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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, June 2nd, 1877.

THE CLAIMS OF THE SAILORS IN ST. LAWRENCE PORTS.

With the recollections of a pleasant holiday still fresh upon our mind, and its influences exercising some permanent influence upon our spirits, we naturally begin to think a little of the happiness of others, and in our spare moments are more disposed than usual even to examine into the elements that make up the work and rest of other lives. We have experienced a break in the course of routine, started a few thoughts in sympathy with what is outside and beyond us, and are not the worse friends and citizens for such enlargement of ideas. It is not that we are now first learning what is good, but rather that the whole moral being is stirred up to the acknowledgment of it. Even the peace and progress of families in its treasured exclusiveness will not be the sole object of our attention. Some measure of thought and action for the good of the community and the stranger will be felt to be indispensable. The charities of our Canadian cities are large and liberal, and their societies effective for their special purposes. But now and then there springs into notice a claim which is based fully as much upon justice as beneficence, and in which we cannot satisfy our sense of what is right if we do not give it the practical attention it demands. Such is the case of the sailors from Europe in the ports of the St. Lawrence. In Montreal the efforts made in their behalf have been crowned with very encouraging success. But we cannot exclude the important Port of Quebec from our field of view; for from the bulky nature of its chief staple, the trade in timber, she actually receives and dispatches a larger number of vessels within the season than her greater sister. We have gone to work, as communities, with system and study in the case of other classes, and our success may well encourage us to go forward until we can contemplate our social system with some general measure of approval. To do this we must set to work to mend the broken links. If there are divergencies of view, the field should be open for fair argument. There are men in the shipping interest in

Quebec, both philanthropic and influential in their civic relations, who take a special view of the Sailor question, and believe that the seamen cannot be kept too closely on board ship when in port. As the consequences of that system are ruinous, we may fairly join issue with them. The first objection is, that you cannot keep the men on board ship in idleness, when the shore they have gained proclaims their natural holiday. They will not stay, and so arise desertions, or a conflict with their employers, for which occasion should never have been given. A few years ago, when the interference of the crimps with the men on board the ships had become intolerable, and even brought on an acute crisis in our maritime affairs, after much stirring advocacy of the cause in the journals, legislation was had recourse to for the exclusion of the intruders from the decks, and from that form of the difficulty we have ever since been free, and this will show what can be done by intelligence and vigour on the part of the public. The men who navigate our ships and bring the stream of commerce and the many appliances of civilized life to our shores, and give safe conduct to the immigrants who are spreading over our lands, from the natural tendencies of the maritime life, and their almost forlorn exclusion from the life of the people with whom their short stay on land brings them into at least visible neighbourhood, are known to be in a more helpless condition than almost any other of the classes which go to make up the social systems of the great empire to which we are proud to belong. Their cause, faithfully presented, should bring compassion to the hearts of the least susceptible. We are neither a cruel nor an unkind people in Canada, but the force of long habit is apt to indurate the best intelligence and good will of ourselves, as of others, and it is only for us to sit down before a difficulty and to say there is nothing to be done to give that difficulty permanence, and by degrees to stultify the senses and affections even of a progressive people. The world outside long ago came to intelligent conclusions upon this subject. It has seen and manifested by its acts that if men are to be kept in decency and humanity, they have to be treated as men, their human feelings consulted, and their social comfort ministered to according to their special needs, such as have grown naturally out of their occupations and life, and thus Sailors' Homes or Sailors' Institutes have been founded in all the great ports not only of the United Kingdom, but of India and the larger colonies. It cannot but strike us as an anomaly that Quebec should have been kept outside of these good influences, moving along on its course of acquiescence in the present, without remedial effort or corporate action. The remark does not however apply to the press of the fortress city, which ever and anon has raised the note of remonstrance and suggested appropriate remedy, and in one of whose latest news columns we read:—"The police appeared with nearly thirty prisoners at the Recorder's Court, this morning, many of them being drunken sailors who lay around the streets on Saturday and last evening in considerable numbers." The difficulty is not a question of expense even at the outset. The people of our city of traditions can spend money and do good even as others. No it is, as we say, a theoretical obstacle that has opposed itself to the well-being of these poor men. The merchants and shippers are desirous to retain the men for the homeward voyage, and they have been led to think they can make sure of their bodies, though certainly not of their minds, if they keep them in restraint all the time the ship is in port. This impulse of self-protection might be more excusable if its logic had not been completely negated by the experience of the maritime world, which has fully ascertained that that course is not the way to secure the desired object. As things are, the poor fellows are quite com-

monly brought up to the police office on the charge of being "absent without leave," and are then generally sentenced to a stay in gaol which lasts until the ship is ready to leave the port. It is not the way to treat free citizens and subjects. If we refuse to provide for their moral and social wants, there might in some cases be little else to be done with them; but it cannot be at all surprising that they exhibit restlessness in their attempted detention on board, with nothing for their hands to do or their minds to be fed by. It would be much more wonderful if it were otherwise, and it is a cruel thing, that they should be subjected to the loss of self-respect which must follow confinement in a common prison, because the people in whose service they are engaged are at fault in some of the first principles that govern human action. Montreal learned better, and with the help of her spirited philanthropists has at least found a place where Jack can sit down to his cup of coffee or tea, and substantial meal of fresh provisions, see the papers, play drafts, write his letters home, and look at a few flowers, which have always a wonderful exotic value for the sailor. Thus is he led to conduct himself like a human being, and the consequence is what might have been expected. The men do not often desert in Montreal as in the lower port. Opportunities are afforded to those who wish to pay them any social attention, but their leisure is not unnecessarily intruded upon. The men are grateful, and considered by no means uninteresting visitors to those who converse with them, hear of the sea life, and offer them simple and unpatronizing kindness. The institution is nearly self-supporting, as the men pay for the accommodation they receive. It is a human gain, and a matter in which all who are willing may become "evolutionists" in the best sense. As to extending the system to Quebec, efforts have already been commenced. Our excellent and constitutional Governor-General has been respectfully approached on the subject, and his sympathy has been most kindly promised. The late Minister of Marine, Hon. P. Mitchell, has accorded his general approval to the plans proposed, and we are sure the gentleman who now fills that office would do no less. Beyond the Atlantic, Miss FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE and other social reformers have assured the advocates of their lively interest. We do not know if Mr. PLIMSOLL has been specially appealed to, but we are convinced he should be. The outlay for the first start of an effective Sailors' Institute in Quebec would not be great, and thenceforward it would nearly support itself. What more need be said in the audience of the British or Canadian public to secure an early commencement of the good work, and on its fulfilment a permanent change for the better in the state and prospects of a useful and deserving class of British subjects, and others, who, if they belong to Europe and may claim the protection of their several States, may by the designed effort be brought into circumstances in this country which will not disgrace us as a Dominion in the eyes of the world, or deprive our ports of the preference of ship masters whose interests are bound up with those of the men themselves.

WE are not doctors, neither are we sanitary or mechanic police, (the latter a body decidedly in requisition amongst us), but we cannot nevertheless refrain from hoping that the Grand Trunk Company have repaired the hole in their wharf at Levis through which a fine young man was lately precipitated into the St. Lawrence, and lost his life. As, after the verdict of the Coroner's jury, however considerate of Company feelings, as such verdicts almost invariably are, such action on their part is not impossible, we take the opportunity of suggesting to them in this connection a general overhaul of their station grounds over the line, so as to eliminate the various man-traps that may be found in and about them. This

inspection is a prime duty of the Company, and is the more binding upon them, morally, through our possessing no government or civil inspections over their practice. Even now, there are a few men of leisure in our cities who have a special value because they have leisure, and who might spare the time from their cheerful recreations to make a few voluntary inspections before accidents occur. Persons not in the neighbourhood, or who are regularly engaged in their daily avocations, it will be well understood could not so easily do this.

THE REVIEW.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW.

On the anniversary of the birthday of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, I determined on an original amusement, and accordingly, after watching the various regiments pass through the streets on their way to Fletcher's Field, I wended my way to Notre Dame Church where, after a confidential conversation with the janitor concerning the transfer of a certain coin of the realm which resulted in his entire satisfaction, I commenced my ascent of the stairs leading to the top of the right-hand tower of Notre Dame Church. After about six or eight minutes treadmill work I arrived at the belfry where the big bell resides in solitary state. There I rested for a short time enjoying the cool breeze and glorious view obtainable from that height; but "excession" was my motto, so stepping once more on the treadmill I continued my weary work till I arrived at the top. But on arriving there all weariness departed, such a sight would have been compensation for twice, aye, four times the exertion I had made. At my feet the city lay spread out before me looking like a huge devil-fish with its streets spreading in every direction, some straight, some winding and extending into other branches, all eager to grasp their occupants and convey them to their fountain head; but their occupants were few, the streets wore a Sunday dinner-time aspect; but very few passengers were to be seen, much to the disgust of the carters in the Square below. Where were the people gone? Where was my field-glass? I had forgotten to bring one and I certainly did not feel inclined to descend for it, and then re-ascend especially, as I found an obliging gentleman all ready on the top who kindly allowed me the use of his. Then I could the better distinguish where the people had gone. Behind the Hotel-Dieu was a long dark line running towards the mountain side on which the "people" were clustered by thousands. What were they there to see? There is the answer,—the long dark line suddenly gets in motion and marches past, many colored, the sun glittering on their accoutrements like spots of electric light. All at once the bells in the adjoining tower sounded noon, and so soon as the sound thereof had had time to travel to Fletcher's Field smoke was observed to puff up followed some thirty seconds after by a faint boom. Hardly had the boom reached our ears when another was heard louder and clearer, it was from St. Helen's Island where a detachment from the M. G. A. were firing a royal salute. "What a pretty sight," said a lady near me, and she was right. The smoke was seen puffing out, and after some fifteen seconds was followed by the clear boom. The royal salutes finished, the fusillade on Fletcher's Field was distinctly heard, then a sudden disturbance of the masses and all was quiet. A farewell glance around at the beautiful panorama at my feet, dotted here and there with flags of all nations, green trees, shining roofs and steeples, &c., and I descended perfectly satisfied with the manner in which I had spent and enjoyed at least one portion of the Queen's Birthday.

HISTORY OF THE WAR.

Now that the war between Russia and Turkey has assumed definite proportions, and is likely to be protracted, we have decided upon publishing every week a carefully prepared digest of events as they proceed. This will not be a mere transcription of unreliable telegrams, but a critical sifting of all the despatches, and an account of our own specially written with a view to accurate information. This record, accompanied by suitable war-pictures, and the two double-page maps which we have already published, with others that we may present, as circumstances require, will form the most interesting and reliable history of the great contest to be found in any paper. Our readers may therefore look to the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS for accurate intelligence from the seat of hostilities, from week to week, and this intelligence, if preserved and collected, will constitute a series of annals of permanent value for reference.

I.

THE CAUSES OF THE WAR.

In 1874, the collection of taxes from Slavic Christians in the Herzegovina by Turkish officials proved a failure. In January, 1876, an attempt to enforce the payment of taxes and arrears with unusual rigor led to scenes of violence between the peasants and the collectors.