

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY.
JUNE 8, 1872.

SUNDAY,	June 2.	—First Sunday after Trinity. Fenian Skirmish at Limeridge, 1866.
MONDAY,	" 3.	—Champlain arrived at Tadoussac, 1608. Madame Youville established the <i>Secours Grises</i> , 1753.
TUESDAY,	" 4.	—Kingdom of the Netherlands divided, 1831. Battle of Magenta, 1859.
WEDNESDAY,	" 5.	—St. Boniface, Abp. & M. Battle of Stoney Creek, 1813. First meeting of the Corporation of Montreal, 1833.
THURSDAY,	" 6.	—Battle of Burlington Heights, 1813. Count Cavour died, 1861.
FRIDAY,	" 7.	—Bishop Warburton died, 1779. First Reform Bill passed, 1832.
SATURDAY,	" 8.	—First Student admitted to Toronto University, 1843. Millais born, 1829.

TEMPERATURE in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending Tuesday, 28th May, 1872, observed by HEARN, HARRISON & Co., 242 & 244 Notre Dame Street.

W.	May	22.	MAX.	MIN.	MEAN.	8 A.M.	1 P.M.	6 P.M.
Th.	"	23.	65°	53°5	59°2	29.65	29.70	29.80
Fri.	"	24.	63°	48°5	55°7	29.90	29.85	29.2
Sat.	"	25.	65°	51°	58°	29.76	29.76	29.80
Su.	"	26.	70°	54°	62°	29.95	30.00	29.95
M.	"	27.	66°	51°	58°5	29.85	29.75	29.70
Tu.	"	28.	64°	53°5	58°	29.67	29.73	29.90

Our readers are reminded that the subscription to the NEWS is \$4.00 per annum, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

All unpaid subscribers will be struck off the list on the 1st July next, and their accounts [at the rate of \$5.00 per annum] placed in our attorneys' hands for collection.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1872.

THE rapid progress of the publishing business in Canada is one of the best evidences of the substantiality of the national growth. Men do not buy books, or even pause to read newspapers, when their lives are ground down to a struggle for bread. Those who merely "wear the life out to keep the life in" are not the purchasers of the publisher's wares, though many of them we know are the chief factors of his material. The writing and the reading classes have a curious relationship; the former have to struggle through life because they write, the latter read because they do not have to struggle. Even writers on the daily press in this country are now receiving salaries that enable them to maintain some approach to the social position to which by their educational and intellectual attainments they are entitled.

It was not so in Canada some fifteen or twenty years ago. An incident, still fresh in our recollection, though the principal in it has long since passed to his final "composition," will illustrate our meaning; a clever compositor worked in a certain western office where his average earnings were from twelve to fourteen dollars a week. He was an enterprising Scotsman, and being afflicted also with the *cacoethes scribendi*, resolved upon starting a paper in a rising town still farther west. He was ahead of time. The town desired the paper, but could not support it. The man's hard earnings at "case" were thrown away after a few years of editorial life, and he returned to the old establishment he had left, wherein he accepted a reporter's situation at six dollars a week! That sum was less than half what he had formerly made as a journeyman printer, and certainly less by a dollar or two than what any active man steadily employed in sawing wood could have made in the same city at the time we speak of. We might speak of other instances of hard brain work for very small return, but the one we have mentioned is sufficiently in point to give an idea of what were the early struggles of Canadian journalists.

With the development of the country, however, the "art preservative of all arts," both in its mediate and immediate connections, has grown to be a better paid industry. Compositors and pressmen take rank on the pay bill with skilled mechanics of their own class. Reporters, proof readers, and other *attachés* of the printing office, are rewarded in most cases according to their abilities and the importance of the positions they fill, while those discharging more responsible duties, many of which are merely supervisory, receive, at least in a few instances, salaries which do not compare unfavourably with many professional incomes.

This manifest elevation of the press is a sure sign that the country's means are being fairly devoted to the development of its intelligence. The properties that have grown up in Canada from very small beginnings by the mere agency of the press are immense; and some of those that have been

started of late years on a large money basis show equally gigantic proportions.

We shall not refer here to the Desbarats Printing Works, wherein we are now writing to the healthy, if not very pleasant, music of some twenty-five or thirty printing machines, lithographic or letterpress; nor to the successful organization, with a capital of a quarter of a million, of a company to "carry the war into Africa," by introducing similar works in New York, or, in other words, to show our good American cousins that Canadians have a fair share of the go-a-head-itiveness peculiar to the Western Continent; because this would "smell of the shop." It would be unfair, however, in speaking of the development of journalistic enterprise, to omit all mention of the *Canadian Illustrated News*, *L'Opinion Publique*, and *The Hearststone*. They are journals of a special class, and come into competition almost exclusively with those published in foreign countries; in Canada, they have few competitors and no rivals.

The immense increase in the value of newspaper plant within the past twenty years could only be fairly ascertained by a reference to the books of the American, British and Canadian Type Founders and Press Builders, who have filled the constantly increasing demand. But a new value has grown up in the business the "good will," or copyright of the paper. The latter, curiously enough, has mainly come into recognition just as the ownership is passing from the hands of the merely practical man to those of the capitalist. We do not insinuate that practical men, whether printers or journalists, are necessarily inferior business men; but the fact is very patent that if a man's chief attention is devoted to one specialty, he is quite likely to fail in any other into which he half-heartedly enters. Our acquaintance with journalists, or perhaps we should say "Editors" extending over a pretty long period, warrants us in saying that, with very few exceptions—where their hearts are in their work—they all preferred any business arrangement whereby the cares of the office, outside their own immediate sphere, were laid upon other shoulders than theirs, provided they were remunerated according to the value of their services.

This is now being done to a very large extent. In the old country it has been the custom, for generations, at least in many instances, that the proprietors of a newspaper never write a line for it; and now in Canada the same system is becoming quite common under the operation of the Joint Stock Company's Act. This system has introduced a large amount of capital into the newspaper business; it has given a special value to the standing of a newspaper, apart from its plant, because men of capital count upon the annual product more than the first cost, as may be readily seen by looking at the share list in any of the daily papers; and, what we think best of all for the public, it has relieved the working journalist of the care and turmoil incident to commercial transactions, leaving the full scope of his energies to be devoted to his special duties.

Those who only remember the *Toronto Globe* establishment as first started nearly thirty years ago, would be very much surprised to learn that it is now capitalized at \$300,000, upon which it is generally believed that its business pays a handsome dividend. The *Leader*, some ten or fifteen years younger than the *Globe*, upon whose staff some of the best journalists that ever wielded the pen in Canada have been employed, was, we believe, anxiously sought after but refused at the handsome figure of \$200,000. The *Montreal Gazette*, the *Montreal Herald*, and other journals we might name, are, as well as the *Toronto* journals, practically managed on the joint stock principle, as, whether there be one or more owners, the journalistic is held entirely distinct in its management from the editorial department. We believe the same may be said of the *Hamilton* and *London* dailies, as well as of all or nearly all the *Ottawa* papers, one of the latter, the *Times*, having, we are told, been capitalised at \$40,000—a sum which twenty years ago would have bought any two of the best newspaper establishments in Canada. The new concern in *Toronto*, the *Mail*, has been started on a capital of a quarter of a million, but though it promises exceedingly well, it will depend upon its management whether its income will give a good return for the outlay. Yet the very fact of its existence is a proof of what we might call the immensity of newspaper property in Canada.

It is only to illustrate the extent of this property, hardly ever counted by those who speak of the wealth and industry of Canada, that we make free with the names of a few of our *confrères*. Many others might be mentioned, both French and English, that are really valuable private properties now yielding handsome dividends, but space will only permit us to refer to another journalistic joint stock company enterprise as illustrative of the value of newspaper property. The *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, one of the newspaper institutions of the country,

it is said, is to pass into the ownership of a company on a capital of \$100,000. As the leading English journal in the *Ancient Capital*, and with its long established business, it will no doubt return a handsome dividend, and we presume the present proprietor sees the advantage of running such an establishment on the joint stock principle already so common with the same class of property both in Great Britain and America and now being introduced into Canada with manifest success. We fancy that were our Census Bureau to give us a detailed statement of the value of the printing offices, the publications and the number of the people to whom they gave employment, throughout the Dominion, many who preach protection for more trifling branches of business would be surprised at the magnitude of that one which, while fighting the battle of others, is permitted, so far as the tariff is concerned, to "become a castaway," but which has grown, in spite of that neglect, as fast as any other industry in the Dominion.

THE PACIFIC RAILWAY.

(For the ILLUSTRATED NEWS.)

Canada ought to pause before escheating private rights in connexion with this great enterprise until she has ascertained whether the Imperial Government would be willing to build the line on its own account, assuming the subsidy we are ready to offer. If Britain knew her own true interests she would certainly undertake the work, and it would be far more for the future interest of this Dominion that she should possess the line, whether she chose afterwards to lease it to a private company for working or not. The English Government would not think of interfering with our local politics, whilst a private company, endowed with ownership of the soil, would almost certainly do so to a very great extent—and that on the narrow grounds of feudalism and of a merely commercial speculation.—*Com.*

[Our readers will understand from what we have already said that we do not sympathise wholly either with the views of our correspondent or the policy of the Government, in respect of the Canadian Pacific Railway. We believe the Government has made a grave mistake in not constructing the road on public account and paying for it wholly out of the sale of public lands. Under such circumstances the only outlay to the country would have been the excess of working expenses over receipts which might occur for the first ten or fifteen years of the running of the road. That sum would undoubtedly be recouped by the profits that would accrue in following years, so that after a while the Dominion would have had the whole road for nothing; and, like the British postal service, it would have become a source of revenue to the national exchequer in addition to its being a great public convenience. We do not dispute the assertion that "if Britain knew her own true interests she would certainly undertake the work;" that is, provided Britain desires to remain an American power. But we do not believe that Imperial aspirations take so high a flight; hence our conviction that Canada should have had the courage, as she undoubtedly had the means, to build the Pacific Railway and make it public property. All public highways, like all water routes, should be public property; but while holding this view we have little fear that even a private corporation will retard the progress of the country by a system of "feudalising" so long as it is compelled to sell its lands to meet its dividends and other current outlays—as the Pacific Company will undoubtedly have to do. However, the road is a necessity, and "any terms are better than none"—Ed. C. I. N.]

DECKER PARK RACES.—These have become an established institution in the city. The summer meeting takes place on the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th inst., beginning on Tuesday and ending on Friday of next week. The premiums offered amount to nearly nine thousand dollars, and we understand the entries are numerous. No doubt there will be a large attendance of visitors. The "Park" is now beautifully laid out and much improved in appearance from what it was last year, though then it was a credit to the city and a tribute to the taste and enterprise of its proprietor. The races commence each day at two o'clock p.m.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The re-appearance of Mr. Dominick Murray on Monday evening called forth a large audience, testifying the estimation in which this excellent actor is held by the Montreal public. Mr. Murray appeared as "Softy" in his own play of that name, and fully maintained his high reputation by his artistic rendition of the character. The light and shades of flickering reason were admirably portrayed and given with great fidelity to nature. He was ably supported by Miss Waugh, Messrs. Davis, Ogden, Wilson and other members of the company. On Wednesday Mr. Murray gave an excellent rendition of *Bob Brerly* in Tom Taylor's play of "The Ticket-of-leave Man." On Friday he appeared for his benefit in Boucicault's great Irish play, "The Colleen Bawn." The theatre has of late been very much improved and is now quite a comfortable place in which to enjoy a few hours' recreation.