

HUDSON'S BAY.

We copy from a work recently published, entitled "Hudson's Bay," the following account of the origin and territories of the Hudson's Bay Company.

In the year 1609, a company was formed in London, under the direction of Prince Rupert, for the purpose of prosecuting the fur trade in the regions surrounding Hudson's Bay.

The company obtained a charter from Charles II. granting to them and their successors the sole right of trading in all the country watered by rivers flowing into Hudson's Bay.

With the internal economy of the Company, under the superintendence of Prince Rupert, however, is not acquainted; but as it will be necessary to the trader's forming a correct idea of the peculiarities of the country and service, that he should know something of the character under the direction of the present acting governor, I shall give a brief outline of its arrangements.

Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer is, we learn, shortly to lead the honourable art the Hon. George Wellesley, youngest daughter of the late, and now the present Lord Grosvenor.

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This testimony of confidence, so honourable, is offered, I am aware, much more to that name than to me, who have, as yet, done nothing for my country.

I am not an ambitious man, who dreams now of empire and of war, now of the application of subversive theories. Educated in free countries, in the school of misfortune, I shall ever remain faithful to the duties imposed on me by your suffrages, and by the will of the Assembly.

If I were elected President, I would not shrink from any danger, from any sacrifice, to defend our liberties, and to maintain the peace of the Republic.

I would make it a point of honour to leave to my successor, at the end of four years, power consolidated, liberty untouched, and real progress accomplished.

Whatsoever be the result of the election, I shall law before the will of the people; and my concurrence is obtained in advance for whatever just and firm Government shall re-establish order in the public mind, as well as in public affairs.

As to practicable reforms, the following are those which appear to me the most urgent:—To improve every economy which without disturbing the public service, may permit a diminution of the impost; that are most burdensome to the people.

To encourage enterprise, which by developing the resources of agriculture, may, both in France and in Algeria, afford labour to unemployed hands; to provide for the old age of labourers by provident institutions; to introduce into industrial law ameliorations which may tend, not to drain the rich for the benefit of the poor, but to found the well-being of each on the prosperity of all.

To restrain within just limits the number of employments that depend on the Government, and which often make a free nation a nation of dependants.

To avoid that disastrous tendency which leads the State to execute of itself what individuals can do as well, and better than it. The centralization of interests and of enterprises, along with the nature of despotism—the nature of a Republic repels it.

In a word, to preserve the liberty of the press from the arbitrary and the licentious; to prevent the arbitrary and the licentious.

With war there is no relief for our evils. Peace shall therefore, be the dearest of my wishes. France at her revolution was struck, because she was compelled to be so. I wish she met by conquest, now that she is not assailed she may consecrate her resources to pacific ameliorations, without at the same time abandoning a policy true and resolute. A great nation should either be restful and in vain.

To have regard to the national dignity, we must not neglect the army, the noble and disinterested patriotism of which has so often saved France. Next in rank is the post, for the most part an intelligent labourer, of pretty good standing in the service, who, having picked up a smattering of Indian, is consequently very useful in trading with the natives.

After him the postmaster, usually a promoted labourer, who, for good behaviour or valuable services, has been put upon a footing with the gentlemen of the service, in the same manner that a private soldier in the army is sometimes raised to the rank of a commissioned officer.

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It is a strange fact, that three-fourths of the Company's servants are Scotch Brethren, and the remainder are English. A great number, however, are half-breeds and French Canadians, especially among the labourers and voyageurs.

The Colonies.—We read in the Glasgow Examiner, Mr. Jas. Buchanan's explanation, intended to show that Sir R. Peel's currency measure of 1810, could not possibly co-exist with his free-trade, or non-protective measures of 1840; seeing that the former requires the presence of gold in the country and the Colonies; while the latter (by increasing our imports beyond what we can pay for in labour, or exports of British goods) subjects it impossible for us, or any of our Colonies, to have any permanent, well grounded system of banking or monetary confidence, as deriving its force from the precious metals.

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SAINT JOHN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This Seminary underwent its Semi-annual Visitation and Examination on Tuesday last. There were present the Rev. I. W. D. Gray, D. D., President of the Board, His Honor the Chief Justice, His Honor Judge Parker, His Honor the Recorder, the Hon. Hugh Johnston, Wm. Wright, and John H. Gray, Esqrs., Members of the Board—the Rev. A. Stewart, A. B., H. Bowyer Smith, Esq., E. Allison, Esq., Wm. Percival, Esq., Mr. Raual Smith of King's College, Windsor, Messrs. Wm. Dole and Robert Hazen, Students at Law, and several other gentlemen.

The printed program laid before the Examiners, showed the number of Pupils studying Greek to be 10, Latin 53, French 13, Hebrew 1, Mathematics 17, Astronomy 9, Chemistry 13, Geography 56, use of the Globes 26, History 26, English Grammar 13, Arithmetic, Writing, and Reading, 56.—The Books in which the examination in the Classical department, took place, were Homer, the Greek Testament, Greek Delectus, Terence, Horace, Virgil, Caesar, Cornelius Nepos, Eutropius, Stoddart's New Delectus, Moxley's Rom Latin Grammar, Pequet's First French Reading Book, the Pascoli French Grammar, and the Hebrew Bible. The Mathematical examination was chiefly upon Plane Trigonometry.

The diligence with which many of the Pupils had applied to their studies during the term was satisfactorily shown by the highly creditable manner in which they passed their examination. Absence for some time on account of sickness was the cause of a seeming inferiority in the case of two or three boys, whose general appearance in the school entitled them to a high rank among the Pupils.

At the close of the examination, a proceeding of a novel character was exhibited. One of the young gentlemen, with the permission and in the presence of the Board, approached to Doctor Paterson, the Principal of the School, and presented to him an elegant "papier mache" Ink-stand, with an Address, in which he stated that he was deputed by his fellow students to present the gift to the Doctor, with an expression of the sentiments of regard they had towards him, and an avowal of the debt of gratitude which they and hundreds who had preceded them in the School during a period of thirty years, owed him, and of which they begged him to consider the present offering as a very small fraction indeed.

Various expressions in the address showed the important link in which they viewed the Doctor's situation, as being that which laid the foundation and prepared the way for the learned professions, as well as for qualifying men to fulfil with benefit to themselves, and society in general, the duties of a civil life.

Doctor Paterson, in reply, stated to the Pupils that both the present and the address had taken him by surprise—that he was delighted to find from the warm expressions in the address, that his efforts for their improvement were so highly valued, and that the benefits of Grammar School education obtained among them such a just appreciation. He stated further, that he received their kind and elegant present with tremendous force, and making its way even into the lower strata of the stern; the decks constantly washed—atmosphere cold and wet. Altogether it was decidedly disagreeable. Respects be had to the Doctor, and to the Pupils, who were due in New York. Saw two large icebergs—very rare at this season; weather moderate, just as we had begun to despair under the influence of the storm, when a heavy snow fell.

The English mail of the 10th instant, per steamer "Europa," arrived on Monday, and will probably arrive in this City by Thursday next. By this mail we shall probably learn the issue of the French Presidential election. We have inserted in another column, the address of Lord Brougham to the French people, stating his principles, &c. as a candidate for their suffrages.

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES.—The following amounts were collected for the poor, in the several Churches named:—Trinity Church, (Episcopal), £22 5 11; St. John Church, (ditto), 12 2 8; St. Michael's Church, (Presbyterian), 12 1 7; German St. Church, (Wesleyan), 11 12 0; Centenary Church, (Methodist), 8 12 0; Wesleyan Church, (Portland), 2 10 0; Grace Church, (Portland, Episcopal), 14 0 0; St. Peter's Church, (ditto, Catholic), 9 0 0.

FISHERY DRAFT.—Persons entitled to a draft in the Fishery will bear in mind that the names are to be taken in during the present week. The books were opened this morning, and will close at six o'clock on Monday evening next, 1st January.

The weather from Thursday night to Saturday morning was very cold. On Friday morning the thermometer was down to 10 degrees below zero. Since Saturday the air has been much milder.

M. H. Perley, Esq. will deliver a Lecture on Railways, at the meeting-house near Mr. Isaac Poshay's, in St. John's, on Thursday evening next; to be illustrated by a large map, on which will be pointed out the route of the proposed Railway from St. John to Shediac.

EXECUTION OF MCFADYEN.—The Picton Courier, speaking of the execution, states that MCFADYEN, under sentence of death for the murder of James Keir, was executed at that place, in accordance with his sentence, on the preceding day, 20th inst. A vast concourse of people were assembled to witness the execution. The Chronicle says:—During the first two days after he was informed of his fate, he displayed a kind of nervous excitement and anxiety, and once or twice refused to take his accustomed food; but he afterwards regained his usual indifference, which he maintained till the moment of his death.

The steam ship "Canada," 72 hours from New York, with 29 passengers for England and 8 for Halifax, arrived at the latter place on Saturday last, and left again in a few hours for Liverpool.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENTS OF CANADA AND NOVA SCOTIA.

The Provincial Parliaments of Canada and Nova Scotia met on the 15th of January.

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