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ONLY ONE.

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is that he will procure us **ONE** additional subscriber. This can be easily done, and it will go far towards increasing the efficiency of the journal. We are doing our best to put forth a paper creditable to the country, and our friends should make it a point to assist us. Remember that the Dominion should support at least one illustrated paper. Remember too that the "News" is the only purely literary paper in the country. We invite our friends to examine carefully the present number of the paper and judge for themselves of our efforts in their behalf.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, March 10th, 1877.

IRISH BLOOD IN AMERICA.

The recurrence of St. Patrick's Day and the imposing demonstrations with which it is invariably accompanied, forcibly bring to mind—even if no other circumstance did—the high standing and steadily increasing influence of Irishmen in America. The exile of Erin is found in every climate under the sun, but though he is met by travellers in the remotest and most desolate by-ways of the globe, yet it is chiefly in America that he has found a congenial home, where his best talents and energies can unfold and produce their legitimate fruits.

No one who has followed the history of the United States for the last five-and-twenty years, can help noting the deep traces of Irish influence in the formation of their national character. The population of that country had been heterogeneous from the beginning, but although the Saxon element predominated, the French, Dutch and Spanish influences were strong and served to make the Americans, what they are to-day, a cosmopolitan people. But in our generation, the Irish-Celtic element is fast asserting a kind of supremacy. In numbers the increase has been wonderful, and in an inverse ratio to that of purely American families, for Irish mothers continue as prolific on this continent as they were in their own island, while native American, and especially New England women, are becoming more and more sterile. Mr. ROBINSON, Congressman from Brooklyn, some years ago estimated that fifteen millions of the American people are either wholly or in part of Irish blood, and predicted that at the present proportion of increase, the day is not far distant when there will be a hundred millions of Irish blood on this continent. Of course, if this statement be true—and we believe it is not far wide of the mark—we may readily understand how it must affect the future condition of the United

States. That influence is being felt in other ways, besides the mere pressure of overwhelming numbers. It may be traced to American literature, which is more imaginative, more decorative, more sentimental than it was a century ago. It operates upon its character, too, giving it a cast of chivalry, gaiety and abandon which it had not before. The few brilliant things done in the late war were done by the Irish portion of the Federal army.

The standing of the Irish population in the Dominion of Canada is no less high. Indeed, as a general rule, it is higher. In his work on the "Irish in America," Mr. MAGUIRE expressly states that nowhere on this continent are the Irish more prosperous, more well-to-do, more contented, and more respected than in Canada. This is owing not only to the peculiar advantages of our Government, but also, because they settle down here to agricultural pursuits, for which they are specially well skilled. In the United States, on the contrary, the number of Irishmen who become farmers is comparatively small.

The Irish in Canada are a self-sustaining body in the highest sense of the word. Even if they doubled or tripled in numbers, they could never become a burden to the community, for they have charitable and benevolent societies among themselves, in which, by the most enlightened arrangement, they manage to supply the necessities of the poorest among themselves. This is a consideration in their favor, which should not be lost sight of, and if their example were universally followed, there would be little or no mendicancy in a land so beautiful as ours.

The best qualities of the Irish character are likewise brought out into full play in Canada. This is a country of wide prospects for men of energy and courage. It opens a sphere for every effort, it spreads out a wide horizon for every species of talent. And in the great race that is going on among us, the Irish easily hold their own, as usual. In commerce, in agriculture, at the bar and on the bench, in politics, in literature, in science and strictly professional or technical careers, Irish names are among the foremost.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES is President of the United States. While the high office was still in abeyance, we might canvass the merits of this person and his claims to the trust, but now that the battle is over, and a term of settlement has been reached, we must merge the man in the official, and write of him with becoming respect. In the first place, it is a positive relief that the Presidential question has been solved at all, without the disturbance of the public peace, and that the leaders at Washington magnanimously decided to put the country above party. In all this matter, it is simple justice to say that the Democrats have acted in a very lofty spirit, thus strengthening their organization and endearing themselves to the American people. They had every advantage in their favor, and could have forced the result if they had been so minded; but instead of that they submitted to compromise upon compromise, and when, after an extraordinary combination of circumstances, they found themselves deprived of their dearest and clearest privileges, they gracefully submitted to the inevitable. There was one hope which we, among others, cherished—that Mr. HAYES would step forward as the *Deus ex machina*, and refuse to accept the Presidency as thus tendered to him. But with all his good qualities, Mr. HAYES is only a mortal, and it was too much to expect such heroic abnegation from him. His case is a singular one and unprecedented in the history of the country. He is in a large minority on the popular vote, and his electoral majority is only a unit. In other words, he holds to his office by

a mere thread, and the suspicion of fraud has unfortunately not been removed by the deliberations of the Electoral Commission. In fact, the less said about that Commission the better. The taint it has brought on the impartiality and high judicial spirit of the Supreme Bench is one which, we fear, will be lasting. The Democrats have lost everything, except honor. Like FRANCIS II., at the battle of Pavia, they may exclaim "*Tout est perdu hors l'honneur*." But the loss can only be temporary and is bound to turn out a gain. If they maintain their lines intact, they can virtually rule the President, as they have a majority in the House of Representatives and an increasingly strong minority in the Senate. The State elections will also be sure to go largely in their favor, as the people will use this means to declare their feeling in regard to the Presidential count. We have no doubt that Mr. HAYES' course will be conciliatory, both from disposition and policy, and that he will break loose completely from the party ties which have done so much to impair the efficiency of the Republican rulers.

The pressure on our space is so great this week that we have been reluctantly obliged to postpone a number of articles and literary papers till the next issue.

ESSENCE OF ENGLISH PARLIAMENT.

THE LORDS. — THE TURKISH QUESTION. — QUERIES AND REPLIES.

In the House of Lords, on the 12th, Earl Cadogan explained, in answer to an enquiry by the Duke of St. Albans, that the Engineer officers sent out to survey the fortifications at Constantinople were employed exclusively in the service of Her Majesty's Government, and that the Turkish Government had nothing at all to do with them.

On the 12th, in reply to Earl Granville, Lord Derby stated that the American citizen "Brett" had been surrendered under the Extradition Treaty, on the understanding that he would not be put on trial for any other offence than that for which he was surrendered. The British Government still insist on its construction of the existing treaty.

Earl Granville was also anxious to know why a conversation said to have taken place between the Marquis of Salisbury and Prince Bismarck was not referred to in the Blue Book; the reply being that the conversation was of too confidential a nature to be published. Truly, the Liberal mountain which has been labouring so violently all through the summer and autumn, has so far brought forth ridiculously small mice.

In the House of Commons, on the 12th, Mr. Bourke confessed that the Turkish Government had hitherto done little or nothing to punish the perpetrators of the late outrages in Bulgaria, and in reply to Mr. Gladstone, stated that he had no information as to the execution of the sentence passed on the notorious Achmet Aga, and that the alleged relationship between the infamous Chakfet Pasha and Midhat Pasha had been denied, but he did not know whether it was true or false. He did not know either whether Chakfet Pasha had been arrested or not, but believed he was under surveillance. The amount of information possessed by Government as to the internal affairs of Turkey does not appear to be overwhelming—probably, they consider that where ignorance is comparative bliss 'twere folly to be too inquisitive.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to Sir George Campbell, stated that Sir Henry Elliot was still in the employ of Her Majesty's Government, and that he was not aware of any reason why he should not continue in it. The House seemed indisposed to lend itself to any personal attack on Sir Henry Elliot who has undoubtedly worked very hard under circumstances of great difficulty.

The Attorney-General introduced a Patents Bill which provides some much needed improvements in the facilities for, and the cost of registering inventions in this country.

On the 13th, Mr. Burke provoked a good deal of laughter from the Opposition, by stating that "the reforms instituted by Midhat Pasha would be carried out by his successors."

Mr. Fawcett's motion calling for a select committee to enquire into the financial administration of India led to a lively debate, and was thrown out on division by 173 against 123. The House was unusually well filled during the discussion, and it is satisfactory to see that members are becoming more alive to the importance of Colonial questions as affecting the welfare of the empire at large.

A question from Mr. Samuels as to whether at the time the Prime Minister made his famous speech at the Mansion House, he was aware of the pacific protestations of the Czar, received the curt reply from the Chancellor of the Exchequer "that of course he was," which evoked loud cheers and countercheers.

Mr. Gladstone will ask on Friday, the 16th, "what is the interpretation which Her Majesty's Government now place upon our treaty engagements with Turkey." The intention of the Opposition is to force the Ministry into a declaration as to the course they will take in event of Russia declaring war against Turkey. It is by no means likely that the Government will make any definite statement on the subject; they will probably meet it by an amendment to the effect that in the interests of the country it is inexpedient that they should commit themselves to any line of action before the event occurs. In this they would have the sense of the country with them.

W. H. F.

LONDON, 10th Feb., 1877.

EPHEMERIDES.

BELFORD'S MAGAZINE is mellowing into a purely literary form which is very pleasing to the reader and must be encouraging to the publishers. The first three numbers were partially tentative, but the fourth number has settled down to ease in all its departments. Three of the former departments, Topics of the Times, Olla Podrida, Educational Notes, and Progress of Science, are omitted. This step has been taken for two reasons. First, because the subjects of necessity treated of were more or less handled by the daily newspapers, and, secondly, because the space devoted to them cramped the papers which are more in keeping with the character and purposes of a monthly magazine. The number and variety of articles given in this number will justify the course adopted in this respect; and this number gives an earnest of the success and popularity of this beautiful periodical.

I find that my usual column will be crowded out this week, making room for other articles, but I ask space for a single paragraph, illustrating precisely that literary fraud, a glaring example of which I gave in my Ephemerides of last week. That same number of the NEWS contained a poem, signed Harold, and entitled "Sweet Eyes." Here is what Mr. Richard Slattery writes to the Quebec Chronicle about it. "In the last issue of the Canadian Illustrated News, there is an 'original' poem by 'Harold' of Toronto, and addressed to some young lady—some beautiful young lady, no doubt—in that section of the Dominion. The only thing original about the poem just now, is the original rascality of 'Harold,' who imposed upon the editor of the NEWS, and improved the poem backwards. I hope I won't be regarded as egotistical when I say that I am the author of the (mutilated) poem in the Canadian Illustrated News—'Sweet Eyes.' It is now Harold's turn to rise and explain. I expect him to do so in the next number of the NEWS."

A. STEELE PENN.

GALLERY SKETCHES.

II.

THE GALLERY—ITS STANDING—WHITE—THE "GLOBE"—BELFORD—MACKINTOSH—CARROLL RYAN—SHORT—PHELAN—NORRIS—LUMSDEN—GRIFFIN—COMMITTEE MEETINGS—FRENCH REPORTERS.

I have already adverted to the close relationship existing between the Press and the Parliament. I might more properly term it a mutual dependence. Without the speechifying of the members, the journalists would naturally have nothing to do, but, on the other hand, without the brains and pencils of the reporters, the proceedings in Parliament would be shorn of fully half their importance. It is not only to the publicity which the reports give that I allude, but to the intelligent analysis that is their characteristic feature. There is many a man on the floor below who owes his reputation to one or the other of the writers in the Gallery above. I know of cases where a speaker has been saved from disgrace by the pity of a hostile reporter, or the reticence of a friendly one. A great deal of the service of the press lies in its absolute silence.

The Gallery of this Parliament will compare favorably with that of any Legislative body. It is composed of able, industrious and genial men. Their fellow-feeling is a remarkable feature. A few of them have pronounced political predilections, but the majority care little or nothing for one side or the other, and hence there is almost no disturbing element in their intercourse. The Dominion Editors' and Reporters' Association did not succeed, I believe, as a Press Society, but so far as Ottawa and the sessions of Parliament are concerned, it is a living organization whose good effects are very palpable. It results in at least one good dinner every year, and that is something substantial.

The father of the Gallery is Thomas White, jr., editor of the Gazette of your city, whose fine head and pleasant face are conspicuous objects on a field night. You know how well he writes and speaks, but you would be surprised to see what a good listener he is. Nothing escapes him. No one has done more for the Gallery than he has, and the members would not part with him, except on the sole condition that he took a seat in the body of the House, where he properly belongs. The Globe was at first represented by Richardson and Bradley, but they have gone away to the Hansard. The former is unsurpassed as a reporter, almost commanding