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TEMPERATURE

as observed by HEARN & HARRISON, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

July 10th, 1881.			Corresponding week, 1880		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.. 82°	62°	72°	Mon.. 85°	75°	80°
Tues.. 85°	60°	72°	Tues.. 83°	68°	75°
Wed.. 85°	65°	75°	Wed.. 84°	65°	74°
Thur.. 84°	66°	75°	Thur.. 80°	65°	72°
Fri.. 88°	65°	76°	Fri.. 76°	69°	72°
Sat.. 95°	68°	81°	Sat.. 86°	64°	75°
Sun.. 96°	75°	86°	Sun.. 89°	70°	79°

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NOTICE.

The present number of the

Canadian Illustrated News

contains the first chapters of a romantic novel from the French of

MM. ERCKMANN-CHATRIAN,

ENTITLED:

THE BELLS.

Arrangements are being made for other new and interesting stories to follow.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, July 19th, 1881.

THE WEEK.

We are glad to see that the report of the loss of the *Arizona*, which sent a thrill through the readers of Saturday night's papers, has been contradicted. There is a sense of relief in the contemplation of a horror which we have been spared, which seems an absolute gain. Mean, while we have little reason to be thankful to those who are the means of spreading such canards as that of Saturday. It appears now that the reported accident to the Prince of Wales' son was a stock-jobbing trick. Can nothing be done to punish those who wantonly or unscrupulously trifle with people's feelings for purposes of their own.

The pride of the Englishman, which resides, on no less authority than that of the favourite opera of *Marta*, in the free consumption of beer, is like to have a fall. Despite the deplorable prevalence of drunkenness which still exists in the British Islands the cause of temperance is making distinct and steady progress. Especially is this the case in the country districts. Total abstainers are now as common as ten years ago they were rare. Even in Ireland one may to-day ride behind a temperance car-driver, a being who,

a few years since, would have seemed a contradiction in terms. Since the days of the gentleman who, when asked if he had really drunk three bottles of port without assistance, replied that he had had the assistance of a bottle of Madeira, a change has come over the scene. Drunkenness has become first unfashionable, then indisputably vulgar, and no gentleman to-day boasts of his achievements with the bottle, as fifty years ago our fathers were wont. Abolished from society, its evils have been concurrently preached to the million, and though much remains to be done, much has unmistakably been done in this direction. Education, and the increased self-respect which follows in its train, have done much to alienate the middle and lower classes from the indulgence of their grosser appetites, and will no doubt do more. Even in the large towns, drunkenness, if deplorably frequent, seems more confined to localities and less annoying in its effects, and the scenes of old Greenwich Fair are as rare as the drinking bouts of our grandfathers. Coffee taverns have their patrons and temperance drinks are replacing intoxicating liquors, and now we have the significant project of a temperance exhibition.

TRULY, of the making of exhibitions no less than of books, there is no end. Since the great glass house rose in Hyde Park, in spite of the opposition and evil prognostications of its critics, we have had every conceivable description of exhibition in every conceivable place. But it has been reserved for the present day to bring forth a Temperance Exhibition, an exhibition, that is, of temperance drinks, with the various appliances for making them, which is to be held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, this summer. It is the more remarkable that an attempt to hold a wine exhibition at the Albert Hall some years since proved a total failure. Not in the matter of the exhibits, indeed, for much good wine was there, and for the sum of a shilling entrance, and sixpence for a tasting ticket, a man might drink as much wine as was good for him and a good deal more; but the public did not take to the idea, and the stall-keepers were reduced to hob-nobbing with one another, while the free list bore more than their share of the urden and heat of the day. An attempt to revive the Kensington project would be hopeless, and the success of the Islington scheme may go far to prove that Temperance has become popular. Once this is really the case: once the drunkard becomes as much an outcast amongst the classes to which he has been relegated, as he is amongst these from whom he has been driven, and the battle is well nigh won. The insatiate craving for liquor may ruin some men, but the popularity of drinking has tempted and will tempt many more. Only one question suggests itself and may be left for later discussion. Are all these drinks necessary, temperance or otherwise? It seems now to be allowed that mankind must be provided with appetizing drinks of the most seductive kind, and the Temperance idea seems to imitate the seductiveness of the *soi-disant* John Collins by the temptations of ice-cream sodas and the like. It may be all right. Only it seems a concession to the thirstiness of the human race in general which is suggestive and needs investigation.

FROM PARIS comes a description of the trial in which the Countess d'IMECOURT, seeks to have the marriage of her daughter with M. PAUL MUSURUS declared null and void. Some of the evidence, especially that part of it which is documentary, is of the kind familiar in actions for breach of promise, and is, as Mr. CARLYLE used to say, profitable to no mortal. But one of Madame d'IMECOURT's allegations is of some historical or antiquarian interest. She accuses M. PAUL MUSURUS of having used sorcery. It would be interesting to know how this charge is to be proved. The black art of the Middle Ages was generally employed for some more deadly purpose

than that of overcoming a young lady's objection to marriage. The melting wax of the image before the fire typified the wasting of the body rather than the softening of the heart. A lady who merely experiences a "soft sweet emotion" on receiving her lover's photograph may be in a perfectly natural, if not a highly rational frame of mind. The mysterious wheel described by THEOCRITUS, in a weird poem, was intended to act upon male obduracy, and not upon female disinclination. The wife of LUCRETIVUS too, proceeded by philtres, and produced terrible results. But there is a modern prejudice against accepting such obvious explanations of psychological changes as magic affords, and though the power of such arts may still be, "admitted at the Vatican," it is doubtful whether the Countess will make out this part of her case.

THE QUESTION FOR THE UNITED STATES.

The assassination of GARFIELD of course excited unusual surprise, and condemnation. GARFIELD was not an hereditary ruler, he was not an autocrat, he was not a dictator who had usurped power, but the constitutional choice of a people who, at least, suppose themselves to be free. A man who was not personally unpopular, not even obnoxious to his murderer. No wonder the foreign nations, and particularly those of Europe, should be puzzled to account for the act, and yet such acts are as naturally the outgrowth of the vicious *spoils* system in the United States Government, as Nihilism is the fruit of the despotism of Russia. A large and ill-regulated class who have lost the habits of industry, are kept continually in an abnormal state of excitement by the perpetually recurring elections, federal, state, or civic, which offer their possible prizes in the shape of place, and plunder. It is not to be wondered at that out of this mercenary host, this army of political Bashi Bazouks, some one or two of the hundreds of thousands of disappointed men, a little more delirious than the rest, should be guilty of an act of violence against the obstacle which he sees standing between him and the object of his hopes. There always has been, and daily is growing with fearful rapidity, danger in the *spoils* system of the United States.

One thing was very significant immediately after the attempt on GARFIELD's life. The great majority of the newspapers began crying out "This man is a lunatic, he alone is responsible for his act. No sane man supposes for an instant that he was instigated to the deed by anyone interested in the present struggle in Albany, &c., &c."—and they fell foul of those who hinted that the parties most interested in the death of GARFIELD had anything to do with the shooting. This effort to hush up, or frown down any whisper of suspicion, shows the terror with which men were filled at the possible consequences which would result should the mass of the people once obtain the idea that their public servants in their mad struggle for power had after trying everything else taken to assassination as their last weapon.

Doubtless it is most advisable, in the present state of affairs, that no passion should be needlessly excited, and no charges wantonly made, but it is far more important that this attempt at murder should in no way be hushed up. It should be investigated by the whole people. It should be sifted by the most acute minds, and hunted day and night by the most cunning skill the nation can command.

It is by no means clear yet that this act is merely the individual one of a delirious office seeker, and the nation owes it to its own security, now and for generations to come, to fix clearly, positively, incontrovertibly, whence the crime grew, from the soil which nourished it, to the remotest fibre of the roots which supplied the sap, and follow this up to every ramification of the branches to ascertain if there be any more fruit of a similiar nature ripening there. It must be settled whether this is an *Upas tree*, or simply a fungus.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS:

OUR DOMINION ARCHIVES.

Dear Sir,—The partiality your Journal has ever evinced in favor of the cause of History, induces me to enclose you the following which throws much light on what has been done by the Dominion Government, to render available historical documents relating to the early history of Canada.

An indefatigable searcher of old records, Gen. Horatio Rodgers of Providence, has recently had access to the MSS. of the Literature and Hist. Society of Quebec, after examining the Haldimand papers at Ottawa, which he pronounced a real mine of historical lore which only recently were procured at the British Museum, London.

Would you reproduce the enclosed article from the "Providence Press."

Yours truly,
J. M. LEMOINE.

THE HALDIMAND PAPERS.

The Dominion of Canada is doing a good work, not only for its own history, but likewise for ours. Sir Frederick Haldimand, though born in Switzerland, was an officer in the British army who attained very high rank, and who saw much service in America, his most important duty upon this continent being as Governor-General of Canada during the latter portion of our revolutionary war. Sir Guy Carlton, feeling himself aggrieved at Gen. Burgoyne's being selected, instead of himself, to lead the expedition into New York, promptly resigned the governorship of Canada, but Gen. Haldimand, his successor, did not arrive to relieve him until late in 1778.

It was Sir Frederick Haldimand that sought to detach Vermont from her sister states during our struggle for nationality, and nearly succeeded in doing so. It will be remembered that, through his subordinates, he carried on an active correspondence with many leading Vermonters, and used the difficulties of Vermont, then better known as the Hampshire Grants, with the State of New York, as an important lever in aid of his purpose. The surrender of Cornwallis, in October, 1781, effectually thwarted his efforts, but the correspondence reveals some strange phases of history.

Sir Frederick collected together a vast number of documents during his service, which instead of turning over to his successor, as Carleton had done before him, he kept and handed down in his family. This collection of papers is a perfect mine of wealth pertaining to American history, and contains orders, correspondence and reports relating to the war which affected the British conquest of Canada; the formation and occupation of the British outposts on our northern frontier, including Niagara, Oswego and Detroit; Montgomery's invasion of Canada in 1775, and the expulsion of the Americans therefrom during the next year; the organization and equipment of Burgoyne's expedition in 1777, and Carleton's relations thereto, as evidenced by his letters and orders, which attest the thorough nobility of his character; and generally the whole military conduct of British affairs in Canada during our struggle with the mother country, and the relations then existing between the British ministers at home and the British commanders across our northern borders.

This valuable collection forms 233 large volumes, and was sometime since presented by one of Gen. Haldimand's descendants to the British Museum, where it now remains. It has never been printed, save very small fragments of it upon particular subjects, the most considerable portion that has appeared in print, to our knowledge, being some of the letters relating to the Vermont affair, printed in Vol. II of the Collections of the Vermont Historical Society, and Vol. II of the Records of the Governor and Council of the State of Vermont.

Requests for leave to copy the collection in whole have always been refused until quite recently, when permission was given to the Canadian Government to make a complete copy for its archives. This work is now being vigorously prosecuted under the direction of the Department of Agriculture, Arts and Statistics of the Dominion Government, and much credit is due to the distinguished minister holding that portfolio, for the enlightened enterprise that prompts and pushes forward so important an historical work in its entirety, without niggardly attempting to save a little expense by contenting one's self with extracts—an economy utterly false and parsimonious, since no one can beforehand correctly estimate the of times paramount importance of seeming trifles in fixing and illustrating great events. As yet but ninety-nine volumes have been forwarded to the archives at Ottawa, but, in the course of one or two years more, the whole collection will be completed. The work of arranging for binding and of cataloguing the collection has been entrusted to the able hands of Mr. Douglas Brymner, of the Department of Agriculture, to whose zeal not a little credit is due for the idea of having a copy of this valuable collection upon this continent.

Having recently spent some days in examining this historical treasure, we cannot forbear calling the attention of students of American history to its riches, now so happily, through the enlightened liberality of the Canadian Government, being made accessible to those upon this side of the Atlantic. At the same time we can, from our own experience, assure all who desire to consult its stores, that the unflinching courtesy and the unwearied aid that Mr. Brymner and his assistants will extend to them will make their visit to