

The CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is published by THE BURLAND-DESBARATS LITHOGRAPHIC AND PUBLISHING COMPANY on the following conditions: \$4.00 per annum in advance, \$4.50 if not paid strictly in advance. \$3.00 for clergymen, school-teachers and post-masters, in advance.

All remittances and business communications to be addressed to G. B. BURLAND, General Manager.

All literary correspondence, contributions, &c., to be addressed to the Editor.

When an answer is required, stamp for return postage must be enclosed.

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NOTICE.

PRESCOTT (ONT.) ILLUSTRATED.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the double-page illustration of the flourishing town of Prescott which we present to-day. It is the first of a series of several which will follow without unnecessary delay. The artistic work speaks for itself. As to the letter-press description we wish particularly to have it read carefully. It is extraordinary how much information can be gathered by a judicious collector of news in each of our towns and villages, and how very interesting he can make his narrative not only to local readers, but to the general public as well. In the present number, the account of the battle of the Windmill is not only graphic, but full of details never before published; and we are sure that thousands of our friends will learn here, for the first time, of the Blue Church, Barbara Heck, and the first Methodist sermon in America.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, May 4th, 1878.

THE SINEWS OF WAR.

In order that our readers may have accurate information concerning the military strength of the armies and navies which may probably soon come into hostile contact, we have translated and condensed the following figures from a French study on the subject:

The army of Great Britain is thus distributed:

Infantry.....	61,037
Cavalry.....	13,375
Artillery.....	17,856
Engineers.....	4,007

To these must be added 36,609 men belonging to colonial regiments and different foreign stations, which would give a total of 132,874 men of all arms.

The strength of the British army in India is 62,856 men of all arms.

The army of native troops counts 123,263 men. A total in India of 186,712.

The reserves figure as follows:

Militia.....	139,619
Infantry Volunteers.....	136,927
Artillery Volunteers.....	31,323
Mounted National Guard.....	15,078
Reserve.....	31,000

Total, 354,447

England has therefore 674,043 men under arms at the present time. This is exclusive of the Malta and Gibraltar garrisons, which have about 7,000 men each.

The General-in-Chief of Her Majesty's troops is the Duke of Cambridge, but the Commander-in-Chief of any expeditionary force, in case of war, will be Lord NAPIER of Magdala, with Sir GARNET WOLSLEY as Chief of Staff.

There is question of the immediate concentration of eight army corps of 30,000 men each at different points of the United Kingdom—Aldershot, Croydon, Edinburgh, Dublin, and other places not yet determined upon.

The British fleet comprises 62,000 officers and men.

Ironclads of the 1st class, extra.....	3
Ironclads of the 1st class.....	18
Ironclads of the 2nd class.....	25

There are, besides, 3 ironclads of the 2nd class for the colonies.

Wooden vessels: In the 1st class there are 18 frigates and ships of the line of

light tonnage and good speed. In the 2nd class there are 55 corvettes, sloops and gunboats.

Beside these vessels, there are 150 vessels of the Royal Marine reserve, used as transports, training-schools, &c.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Squadron is Vice-Admiral GEORGE THOMAS PHIPPS HORNBY. Sir J. EDMUND COMMERCIAL, commands the Channel Squadron.

The army of Russia is thus distributed:

Infantry.....	694,511
Artillery.....	48,773
Cavalry.....	49,183
Engineers.....	16,253

Total, 803,670

1st. Reserve—Troops of all arms. 127,923

2nd. Reserve—Troops of all arms. 276,664

Total, 1,213,257

We must add to these figures the Cossack contingent, who are the irregulars of the Russian army, to the number of 180,000, thus raising the forces of the Czar to the tremendous total of 1,393,257.

The Russian fleet comprises 9,112 officers and men.

Ironclads of the 1st class.....	1
“ “ 2nd “.....	2
“ “ 3rd “.....	15
Circular Monitor.....	1

The Commander of the fleet would doubtless be Admiral POPOFF, the inventor of the circular monitor. The Russians have secured a very large number of torpedo boats.

The army of Austria is thus distributed:

Infantry.....	597,602
Cavalry.....	58,794
Artillery.....	62,774
Engineers.....	78,296

Total, 798,066

The reserve is of 40,664, raising the ultimate figure to 838,700 men of all arms. The Commander-in-Chief is the Archduke ALBRECHT.

The Austrian fleet contains:

Ironclads of the 1st class.....	4
“ “ 2nd “.....	6
Wooden Frigates and Corvettes.....	10
Sloops and Gunboats.....	23

The principal sea fortress is Pola.

ECHOES FROM PARIS.

THE two towers of the Trocadéro Palace do not appear in all their graceful outlines as yet, owing to the fact that scaffolding still partly surrounds them; when entirely freed from this, they will appear all the more light and admirably proportioned.

THE Grand Salle des Fêtes, in the Palace of Fine Arts on the Trocadéro, is now completed, and is certainly most imposing in all its appointments. It will be lighted by 4000 gas-burners, which will make it dazzling bright. In height this hall is ninety-four feet, and, from its admirable proportions, seems even more lofty.

A waterfall costing \$25,000 is rather an extravagant undertaking, even in these days of costly enterprises. That, or, to be precise, 24,800, £. is the sum which the grand cascade in front of the central hall of the Trocadéro Palace at Paris will cost. The work contains over 30,000 cubic yards of excavation and masonry.

FEARS are freely expressed as to the success of the coming Exhibition in May. The world, in fact, is tired of these world-fairs; and it seems a grave irony on our age that no sooner do we decide to hold a great peace celebration of this kind than some war breaks out. It seems as if the War Goddess were envious of these solemnities, and showed her spite in this way.

AMONG “the curiosities” of the Paris Exhibition, according to the *Chronique des Arts*, will be the display of the treasures belonging to the Prefecture of the Police. These are divided into three categories. 1. A collection of the portraits of all the lieutenants, ministers, and prefects of police. 2. Collection of portraits of criminals. 3. Reproduction of all the various instruments used by thieves in the exercise of their profession, such as picklocks, crowbars, jemmies (called more politely in French “mon-seigneurs”), centrebites, and other valuable tools. More curious than instructive, we should imagine, such an exhibition, except to the enquiring mind of the youthful thief.

ROSSINI's widow, who lately died, was an eccentric person. Her most distinguishing trait was love of money. Her husband left her merely the interest of his property, and directed that the capital should be given to the town of Pesaro, in Italy. This greatly angered his widow, who never lost an opportunity of speaking ill of the place. As she was very economical she soon massed a considerable fortune out of her savings, and died worth £80,000. She almost disinherited her family, and left only £2,000 to her sister and £1,000 to her nephew, the rest has been bequeathed for the erection of a sanatorium for sick musicians; but they must be vocalists; instrumentalists she has expressly excluded, because she once heard an orchestra murdering one of her husband's operas. She sold some one in London all the erudite melodies and fragments of her husband, and the publisher, thinking that he was buying the composer's own MS., gave a high price. His disgust may be gathered when on complaining to Madame, and asking for the originals, he was told that it was not in the bond.

THE construction of the Tuileries captive balloon is attracting much attention. The necessary excavations for the rope-winding roller, steam engines, pulleys, &c., have modified the appearance of the old Tuileries yard. A large wooden saloon has been erected for the sewing of the canvas, which is quite ready; not less than 100 girls will be required for about a month. The work of making the rope, which is almost finished, has been immense. The weight of the netting will be 3,000 kilogrammes more than the displacement of the largest balloon in use. Besides the netting, the other ropes connecting the car, &c., will weigh 2,000 kilogrammes, and the large rope for mooring the balloon to the steam winding apparatus will be 3,000 kilogrammes. Experiments will be made to show that the rope can bear a traction of 50,000 kilogrammes, although it is not intended to ascend when the effort to move the balloon will exceed 12,000 kilogrammes. The real steam power required will be 300 horse-power. The displacement of the balloon will vary according to its station; on the ground it will be 24,000 cubic metres, but floating at 600 metres in the air it will be 25,000.

AMONG the artistic curiosities of the coming Exhibition may certainly be mentioned M. Gustave Doré as a sculptor. This is a new phase of his versatile talents. He is going to exhibit an enormous vase four metres in height, with a diameter of two metres. It terminates in a straight narrow neck, on the brim of which children are seated, maintaining their equilibrium with difficulty, being intoxicated by the fumes issuing from the amphora. The body and pedestal of the vase are adorned by little Bacchanalian figures, men, women, and children, fauns and dryads led by Silenus mounted on the back of a crocodile, and entangled in flowers and foliage covered with butterflies, mice, weazles, and lizards also intermingling. It is a strange, almost audacious, production, but manifesting powerful originality. Every figure is a study. The vase itself has, perhaps, the fault of not resting on a sufficiently broad base, but as a whole the work is calculated to produce a sensation. Gustave Doré is finishing another sculptural group of quite a different and very classical kind, “The Prize Glory”—a young hero dying beneath the kiss of Glory. This group is of real beauty. The forms, though rather effeminate, are striking, the proportions are graceful, and the expression is mild, profound, melancholy, and natural. This group is the work of a thinker and philosopher and, curiously enough, it does not betray the painter, either in subject or execution. It is really the work of a sculptor and places Gustave Doré in a new light, which cannot but add to his renown.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

THE rumour is abroad that the Government intend enlarging the Post Office, and that an offer of £700,000 has been made to the Governors of Christ's Hospital for their property in Newgate street.

THE Ritualists have got another grievance, and a more substantial one than most of theirs. There has been lately issued an order in council reviving a regulation of 1627, which was made by Charles I. in order to insure secrecy for the proceedings in the Star Chamber. This regulation forbids any member of the judicial committee of the Privy Council to say how he voted on any cause brought before him for trial.

THE general impression is that the Royal Academy Exhibition this year will not be of even average excellence. It is difficult to say how this estimate can be fairly made, and it is of course only founded on the partial and incomplete critical survey which is taken by those who “go the rounds of the studios,” and give their impressions in print or in chatter in advance. This “going the round” custom is being overdone.

THE stupidity of opening our docks and arsenals and even most private workshops to foreigners, is being shown in the fact that the Russian Government is well informed respecting all that is being done and actually possess working models and drawings of every important invention and contrivance, torpedoes included. Some of our manufacturers are also supplying Russia with torpedoes under the strong proba-

bility that they will be used against the British navy.

THERE is just opened at Lillie Bridge a gymnasium for ladies. A ladies' class meets there on Tuesdays and Thursdays; and its proceedings are regulated on similar principles to those so successfully adopted at the German Gymnasium at King's Cross. The exercises chosen for the pupils are not violent, but gentle, as befits the “softer sex.” When the ladies become fully developed in muscle it will be their agreeable duty to see young men home at night to give them the benefit of their protection.

THE large house in Piccadilly at the corner of Hamilton-place, which has only once been let, and that for a few months to Sir Salar Jung, has become the property of Lord and Lady Rosebery. It has been purchased, so rumour says, by Baron Lionel Rothschild, and given to his niece as a wedding present, with a proviso that it shall be entailed upon all succeeding generations of Rothschild-Roseberys. The price is variously stated; but £300,000 about represents the total sum paid for house, stables, and adjoining premises.

LONDONERS are promised some little comfort and convenience at Victoria Station. The underground—or rather the District Railway—is to be connected by a subterranean passage or tunnel with the Victoria Station itself, so that people will no longer have to walk or wade across an open yard full of puddles, and traversed in every direction by omnibuses and cabs, at the risk of life and limb, if they want to get from one to the other destination. Two or three companies who may be presumed to be interested in this little arrangement will bear the cost between them. But why was not this little job undertaken years ago? It would be difficult to say.

THERE is a rumour, which, however, must be taken for what it is worth—the English for saying it is doubtful if it is yet worth anything—that the Duke of Cambridge is likely to give up Gloucester House, which he finds too large for his wants, and to migrate to Curzon House in South Audley-Street, a house that has been undergoing the most extensive repairs from top to bottom. The brown exterior of the dull old English mansion is indeed “transmogrified,” and nobody would know it again with its red face and cheeks, half Italian and half Dutch. It would be strange if royalty should take to this one house a second time in half a century.

LITERARY.

A SUBSCRIPTION is opened for a monument to Rouget de l'Isle, author of the “Marseillaise.”

FRESH arrangements have been made by the Government of India to prosecute the search for Sanscrit manuscripts.

THE King of Portugal is continuing his translations from Shakespeare, and is now engaged upon *The Merchant of Venice*.

BRONSON ALCOTT says Mr. Emerson never valued criticism and seldom if ever read any of his critics.

HARRISON AINSWORTH is still alive, a well-preserved and dandyish, though gray, old man of seventy-two.

J. G. HOLLAND, who is said to have made \$120,000 from lecturing, has been advised by his physicians to decline all engagements for the coming season.

THE Dean of St. Paul's is going to republish his essay upon Dante. Appended to it will, it is said, be a translation of the *De Monarchia*, by the Dean's son.

THE title of the two poems with which Mr. Browning will soon delight his admirers are “La Saisiaz,” and “The two Poets of Croisic.” Each poem is in a metre unemployed by the writer.

THE Duke of Devonshire has authorized the reproduction of photolithographic fac-similes of his copies of the first and second quartos of *Hamlet*, and certain other first quartos of Shakespeare's plays.

THE life of Harvey, discoverer of the circulation of the blood, with notices of the anatomists and other predecessors for whom the discovery has been claimed by R. Willis, M. D., will shortly be published.

PROF. STERN has discovered in the archives of Oldenburg a relation by Mylius of his visit to England, containing an account of his conversation with Milton, as well as some unpublished letters of Milton himself.

JAMES PARTON says he has lost a good many valuable positions during the fifty-seven years of his life because he is a free-thinker. He has been working for the last twenty years of the life of Voltaire, which he means to make “the one well written book of his life.”

THE death is announced of Risk Allah Hagsoun Effendi, of Aleppo, one of the greatest Arabic scholars and poets of the day. He was Turkish and Arabic interpreter to Fuad Pacha on the expedition sent to Syria by the Porte at the time of the massacres. He was a naturalised English subject, and the author of several excellent works in Arabic, both in prose and verse.

HUMOROUS.

THE Colossus of Rhodes—The Union Pacific. WE suspect that war is going to be inevitable for several years yet.

“Do editors ever do wrong?”—“No.” “What do they do?”—“They do write!”

VERY few brass bands in a military parade can play as many airs as a drum-major puts on.

THERE are only 300 shades of blue. We sometimes feel as though there were twice as many.

“WITHIN five minutes after the alarm was given our reporter was on the ground.”—“We have little doubt of it, if he gave the slightest provocation to the foreman of the Engine Company.”

THE Cincinnati *Enquirer's* Essay on Man is in one canto, as follows:

Man's a vapour,
Full of woes;
Starts a paper,
Up he goes.