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TEMPERATURE

as observed by Hearn & Harrison, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

April 16th, 1883.			Corresponding week, 1882.		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon. 46°	42°	44°	Mon. 38°	16°	27°
Tues. 50°	32°	41°	Tues. 42°	24°	33°
Wed. 48°	38°	43°	Wed. 46°	24°	35°
Thur. 48°	38°	43°	Thur. 46°	24°	35°
Fri. 53°	32°	41°	Fri. 47°	23°	35°
Sat. 55°	47°	51°	Sat. 34°	22°	28°
Sun. 52°	46°	49°	Sun. 22°	3°	8°

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, April 21, 1883.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

This literary and scientific association which was established last year has been duly incorporated during the present session of Parliament. The pleasant and honorable task of presenting the measure to the House was entrusted to Mr. Joseph Tassé, M. P. for Ottawa City. We have before us the speech of this gentleman and the perusal thereof has afforded us much gratification, as we found it worthy both of the society represented and of the literary reputation of Mr. Tassé himself. Outside of his personal merits, the reason the member for Ottawa was chosen to stand sponsor for the Society was that, curiously enough, he is the only F.R.S.C. in Parliament. His proposition was seconded by Mr. Ross, member for Middlesex, in a graceful and scholarly speech, for which he deserves the thanks of the Society. The act of incorporation was well received by the House, and there was a further testimony of favor in the fact that five thousand dollars were placed in the estimates for the benefit of the Association.

The result is that the Royal Society of Canada has now an official, and consequently a responsible existence. Everything preliminary having been done for it by the enlightened initiation of the Governor-General and the liberality of Parliament, it remains for the Society itself to assure its own maintenance and take such efficient steps as will place its prosperity beyond a peradventure.

The need of such an institution in a young country like ours was long recognized, but there was a difference of opinion in regard to the details of its constitution. It was felt by many that the section of English literature, for instance, should not be included therein. This was the view of the present writer, who has himself the honor of being a Fellow of the Society, and he gave public expression to it at the time. The contrary opinion prevailed, however, and he, for one, is quite willing to give the attempt a full and fair trial. It was likewise thought that the French section of literature should be formed into a separate Academy, based in its composition on its celebrated French prototype. In spite of this, it may be as well that French letters should be incorporated in the general body, so that the whole literary element of Canada should be grouped into a whole and thus form a representative body. With regard to the scientific sections there could be no debate, as they assimilated the Association to the Royal Society of Great Britain, which is exclusively scientific.

The second annual meeting of the Society will be held at Ottawa, in the chamber of the House of Commons, on the 22nd of next May, when it is expected that all the details of the Constitution will be definitely settled. The efficient Secretary, Mr. John G. Bourinot, has sent circulars to all the learned bodies of the Dominion, most of which have kindly responded by electing one or more of their members to represent them at the session. This is a very judicious movement which, it is hoped, will result in substantial good. Furthermore, the Perpetual Secretary of the Academie Francaise has written a gracious letter to Hon. Mr. Chauveau, Vice-President, and mouth-piece of the French section, recognizing the Society and wishing it the largest measure of prosperity. Perhaps, next year, we may have one or more of the distinguished Forty attending the sitting at Ottawa.

In advance of the meeting, it is impossible to tell what form the deliberative and executive transactions of the Society will take, but it is safe to assume that measures will be adopted to have some kind of archives opened and preserved, and for this the appropriation of the Government will be found useful. A number of papers on literary and scientific subjects are being prepared by members, and as these will be carefully elaborated, it is expected that the best of them will be consigned to the Secretary for publication in durable form. Naturally these papers will not be dissertations on general topics, but essays of distinctly Canadian interest, brief and to the point. Thus will they represent the actual current of Canadian thought during the year.

We confess we look forward with much curiosity to the deliberations of the next annual meeting. Upon them will depend the ultimate success of the Society, both in the eyes of the members themselves, and of the intelligent people of the country at large. We need hardly add that we sincerely wish all may turn out for the best.

THE WEEK.

It is satisfactory to learn from the despatches that, after all, Canada will make a creditable showing at the approaching Fisheries Exhibition in London.

The Shearer scheme has been thrown out of Committee. No other result could have been anticipated after the adverse reports of the Harbor and Government Engineers, and the protests of our principal shipping bodies.

DR. DAWSON, Principal of the McGill College, has obtained a year's leave of absence which he will spend in Europe and Egypt. No term of repose was ever more richly won. May the learned professor find the boon of entire recuperation in his long voyage.

The Orange Incorporation Bill bids fair to give Sir John Macdonald a deal of trouble. No further shirking will be allowed, if we are to judge from resolutions passed at a mass meeting in Ottawa, on Friday evening, and political entanglements further complicate the situation.

The three rising men of the Liberal party in Ottawa, are Messrs. Patterson, of Brant; Ross, of Middlesex, and Charlton, of Norfolk. They spoke in the above order during the budget debate and acquitted themselves well. In any future Liberal Ministry, they are sure to be members.

IN Philadelphia, a force of 1,400 men was set to work, and in the course of a single night, all the streets of that large city were thoroughly cleaned. If half of this enterprise were shown in Montreal, the cost would not be more, while the comfort and the advantage to business would be immeasurably increased.

ACCORDING to Dr. G. M. Dawson, the great problem of fuel supply in British Columbia is effectively solved. Lignite and coal are found abundantly in the interior of the Pacific Province, while the Victoria bituminous coal has been proved to be very much superior to American coals in steam producing power.

The first stage in the Picheux Park murder trial has been reached. Joseph Brady has been found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. None will rejoice more at this manifestation of justice than the true-hearted Irishmen who love their country for its own sake, and feel how sorely its cause has been injured by this outbreak of violence and blood.

For the second time, the French-Canadian volunteer force will have the honor of sending forth a commander of our Wimbledon team. Col. Ouimet is the officer appointed and the choice is received with satisfaction on all sides. On a former occasion it was Col. Blanchet, late Speaker of the House of Commons, who led our Canadian marksmen.

DR. BEERS, of this city, is hard at work making final preparations for the voyage of his double lacrosse team which sails from Portland on May 3rd, in the steamship *Sarnia*. This sporting visit to Great Britain will be one of the events of the coming summer season, and from what we learn, it will result in doing incalculable good to the vital cause of immigration.

The police are naturally reticent about the recent alleged attempt to blow up Rideau Hall with dynamite. While we must accept all such reports with caution, there is such a dangerous spirit abroad, and the devilish powder can be so secretly manipulated, that we need not be surprised any morning to learn of some terrible catastrophe at points where it is least expected.

AS we write, the apprehensions of a general flood are by no means allayed. The Ottawa, Pike, Chateauguay, Yamaska, Richelieu and St. Lawrence rivers are overflowing their banks and there has already been considerable loss of property. The appearances are, however, that the inundation will be only partial and that navigation will be opened earlier than was expected.

The event of the week in Montreal has been the remarkable performance of Mr. Stuart Cumberland. That gentleman professes to expose the tricks of spiritualism, but on what other grounds can he explain his own mind reading? Thought is a spiritual entity, and however it may be affected in any single individual by physical agencies, it surely cannot be transmitted to another mind by a purely material channel.

BALANCING the figures adduced by the two interested parties, it is now pretty well understood that the Mowat Government, if not in an absolute minority of the popular vote, cannot show proof of a positive majority, and this fact, coupled with the slenderness of its Parliamentary majority, will not tend to strengthen its hands. From a constitutional point of view, the result is an anomaly which should engage the attention of legislators.

The Opposition at Ottawa continue to place themselves squarely on record against the National Policy. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie especially, is unsparing in his hostility. This would not matter so much, if the fact were not accompanied by misgivings of impending commercial trouble throughout the country. All of us, no matter what our political opinions may be, should unite in setting forth the prospects and resources of the Dominion so as to encourage immigration.

ANOTHER orator has revealed himself in Parliament. By a single speech, Mr. Foster, of King's County, N.B., has placed himself in the front rank of public speakers. Not only is he fluent and well instructed, but he has many of the highest attributes of rhetorical excellence, which remind one of merits that had not been prominent in the House since the palmy days of Howe and McGee. *Tanto meglio*. Our legislature will gain apparently by his advent.

THE return of the Princess Louise is an event of political significance. Rightly or wrongly, the impression has gone abroad that Her Royal

Highness did not want to reside at Ottawa, where she has not set foot, if our memory serves us, for over two years. Her appearance in the Capital will put an end to those stories, and her presence will do much toward gracefully rounding off the last months of her noble husband's administration. On this, as well as on personal grounds, we shall all cordially welcome her back.

THE immigration returns for 1882 are wonderfully encouraging—no less than 112,458 strangers having settled in Canada during the year. There was furthermore a large number of settlers from the United States, the majority of whom were Canadians drawn back to their native land by the prosperous times. If we can keep on at this rate during the rest of the decade, we shall, with the additional aid of natural reproductions, have a couple of millions more to the good, when the next census is made out.

MR. JOHN LOWE, the able and zealous Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, has never done a more patriotic service than by proving, with the aid of the official statistics which he has the best means of verifying, that the Canadian emigration into the United States is not near so large as has been represented from the other side. After his last report, we hope to hear no more of those ridiculous stories, and we trust that none of our own politicians will so far stultify themselves as to use them in the furtherance of partisan warfare.

AS will be seen by the memorial published in another column, the Quebec Cabinet is making a very heavy call upon the Federal Government. The question is quite an open one, but there is underlying it a very serious responsibility which the latter will not assume if they can possibly help it. All we shall say for the present is that it is a thousand pities the second great Province of the Dominion should see itself reduced to make such a claim. When Quebec leads, the way, the younger Provinces will, of course, want to follow.

FROM a letter addressed to us by Mr. John James Jones, and published in another column, it appears that the retirement of Sir Alexander Galt causes much regret throughout Great Britain. We have already expressed our own regret on the subject. The prospective appointment of Sir Charles Tupper to the vacant High Commissionership continues to excite surprise, and as the appointment will not be confirmed until after the close of the session, we shall have no official explanation of the change until next year. And yet the event is of sufficient importance to warrant a public exposition of the inducing reasons.

ADDRESS

FROM THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA, CLAIMING A MODIFICATION, TO THE EFFECT THAT THE SUBSIDY TO THIS PROVINCE BE CALCULATED ACCORDING TO EACH PRECEDING CENSUS.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir John Douglas Sutherland Campbell (commonly called the Marquis of Lorne), Knight of the most ancient and most noble Order of the Thistle, Knight Grand Cross of the most distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor-General of Canada and Vice-Admiral of the same.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The loyal subjects of Her Majesty in the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Quebec, assembled, deem it their duty humbly to represent:

That, before Confederation, the Provinces had the right to levy the moneys required for the public service, by imposing Customs and Excise duties, and by all other modes or systems of taxation;

That by the resolutions adopted by the delegates appointed to consider the scheme of uniting the Provinces under one government and upon which the Union Act is founded, the power to levy Customs and Excise duties was taken from the local and conferred upon the General Government;

That the 64th resolution, which granted the Provinces an annual subsidy of eighty cents per