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TEMPERATURE.

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

THE WEEK ENDING

Oct. 5th, 1879.			Corresponding week, 1878.		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.. 67°	55°	61°	Mon.. 62°	42°	52°
Tues. 77°	59°	68°	Tues. 64°	41°	52.5°
Wed. 75°	65°	70°	Wed. 71°	55°	63°
Thur. 76°	56°	66°	Thur. 74°	57°	65.5°
Frid. 71°	61°	66°	Frid. 68°	56°	62°
Sat. 67°	48°	57.5°	Sat. 63°	53°	58°
Sun. 72°	54°	63°	Sun. 62°	48°	55°

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, October 11, 1879.

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LETTER PRESS.—Revenue Returns—Quebec Y. M. C. A. Building—Depreciation of Canada—Lord Beaconsfield's Speech—Short Editorials—"My Creoles," continued.—The Retreat from Russia—Dickens in the Press—Poetry—Paragraphs—Brevettes pour Dames—Humorous—Literary—Varieties—Our Chess Column.

THE memoir of the life and political services of the late Senator CARRALL, of British Columbia, appeared in our last issue.

THE assessment for 1880 just completed shows the population of Ottawa to be 24,015, a decrease of about 800 as compared with last year.

A NEW phosphate mill is about to commence operations at Kingston, under the management of Mr. LORNER, a French-Canadian, of large experience in this branch of industry.

A NEWSPAPER at Fort Frances, on the Rainy River, is henceforward to be issued at Rat Portage, on the Canadian Pacific Railway. It will be called the *North Star*. This place is of rising importance on account of its manufactory.

THE two English Agricultural Commissioners are now travelling in Manitoba. They will probably gather facts as to its wheat-growing resources and also its capabilities for stock-raising. But it appears from the reports that the authorities of Minnesota and Dakota are much more active in showing them attention than those of Manitoba.

M. JULES BERNARD has arrived in this city, with the view of making arrangements to ship cattle from Canada to Antwerp, Rotterdam and Bordeaux. If he succeeds in finding means of transportation, he will at once consign 500 head to Antwerp. Here is another step in that cattle exportation trade which we prophesied a year ago would become one of the chief industries of the Dominion. There is talk, of course, of a direct line of steamers between Montreal and Antwerp, the chief sea-port of Belgium.

THE Liberals of Ontario, including Mr. MACKENZIE, Mr. GEORGE BROWN, and Mr. MOWAT, have presented an address of sympathy to Mr. LEFELIER, together with an invitation to a public dinner. But ill health obliged him to decline the latter. To the former, however, he wrote a long

reply, in which he expresses his thanks for the sympathy shown him, and defends, at considerable length, his position. The address to him is remarkable for the absence of both the names of Mr. BLAKE and Mr. CARTWRIGHT. It is fair, however, to remark that there was no attempt to get up an array of names; and it would be easy to make inferences that would lead to error.

It appears that no less than fifteen delegates from the tenant farmers of the United Kingdom have accepted the invitation of the Minister of Agriculture, and are now actually travelling in Canada. These gentlemen have seen the Dominion Exhibition at Ottawa, and, we understand, are very favourably impressed with it. We have heard that their views, so far, are not dissimilar from those which were expressed by the British Commissioners at Toronto. A portion of the delegates have gone to Manitoba, while another portion will remain in the old Provinces. We shall probably hear in a few weeks the result of their several investigations. This much is quite certain, that whatever statements they may make, whether favorable or the reverse, will command far more confidence among the tenant farmers of the United Kingdom than any representations which could be otherwise made to them. We therefore hope a great deal from the visits of these gentlemen. If it is true, as we confidently believe, that there will be a very considerable breaking up among the tenant farmer class of the United Kingdom, it is very desirable, if they remove from their old homes, that they should still come to a country over which the British flag waves, rather than strengthen the hands of the foreigner, whose every step is commercially hostile to the mother country.

It is but fair to Mr. CHAUVEAU that we should this week do what the pressure on our space last week prevented, and that is to notice the long letter he has written to defend himself from attacks which it would seem from the tone of his remarks he has felt keenly. He was boldly charged with having acted, in his resignation, in the interest of railway rings; but to this he answers that he had always opposed the policy of leasing the Government Railway; and, therefore, he concludes there is no good ground to make this attack upon him. He states it is true that he has for some time past, from a period before the session, been in favour of coalition, from a belief that the interests of the Province required the existence of a stronger Government. He further states he is aware that several members of the House on the Ministerial side also entertain this view. If this should be established by actual vote when the House again meets, it will be bad for Mr. JOLY's Government. But, as the other side is not any stronger, the situation is a most unhappy one, and it is difficult to see what will be the way out of the entanglement. As far as the contending parties themselves are simply concerned, coalition would be an easy solution; but nothing of that kind can now be done, in view of the decisive attitude which Mr. JOLY has taken, strongly backed, as he appears to be, by the sympathies of the Ontario Liberals. On the other side, there is the difficulty of the position arising out of the vote of the Council. We do not pretend to be able to solve it. We simply point it out.

REVENUE RETURNS.

The pressure on our columns last week prevented our noticing the Revenue Returns of the Dominion. They continue to show results which are bad for the prophets of evil, but very satisfactory, nevertheless, for the country at large. It was not wise for party men and party journals to predict so vigorously that the effect of Sir LEONARD TILLEY's tariff would be shown in decreasing revenue. The fact is, the Customs Returns from January to August show a total of \$8,956,486.70,

against \$8,160,182.53 for the corresponding period of the previous year, giving a sum of \$796,304.27 as the excess of Customs Revenue for the 8 months of 1879, as compared with 1878. The Inland Revenue Returns show collections amounting to \$338,960.49 to the end of August, in excess of the corresponding months of the previous year, making a total increase of revenue for the 8 months of \$1,135,210.76. An increase in the figures of the revenue of this kind will probably put the question of deficits out of its misery for the future, which is a consummation sincerely to be hoped. It is a fact that the Tariff was framed with a view to increase of revenue, and it was not wise to attack it, on the ground that it was not. It is, moreover, a fact that the greater strictness which is now observed in the collection, and especially the care being taken to prevent invoices being written down below their fair market value, will tend to afford full returns of Customs duties on one side, while it will, on the other, make more difficult the custom which has prevailed of bringing in goods from the United States at less than their value to be "slaughtered" to the injury of Canadian manufacturers. The elasticity of the revenue may also be accepted as a sign of returning confidence, which is certainly a cause of great satisfaction. Large sums have come into the country from the sale of cattle. There is a decided improvement in lumber, and when to these is added the prospect of enhanced prices for the good harvest, we have conditions which should go a long way towards bringing back the old prosperity, especially as there is reason to hope that the old rotten commercial operations are now well weeded out.

THE QUEBEC Y. M. C. A. BUILDING.

The Quebec Young Men's Christian Association building, an engraving of which we give in this issue, will, when completed, cost about \$40,000. Owing to the commercial depression, the Directors have concluded that they will not furnish the rear building until \$12,000 more have been subscribed. The front building, facing on St. John street, is to be ready for occupation by the 1st January, 1880, and will cost \$26,000, towards which \$18,000 have been subscribed. This building will contain four stores, with good cellars, and it is expected that a revenue of \$2,000 a year will be derived from this source. In the centre is the main entrance, and a stair 12 feet wide leads up to the Reading Room, which is 45 x 46, with a height of 18 feet, and a large balcony window, 8 x 14, overlooking the whole of the country lying between the St. Charles River and the mountains. Here, also is found the Secretary's Office, Cloak Room, Committee Room, Private and Conversation Parlors, Lavatory, &c. Above this we find rooms set apart as residences for the Secretary and Janitor, and three bath-rooms. The rear building, the walls of which are now about 12 feet up from the foundation, will contain Gymnasium, Dressing rooms, Bath rooms, Kitchen and Social room, and a Hall capable of seating 700 on the floor and 300 in the gallery. There will also be a reporters' gallery, lavatory, &c., connected with the platform. The small building between the front and rear forms the landing, so that entering on St. John street the Hall is reached from this landing, and in cases where the Hall is rented only, the Glacis street entrance will be used, which will be the same width as that from John street. There are many old Quebecers resident in Montreal and other parts of the Dominion, who might yet feel interest enough in the welfare of the old city to cause them to contribute to the completion of this very handsome and commodious building for young men. It is very desirable that the needed \$12,000 should be on hand in time for the work of completion, to be proceeded with in the spring, and all contributions sent to the Secretary of the Association will be gratefully acknowledged.

DEPRECIATION OF CANADA.

We have had occasion to protest against the ignorance and malevolence which, even among our own writers, is directed to a depreciation of this country. While we pardon or pity this spirit among foreigners, whether American or English, we have no patience with it when manifested among ourselves. When all good men are trying hard and in earnest patriotism to build up a nationality, it is a positive disgrace to have some embittered minds doing their best to hinder or destroy the work. These are literary or political ghouls.

We were surprised to find in the last number of the *Canadian Monthly*—a number, in other respects, of unusual excellence—a paper on Political Morality in which the worse features of this anti-national spirit are displayed. It would be beneath notice of itself, but appearing in our chief, indeed our only monthly periodical, it may do mischief from that very consideration and therefore should be met. Who the author is we do not know, but we should not be surprised to learn that he is some disappointed politician or disgusted office-seeker, for mostly all our croakers come out of this class. He rings the changes on all points, social, political, executive, departmental and finds fault with us in all. Of course, nothing else could be expected when we ground our institutions on the British Constitution of which this amiable author says "that it is an unfailling theme for the admiration of certain people who imagine that political wisdom could devise no better scheme of government; yet, it is essentially one of faction and conspiracy, and in the form in which it has been transmitted to us, contains the worse element of absolutism and anarchy." We can understand a good angry growl now and then, for that is thoroughly English and patriotically meant, but the motive of these attacks against everything in Canadian politics is inexplicable. For instance, the writer, after exhausting every other point, runs a tilt against our geographical position. "A glance at the map of North America shows that the Dominion extends across the broadest part of the continent, a zig-zag shelf of mountain and prairie devoid of natural boundaries from Thunder Bay to a few miles below the mouth of Lake Ontario. It is barricaded on the north by eternal winter and interminable ice, while the continuous territory on the south is occupied by an unconquerable power determinedly hostile to everything British and Canadian. To these advantages must be added a climate which closes our ports against commerce for six months in every year; the wonder then is not that Canada should be in its present backward condition, but that its people ever contrived to wrest from reluctant nature and foreign step-mother government the amount of material prosperity and political freedom which they do enjoy. Circumscribed by climate, hemmed in by artificial boundaries projected in defiance of geographical limitations, with nothing but a fading tradition to separate the inhabitants from a great progressive kindred people, the dream of Canadian nationality or even the perpetuation for any length of time of British supremacy in North America, appears in the light of sober judgment one of the wildest chimeras that ever haunted the political imagination." We cannot discuss such rubbish, but cite it only as a specimen of a pernicious class. Fortunately it refutes itself. Fortunately, too, all these croakers cannot stay the onward march of our young country.

LORD BEACONSFIELD'S SPEECH.

The *London Times* of September 19th brings us the full report of Lord BEACONSFIELD'S speech at Aylesbury, the telegraphic summary of which has excited so many remarks in both the United States and Canada. As we expected, the full report does not confirm the accuracy of the telegraphic summary. In the first place,