

The Dominion Illustrated.

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5th JANUARY, 1889.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

We are glad to announce that we have made arrangements with the well known house of John Haddon & Co., 3 and 4 Bouverie street, Fleet street, E.C., London, England, to be our representatives in Great Britain. They are authorized to receive subscriptions and to make contracts for advertising space. THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED will be kept on file by them, and they will be in a position to answer all enquiries relative to the publication.

THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED.

We are forming a joint stock company to own and publish this journal. Its success as a commercial enterprise is now beyond doubt. The reception given the paper by the Press and the Public has been enthusiastic. The subscription lists keep swelling day by day. The advertising is steadily improving and the outlook generally is excellent. We started the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED with limited means, and have, single-handed, brought it to a period when the employment of additional capital is not only justified by the work done, the results achieved, and the certainty of success, but is required for the improvement, permanency and economic production of the paper. The proposed capital of the company is \$50,000, in shares of \$100, a notable portion of which is already subscribed by good business men, whose names we are at liberty to communicate to intending investors. The limited time we can spare from the arduous labours connected with the publication does not allow us to call on, nor even to write to, the many friends and well-wishers of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, who may be both able and willing to assist in the enterprise. We therefore take this means of reaching them and asking them, as a particular favour, to send us their names, so that we may mail to them a detailed statement and prospectus. We would like to have shareholders all over the Dominion, and will be pleased to have applications for one share, five shares, or ten, from any of our friends. They will find it an investment that will be highly profitable and can only increase in value year by year. For prospectus and form of application, address the publishers.

G. E. DESBARATS & SON,
Montreal.

LITERARY NOTES.

Bliss Carman must put forth his first volume of poems.

Miss C. Alice Baker has made the interesting discovery that Mgr. Plessis, first Archbishop of Quebec, was American through his mother, his grandmother being a Deerfield captive.

Lawrence Oliphant, the distinguished English author, whose death was announced on Monday, was Secretary to Lord Elgin while the latter was Governor-General of Canada.

Poe first thought of "The Bells" when walking the streets of Baltimore on a winter night. He rang the bell of a lawyer's house—a stranger to him—walked into the gentleman's library, shut himself up and the next morning presented the lawyer with a copy of his celebrated poem.

The greatest tutor of the day, Dr. Routh, is retiring at the early age of 57. Born in Quebec, he went to England, became a member of Peterhouse at Cambridge, and graduated as Senior Wrangler in 1854. He "turned out" twenty-seven Senior Wranglers.



The Cleveland *World* holds that the negro is in no respect the equal of the white man; that he is becoming a social nuisance, and that education does not help him, but makes him only more offensive, and it clinches all by asking, "Why should the riff-raff of the South be entitled to vote?"

Toronto shall have to look out for its laurels. Its rate of growth has been wonderful, but the rise of Vancouver seems to be still more striking. In January, 1886, the population of Vancouver was 600, and every house in it was destroyed by fire. In 1887 it rose to 3,000. In the beginning of 1888 it was 6,000, and the estimate now is 10,000.

In the way of public institutions, there is one which Montreal woefully lacks—a Free Library. The Fraser Institute is on the way of establishing the circulation of its books, and the conveniences for reading and consultation are plentiful and within reach. We foresee that, before the end of the century, the Fraser Institute will be one of the proudest boasts of this metropolis.

The Free Library of Toronto is doing a great work. In 1884 the circulation was 179,506; in 1885, 277,931; in 1886, 207,095; in 1887, 275,066, and the past year is estimated at over 300,000 volumes, or an average of about 1,000 per day, and it is estimated that during the past year, in the 306 days that the library was open, over 600,000 persons took advantage of the opportunities provided by the reading rooms.

A French-Canadian editor writes from Paris that Mr. Curran, M.P. for Montreal Centre, is strikingly like M. Floquet, First Minister of the Republic. Why, that was stated in these columns five months ago, when the portrait of Mr. Curran was published by us. The likeness is extraordinary. It is twinlike—the same hair, whisker, forehead, eye, mouth and chin—only M. Floquet is at least ten years older, though he does not look it.

While a few wild politicians, on the other side, bluster about Canada, we hear of thoughtful Americans who know how to appreciate our worth. At the meeting of the American Historical Association, sitting in Washington, last week, Dr. Poole, librarian of the Newberry Library, Chicago, said "some of the enterprise of the Canadian Government in organizing its historical archives should animate the Congress of the United States."

The old oak in Woodbridgetown, Conn., remarkable for its huge dimensions, was felled to the ground the other day, after five hours of chopping by four men. The trunk was 27 feet 6 inches in diameter, and contained over 1,100 layers or rings, showing that it was above a thousand years old. The tree was said to have been the largest in New England. Now, why was that tree felled? In the interests of science it ought to have been kept. The dear old song has lost its echo:

Woodman, spare that tree!

The latest news in regard to the question of copyright is that at the yearly meeting of the International Copyright Association, held at Boston last Monday, the secretary had no formal report to make. Mr. Houghton mentioned cases of organized opposition to the work of the Associa-

tion, the most formidable being that of the Press Association which furnishes matter for country and weekly papers. This opposition was backed by money, and the Association had a great deal of work before it.

At the adjourned meeting of the teachers of the district of Bedford and St. Johns, P.Q., Mr. N. D. Truell read a paper on Teachers' Associations and the necessity for one in the Eastern Townships. The object of such an association should be to rally the teachers within their limits, numbering 250. The paper took exception to diverse methods of teaching, and especially to the too frequent changing of elementary teachers. Again, the elementary schoolhouses were not what they should be, and pupils were not too careful of their habits or personal appearance.

The New Year's list of Court favours includes Chief Justice Allen, of New Brunswick, knighted, and Hon. Mr. Trutch, of British Columbia, K.C.M.G. The Bench of the several Provinces has been plentifully honoured, and the cause of education stimulated by the knighthood of Sirs Wm. Dawson and Daniel Wilson. So far, so well, but there are other classes that should soon have their turn, such as that of scientific and railway engineers, represented, for instance, by Mr. Sandford Fleming, who has been a C.M.G. these twelve years, and who deserves the promotion to K.C.M.G.

The great St. Lawrence has fought against his fetters of ice this year. Contrary to the rule, the river was open on the 1st January, and to make the event historic, four Caughnawaga Indians, with two reporters, "shot" the Lachine Rapids on that day. The party left Caughnawaga at about 10.30 a.m. and arrived at the Richelieu Basin at 1 p.m., under the captainship of Big John. They came down the main channel and reported that the river was very full of ice and extremely difficult of passage. A large crowd assembled on the river side and on the ice to witness their arrival, and the greetings were most enthusiastic. The boat is 30 feet long by 5 feet wide, and is in shape like those usually employed for portaging over the ice.

We refer elsewhere, editorially, to the return of Principal Grant to Canada. Here is what he said, among other things, at the reception given him by the whole city of Kingston. What his experience taught him was that Canada was good enough for any man, a great deal too good for those who had doubts about the destiny of the country. He said that while in Australia he was asked about retaliation and the purchase of Canada by the United States. And he had said that Canada was all right, that she was quite capable of taking care of herself, that she was desirous of living on terms of peace with her neighbours, but that she would not be bullied into any position she did not desire. Of Canada he always felt proud, but never so proud of her as when he sniffed the pure air of Vancouver. He was prouder still when he stepped aboard the Pullman car on the Canadian Pacific continental railway, the best equipped road on the globe.

Commander Eugene Albert Maréchal, officer of the Legion of Honour, has been placed in charge of the Newfoundland Naval Station by the French Government. M. Maréchal, who is one of the youngest superior officers in the French navy, and a self-made man, is well known in Montreal and Quebec, having come here in 1876 as A.D.C. to Admiral duPeyron on the flagship *La Galissonnière*.