEY himself, and we should further have to ascertain whether the Khedive's influence would be sufficient to provide safe-conduct for travellers between the Mediterranean and that far away country. The project appears very much in the clouds at present, but MR. DISRAELI's policy in regard to Egypt and in his determination to keep an open road to the East might be thought to foreshadow a hopeful movement in the time to come. The Africans near the Equator are evidently more amenable to Christianizing and civilizing influences than the majority of the native races of the world, and it might well be desired that the study of geography should not be the only cause advanced by the labours incurred.

### THE PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE.

The Message sent in to Congress by the President of the United States is the most important even penned by General Grant. Besides matters of routine and departmental interest, the principal provisions and suggestions are:

First—That the States shall be required to afford the opportunity of a good common school education to every child within their limits.

Second—No sectarian tenets shall ever be taught in any school supported in whole or in part by any States, nation, or by the proceeds of any tax levied upon any community. Make education compulsory so far as to deprive all persons who cannot read and write from becoming voters after the year 1890, disfranchising none, however, on grounds of illiteracy who may be voters at the time this amendment takes effect.

Third—Declare church and state forever separated and distinct, but each free within their proper spheres: and that all church property shall bear its own proportion of taxation.

Fourth—Drive out licensed immorality, such as polygamy; and the importation of women for illegitimate purposes.

To recur again to the Centennial year, it would seem as though now the Century is about to begin the second century of its national existence would be a most fitting time for these reforms.

Fifth—Enact such laws as will insure a speedy return to a sound currency and such as will command the respect of the world.

Believing that these views will commend themselves to the great majority of the right thinking and patriotic citizens of the United States, the President submits them to Congress.

### THE SCIENCE OF HARMONY.

The great object of our journal is to promote the higher interests of literature and art, and to popularize these as much as possible among all classes of our readers. It is with this view that we call attention to a lecture on the Science of Harmony to be delivered this week by a gentleman who professes new theories on this subject which he desires to introduce to our friends and by which he pledges himself to simplify the study of music in an amazing degree. In this lecture every theoretical point of this branch of the Science of Music will be clearly presented and practically illustrated on the Piano. Mr. ROBBINS has devoted nearly forty years to the study and teaching of Harmony, and from his long experience and thorough investigation and mastery of the subject, has been able to develop a system at once simple and logical, yet comprehensive and indisputable. By this system all the principles of his beautiful science are so narrowed down and classified, that they can be thoroughly understood and acquired in a few hours. Conflicting and perplexing points which have bewildered students and rendered the study unsatisfactory in many respects, are by Mr. ROBBINS' method, made clear and intelligible. Stripped of all the superfluous verbiage and mystifications with which unhappily it has gradually become surrounded, the Science is placed before the student's eyes complete, definite and simple.

It is not to be wondered at, however, that so new and so radical a system should be met with distrust and suspicion. Musicians, wedded to old forms and established usages, could hardly be expected to favor, at first sight, so revolutionary a theory, and consequently it is not strange that it often meets the opposition of "Conservatism." It is hoped, however, that no such opposition will be encountered here, but that the profession of the City will attend the lecture, sift the pretensions of the lecturer, and render a verdict in accordance with the true facts of the case. Thus far the system has withstood the severest criticisms, and those who have studied under Mr. ROBBINS assert that its advantages to our musical community can hardly be overestimated, and that it should meet with the hearty recognition and concurrence of all interested in the study of music. This lecture will be a *reduced photograph* of the entire Course. Hearing it, students will be enabled at once to decide whether they will join a *Course Class* or not.

The monthly statement of circulation of the *Evening Star* appears in another column. The weekly edition has a circulation of 28,000, being 3,000 ahead of the *Toronto Globe*. At the ordinary estimate of five readers to a family, the *Star* daily and weekly has an army of two hundred thousand readers. The Government receives from the *Star* a larger amount for newspaper postage than any other paper in Canada. We may add our congratulations to Mr. Hugh Graham, proprietor of the *Star*, who has achieved the reputation of one of the best newspaper managers in America.

The Committee, consisting of Sir C. E. TREVELYAN, Sir BARTLE FRERE and Sir LOUIS MALLET, appointed to examine the competitive essays for the two prizes of £200 and £100 given by Mr. EDWARD PEASE, of Darlington, with a view to elucidate and expound what is known as the opium trade, and the connection of the British Government with it, have made their award. The first prize has been adjudged to Mr. SPROAT, Agent-General for British Columbia; and the second to the Rev. F. S. TURNER, Secretary of the Anglo-Oriental Society for the suppression of the Opium Trade.

An affecting incident occurred lately near London, when Professor FAWCETT, M. P., addressed a Fine Arts Association on the purpose of its existence. In discussing very eloquently the advantages to a