

The Dominion Illustrated.

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PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

SPECIAL.

During the month of December we will give to new subscribers the current first six months, twenty-six numbers, of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, making a volume of 416 pages, containing over 250 beautiful engravings, and a great amount of interesting and instructive reading, ALL FOR ONE DOLLAR, the conditions being that the subscriber remits, *at the same time*, \$4.00 for a full year's subscription, beginning 1st January, 1889. In other words, we offer eighteen months' subscription for \$5.00, or again, we give away three months' subscription gratis. Persons wishing to form clubs can obtain their own subscription FREE, by sending us the price of *four* subscriptions, as now offered.

This offer is open for December only, and should be taken advantage of *early*, as our stock of back numbers is limited.



In reply to several queries, we may state that the population of Prince Edward Island is set down at 120,000 souls. That of Charlottetown is about 12,000. In proportion of its size, there is no province in the Dominion that has men more distinguished in public life and literature. The legend on its escutcheon is one of the happiest conceits ever devised, taken from Virgil:

Laurea pinus

Parva sub ingenti patris se subjicit umbra,

The first volume of the French census of 1886, just issued, shows that the number of children in a family is only 2.07. Eight out of every hundred of the children are unlawful. In 37 years the number of native-born French has increased less than 1,500,000. The handful of French in Canada increased in the same time from about 500,000 to 1,300,000. During the last forty years more persons of French descent have been born in Canada than in Old France. It is a hard thing to say, but France is visibly wasting down, and if she does not multiply her marriages and increase her births, she will wilt into inanition.

Our main safeguard in Canada has been the inviolability of the marriage tie, the scarcity of divorce and early marriage. But we must have a care. While the laws of Quebec, for instance, do not provide for divorce, there is recognized a system of "annulment," which is being carried out more and more. While the large cities are not to be relied on, in this respect, there is ground for belief that, in the country parts, the good old fashion of almost life-long marriages and plenty of children will be kept up.

The long-lived chiefs of the Indian tribes, dwelling on the historical reserves of the older provinces, among white men, are gradually passing away, and as each one goes, his name ought to be kept on record. The last of these deaths is that of the well known Kadhagewon, "Spotted Feather," Chief of the Saugeen band of Ojibway

Indians, who died at Port Elgin, Ont., aged 83. He received a valuable silver medal from George III., for loyalty to the British Crown, in 1812-14. He also received a medal from the Prince of Wales when the latter visited Canada in 1860.

Mr. Blake is a native Canadian, and hence is our common property. We, therefore, naturally resent insinuations made against him by writers who should respect his ability and his record. Surely one of these might have spared himself his school-boy English precedents in treating of Mr. Blake's legal connection with the railway question in the Northwest. To talk of Oliver St. John not holding a brief for ship-money, or Somers doing the same for the arbitrary prerogative of James II., is laughable enough, but to add that Samson ground in the mill of the Philistines without a fee is an insult.

We stated casually, last week, that Quakers were unknown in Canada. And so we thought. But we are glad to learn that we were mistaken. An esteemed correspondent from Ottawa informs us that there are large settlements of the Disciples of Fox in Prince Edward county, Picton, Bloomfield and other parts. Also, in the Township of Mariposa, County of Victoria. This being the case, there must be members of the Society of Friends elsewhere in the country, and we should be happy to hear from any that chose to furnish us with statistics.

The record of the graduates of our Royal Military colleges is most worthy and deserving of being set before the public. The positions held by the 128 graduates and the 33 ex-cadets, who obtained their discharge before graduating, are:—Of the graduates, 26 are now holding commissions in the Royal Engineers, 12 in the Royal Artillery, 1 in the cavalry and 9 in the line. Twenty-four graduates are civil engineers in Canada; 9 following the same profession out of Canada; 12 are in the Civil Service, 9 of them being employed professionally as engineers; 4 are in the Regiment of Canadian Artillery, 2 in the Infantry of School Corps, 6 in the Mounted Police, 2 are instructors in the R. M. C., and the rest are following miscellaneous employments. Of the ex-cadets not graduates three hold commissions in the Royal Engineers, three in the Royal Artillery and nine in the line.

It is beyond belief that the Mormons, from Utah, settling at Lee's Creek, in the Northwest, should have the assurance to talk of importing polygamy in their covered waggons and harbouring it under their new thatches on the prairie. Mr. A. Maitland Stenhouse, who resigned his seat in the B. C. Legislature to join the colony, states that the Mormons there do not propose to abandon polygamy. He argues that they have as much right to practise polygamy as the Mohammedans of British India. Reports from Lee's Creek say that in some of the settlers' houses three or four women are residing, only one of whom is the wife, the rest being "aunties," but whether "aunties" or "wives," the Government is determined not to put up with polygamy on Canadian soil.

In one of his discussions, Dr. Whiton asks: "Is Deception Ever a Duty?" and takes his text from 2 Kings, vi. 19: "This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow, me and I will bring you to the man whom ye seek. But he led them to Samaria." Then the doctor holds that the great point is not only "Are we allowed to wander from

truth?" but "What is my duty?" Duty has sometimes conflicting claims.

On this continent, where we have to deal with the red and black man, numbering still several millions, it would be well to heed what Dr. Needham Cust says, in his "Notes on Mission Subjects." He holds that civilization is the incidental, not the primary, object of a mission. It is wrong to expect that civilization must precede evangelization; it may accompany it. The missionary should have as a model not the British nor New England village, but the villages of Palestine, such as they were when our Lord passed through them. Nothing is so bad as to turn a negro into a pseudo-Englishman.

It is a mistake to say that Quebec women are more prolific than those of Ontario, for instance. Before five years of age, Quebec has indeed the upper-hand, but, above that age, Ontario raises more children than her sister province, according to the population. Still here, in Montreal, we have the authenticated case of Mother Quintal, who just celebrated her 95th birthday with 14 children, 113 grandchildren, 138 great grandchildren, and 20 great-great-grandchildren.

The number of secret societies in the United States is legion. There are over 200 fraternities, benevolent, social, insurance, political, religious, temperance and other secret orders. Following is the membership of some of the prominent American organizations: Freemasons, 600,000; Odd Fellows, 530,000; Grand Army of the Republic, 380,000; Knights of Pythias, 210,000; Good Templars, 200,962; Ancient Order of United Workmen, 191,876; Knights of Honour, 124,756; The Royal Arcanum, 80,000; Improved Order of Red Men, 64,000; American Legion of Honour, 61,664; Knights and Ladies of Honour, 46,200; Sons of Veterans, 47,000; Ancient Order of Foresters, 38,539; Daughters of Rebekah, 33,858; Knights of the Golden Eagle, 30,000; and Order of Chosen Friends, 29,271. The total number of Masons in the world is estimated at 4,000,000. The total number of Druids in the world is 67,000.

NATURE AND ART.

Among the public lectures of Laval University, delivered fortnightly during the winter season, the series of M. Desmazures, Professor of Archaeology, have been singularly entertaining and instructive. In his last lecture he made a striking and picturesque explanation of the evolving tendencies of nature into art, and showed how architecture, for instance, is nothing less but a copy of the works which God set before the eyes of man.

Thus, in the beginning, trees served for the habitation of man. A tree planted in the earth was taken for support. Its boughs were so much covering, and they were gathered and fastened together. Branches were set around, garnished with leaves, moss, creepers, and all this afforded a scanty shelter. Later, instead of a natural tree, an artificial one was made, with artificial boughs, and this afforded the framework of a house. Then to the walls, in the room of leaves, was set kneaded earth, by the aid of which cold and insects were kept aloof. The doorway was quite low, narrow and solid, to give protection against wild beasts. Then, fire was introduced into the hut, with an opening at the top for ventilation. This fire proved very useful, and was employed to burn