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H. GREGORY & Co.

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**THE CANADIAN**

**Illustrated News.**

HAMILTON, JANUARY 23, 1864.

H. GREGORY & Co. Proprietors.

**SHAKING OF THE NATIONS.**

The latest mails from Europe bring intelligence which indicates trouble, such as may any day burst into a convulsion of nations, a collision of armies, a thousand thunder storms of battle and bombardment on land and on ocean. It is such intelligence as strikes humanity with emotions of dismay. Great Britain takes side with Denmark against all Germany in the question of the disputed Duchies, intimating that a Germanic occupation of the territory will be accepted by Denmark as a declaration of war. Germany accepting that issue advances upon the naked peril, while Imperial Gaul paws the earth and champs the bit. Into which scale will the sword of France fall? Diplomacy tells the world that French and British sentiments are one, and both on the side of Denmark. Duplicity winks the eye and leaves Europe to say which of his allies in war has not Louis Napoleon betrayed?

Soander sense prevails in Nova Scotia in the matter of the Chesapeake than was the case when the Pirates were rescued from officers of justice, and the rescue applauded by Nova Scotian newspapers, and to the peril of Canada by part of the press of this Province.

Judge Stewart, of the Admiralty Court, before whom the case has come judicially, read a written statement "to prevent misrepresentation through the press." After detailing the circumstances connected with the capture of the Chesapeake, his Lordship, referring to the possibility of a plea being submitted on behalf of the Confederates, said:—

"I am sitting as a judge of the Court of Admiralty and representing Her Majesty in it." Then he spoke of "the plea of men who have violated her proclamation of neutrality and offered an affront to her dignity; men who have grossly and wilfully and stealthily violated her territory, sold goods therein; who have with revolvers and lawless force violently resisted the officers seeking to execute the process of her magistrates, and who are this moment fugitives from justice." After further observations His Lordship said that under the facts before him, unless altered by further evidence, he would treat the case as one of piracy throughout.

The bombardment of Charleston continues, and the doomed city is gradually, slowly, horribly sinking to diabolical destruction.

Such is war. Yet with North America involved in conflagration and fratricidal slaughter on a scale of horror that

appals the world, the latest news from Europe tells that Italy is to be again plunged in war in the Spring at the hands of Garibaldi; and Hungary at the hands of Kosouth; Germany and Denmark at the bidding of Royal and Ducal heads; and Ireland at the instance of the Fenian Brotherhood! while Britain is already at war in New Zealand, Japan, and North Western India, and may on any day be drifted into a collision with the Federal States, involving Canada in the convulsion—Canada to bear the brunt of battle as the outlying picket of Western empire. In face of all those commotions, actual or contemplated, the plotters and conspirators against the peace of nations seem to be accepted as agents of human happiness. To our shame there has arisen a school even in conservative Britain and her colonies which applauds rebellion as a virtue in other nations. And other nations are made happy to hear of treason preparing or already ripe in the dependencies of Great Britain.

Shall it be ever thus? Has the Gospel come in vain? Has man no higher law than his own passion, or sordid duplicity?

**WAR, MEN, AND MONEY.**

Mr. John Bright, a "Man of Peace," who in years gone by declaimed against all wars as monstrously wicked, has recently been exciting an audieme at Rochdale, in England, to the fervour of "tremendous cheering," by testifying that the Federal States of America, though engaged in a gigantic war are not injuriously affected by it in their domestic industry, or social life.

This astounding utterance of a man who is governed by his impulsive attachments and dislikes, and seldom by calm, patient reflection, might be treated as an innocent aberration of intellect, were it not that the printing press has given him the world for an audience; that he is beyond question one of the most eloquent declaimers of the time; and that he is member for Birmingham, toy-shop and musket-making arsenal of the world.

Mr. Bright receives his information from the commercial capitalists of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia. Those cities are fattening on the war, except the sections of the poorer population who are not so affluent as to purchase absence from the fields of battle. Throughout the Western States the population now consists of women, children and old men. The men of health and strength—the sinew of the nation—are in the war, or in the hospitals, or in the graves which battle and pestilence have filled.

A New York journal which is usually reliable in its statistics, gave recently a statement to this effect:—

During the war which began in the spring of 1861, at least one hundred thousand men have been killed; four hundred thousand have been disabled for life: thus half a million have been subjected to death, and to sickness worse than wounds in the armies on both sides. The amount of property destroyed during the war may be roughly estimated at five hundred millions of dollars. The injury inflicted upon Federal commerce and carrying trade may be roughly estimated at five hundred millions of dollars. This is under rather than above the fact, for the rebel Massie, asserts that he alone has destroyed eleven millions of dollar-worth of ships and cargoes; and Semmes has certainly destroyed as much more. The war debt of the North and South amounts to about five thousand millions of dollars. Estimating the white people in the United States in 1860 at twenty-six millions—and this is within a few hundreds of the official figures—we find that the war has been instrumental in causing the death of one man out of every two hundred and sixty people, and the crippling or disabling of one man out of every fifty-two people; also, that it has caused the destruction of property valued at six hundred million of dollars, and an expenditure of about five thousand millions.

**SMALL POX.**

SAVE LIFE! SAVE BEAUTY.

In the County of Essex, Canada West, near the town of Windsor, on the first day of the present year, a family comprising five children and their mother, a widow, fell victims in a horrible catastrophe. It involved the three-fold agencies of death, pestilence, fire, frost—such frost as snaps the life out. The woman had become afflicted with virulent small pox, and by the disease was rendered totally blind. Her neighbours, in their terror, declined to visit her abode. The children, all under ten years of age, were in like manner avoided by people living near. On New Years Day, came one of the fiercest storms ever known in north-west America. The children in raising a fire, set the shanty in

flames. Neighbours saw the house burning and comprehended the result, but declined to rush to the rescue and save life, lest they might contract the contagious pest of small-pox. The woman perished in the fire, so did two of the children. Two others perished of frost on the ruins of the hut. The oldest, in a state of nudity, a girl in her 9th year, rushed into the snow to reach the nearest house, but was paralyzed by the inclement frost and perished where she fell. Who and what were those miserable creatures? And who were their neighbours in this christian land? "Oh! black people, be sure," was the ready response of the white christians who read in the Windsor newspaper that the deplorable horror had been consummated at the "Institution," a settlement of coloured fugitives from American Slavery.

In the mortal records of "frozen to death," or "died of cold and exhaustion," a record peculiar to Canada every year, and which is already fearfully full in this Eighteen Sixty-Four, before January is over, many concurring facts suggest the inquiry and doubt, if the white conscience in matters involving humanity be greatly in advance of the black; but of that hereafter. The topic more immediately suggested by the occurrence just related, is the prevalence of small pox, and the difficulty of enforcing vaccination, as preventive or modification of the disease.

In the "Canada Lancet" (a professional organ of Medical Practice and Surgery, conducted by Dr. Bowman, and published by Mr. Lovell, at Montreal,) an article appeared in the number for December, entitled "Remarks on Vaccination and Re-Vaccination." It was written by Dr. Hingston an eminent Physician and Surgeon, part of whose practice is that of Physician to the Hotel Dieu at Montreal. To his essay we solicit an earnest and immediate public attention.

On the 18th of May, 1861, an Act was assented to by His Excellency the Governor General "To provide for the more general adoption of the practice of Vaccination." The Act provides that no public money should be paid to any Hospital unless it have a small pox ward; that the City Councils of Quebec, Three Rivers, St. Hyacinthe, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton and Sherbrooke, shall contract with legally qualified medical practitioners for the Vaccination of all those who may come to them; and that convenient places be appointed in each ward for the purpose.

By that law parents are bound to take their children to be Vaccinated within three calendar months after their birth; to exhibit them to the medical practitioner on the eighth day after; and to obtain from him a certificate of successful Vaccination. But if the child is found unfit for the operation a certificate to that effect is to be given, and every succeeding two months the child is to be taken to the medical practitioner until Vaccinated, or found insusceptible of vaccine disease. Parents who do not comply with the requirements of this Act are liable, upon conviction, to a penalty not exceeding five dollars; and no such plea of conviction shall be a sufficient defence against any complaint which may afterwards be brought against the parent or guardian for non-compliance with the provisions of the act, respecting the same child.

Such is the substance of a law which is good so far as it goes; but it is limited and partial in its scope. The Provincial Parliament failed in not following the legislature of other countries, and framing a law to render the practice of Vaccination compulsory throughout the Province, and not alone in the larger cities. Such a law, remarks Dr. Hingston, would not have been inquisitorial and would have reached persons of all conditions and of every locality. As it is, the residents of the larger cities are alone benefitted, and such of them only as choose of their own good pleasure, to submit to the repeated invitations of the public Vaccinators. The smaller towns, as Brockville, Prescott, Port Hope, Belleville, Cobourg, &c., are all unprovided with public Vaccinators; while in country districts Physicians in private practice, to whom is left the duty of Vaccinating, are rarely—and in some places, in Eastern Canada at least—never applied to for that purpose.

The mass of the people intended to be benefitted by this law are not impressed with the necessity for, or the usefulness of Vaccination; nay, many have a deep-rooted prejudice against the practice of "putting a scab from a cow upon the skin of a christian." In Montreal, says Dr. Hingston, notwithstanding the policeman's alarm bell, notices in the newspapers, occasional promptings from the pulpit, and large posters in certain localities indicating offices for the services of the public Vaccinators during the past two years; and of these the greater number were Vaccinated when the Act, through the City Council, first obtained partial publicity.

Were all the rest attended to by private practitioners there would be no occasion to find fault; but it is not so. There are many families whose children never have been, or without some stringent compulsory law, never will be inoculated with the vaccine virus. Yet small pox is emphatically a Canadian disease. In the town of Galt, Canada West, in the summer of 1863, it was alarmingly prevalent. Of a population of less than four thousand, one hundred and fifty persons were affected at once. And while the al