

# The Dominion Illustrated.

\$4.00 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

THE SABISTON LITHOGRAPHIC AND PUBLISHING CO.

RICHARD WHITE, PRESIDENT.

ALEX. SABISTON, MANAGING-DIRECTOR.

73 St. James Street, Montreal.

GEORGE E. MACRAE, WESTERN AGENT,

36 King Street East, Toronto.

London (England) Agency:

JOHN HADDON & CO.,

3 & 4 Boulevard Street, Fleet Street, E.C.

SOLE AGENTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

18th OCTOBER, 1890.

## Our Christmas Number.

The Christmas number of the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, which will be ready early in December, will be the finest publication of its kind both in letter-press and illustrations that Canada has ever produced. Some of the foremost writers of the day will contribute prose and poetry to its pages and no expense is being spared to make it, in artistic beauty and literary merit, worthy of our great Dominion. Early orders are requested.



A new stage in our national development has been reached by the movement set afoot in Ontario by Col. T. G. Denison and other patriotic men for the commemoration of the glories of our past. The celebration of the anniversary of Queenston Heights cannot fail to have a good result in educating our young people in true patriotism and in devotion to the best traditions of "the brave days of old."

The New York *Bulletin* is explicit in its preference for British judicial methods, which might, it thinks, be imitated with advantage in the United States. With the dispatch that characterized a trial which, nevertheless, was (in view of its importance and the multitude of witnesses to be examined) of unusual length for Canada, the *Bulletin* contrasts a murder case of startling interest lately in progress in New York, in which five or six days were exhausted in empaneling the jury alone. And this is but one of many delays to which every attempt to secure justice is subjected under the prevailing American system. Another point of contrast is the demeanour of the people, who, assured that no effort will be omitted to bring every fact to light and to weigh the evidence impartially, await the issue without that distrust of judges and jury which, beyond the border, sometimes threatens, sometimes even commits an open defiance of the law.

Courtesy and regard for the feelings of others are never thrown away. Even if they do not bear fruit in the way of grateful recognition, they prove their own reward to those who exercise them. The result is sometimes, however, more substantial, and this may be the case in the intercourse between communities as well as in that between individuals. It may be with a lively sense of favours to come that Canada takes so generous an interest in the Jamaica Exhibition, and, on the other hand, it may have been the conviction that their commercial position in the West Indies was assured which permitted our neighbours to treat the enterprise with disrespect. It is quite possible, nevertheless, that the slight may not pass with impunity. The *Jamaica Standard*, in commenting on the contrast presented by Canada's demeanour to that of the United States, makes the following significant remarks:—"It is possible that our friends in the United States do not think it worth while to take any special interest in our exhibition because they are satisfied that they will under any circumstances have the biggest of the export and

import trade with the colony. It is possible, however, that they will in this matter reckon without their host, and that they are presuming too much on the advantage of geographic position and the superiority of their industrial resources. That the friendly conduct of the Dominion will tend to strengthen the commercial and political ties between the two colonies cannot be doubted, and friendly sentiment is no unimportant factor in determining the commercial relations of kindred communities. There are, moreover, few articles which we get from the United States that cannot on quite as favourable terms be obtained from Canada, and, everything else being equal, the predilection is likely to be more than ever in favour of Canada."

There is a movement afoot to revive the ginseng trade with China. The curious history of the growth and decline of this trade under the Old Régime is told in the comprehensive memoir of M. Querdisien Tremais, who was sent out to inquire into the financial condition of the colony in the years just preceding its transfer to Great Britain. From time immemorial the species of *Panax* known as ginseng has been in demand among the Chinese as a medicine, and it is still highly prized. The officers of the French East India Company, learning of its existence in Canada, began towards the middle of the last century to carry it to the East, but the Company, on ascertaining the extent and value of the traffic, took it out of their hands. The Company found it profitable, after a while, to pay thirty-three francs a pound for it, and ordered the agents at Quebec to buy all that was offered for sale. The result was that the farmers and others neglected their ordinary business to engage in ginseng gathering, and, ultimately, so many persons devoted themselves to this pursuit, and the eagerness to make fortunes by it became so intense, that the herb placed on the market was gathered out of season and carelessly manipulated. The consequence was that large quantities of it, transported to Rochelle, remained unsold, or reaching China through vessels of other nations, made such a bad impression on the Oriental buyers, that they declined thereafter to purchase the Canadian article. In Manchuria a like imprudent zeal made the once highly esteemed ginseng of that region so scarce that only the interposition of authority prevented its extermination. In modern times the best supply has come from Corea. It is also cultivated in Japan, as well as in I-chang and other districts of the Middle Kingdom. Consul C. T. Gardner, to whose interesting report we have already referred, mentions *Panax Schinseng* among the plants and vegetable substances that form articles of trade in his consular jurisdiction, and says that it is used as a tonic. He gives a long list of herbs employed in treating various maladies—some of which being poisonous, he classes as heroic remedies. Among other articles used in medicine, he mentions snakes' skins, wasps' nests, the cast pupal shell of the cicada, a certain fossil reduced to powder, and and other substances even more nauseous than curious.

It may be remembered that Senor Romero, the Mexican Minister at Washington, who, in his official capacity, attended the Pan-American Conference as a delegate from his own government, generously undertook to gratify the curiosity of a puzzled and anxious public as to the real issue of Mr. Blaine's polyglot gathering. Perhaps polyglot is too strong a term to apply to an assembly in which at most only four and practically only two languages were spoken. M. Romero divides the delegates into Latin-American and Anglo-American. But, if we have regard to the interests involved, we find that the Southern element in the Conference consisted of several cliques or factions, which only combined occasionally as against a common foe. Whatever distrust of the United States, as the nation which had originated the movement, may have existed in the first place among the Central and South American delegates was not diminished when the representatives of the two continents came together. M. Romero

deplores the ignorance of Spanish which was the rule among the northerners. He also mildly deprecates an even graver deficiency, which he hardly knows how to characterize, though every one of his Latin colleagues quickly became aware of it—the absence of that courtesy and deference which are deemed essential by southern peoples, but are too much disregarded by Anglo-Saxons. The contrast, M. Romero testifies, was very apparent when the members of the Latin and Teutonic races came in contact. The choice of Mr. Blaine as president gave dissatisfaction primarily to a few, ultimately (through his inability to attend to his duties) to all the delegates. By way of remedy, it was proposed that there should be four vice-presidents, representing the four sections of Latin America—the Atlantic and Pacific countries of the Southern continent, the republics of Central America and Mexico. The suggestion was not accepted, a plan of rotation being adopted instead, but this proving impracticable, owing to the consequent diversity of rulings from the chair, the ballot ultimately settled the question. A Peruvian delegate obtained the first, a Mexican the second vice-presidency. The proceedings were repeatedly interrupted by absurd misunderstandings, sometimes of racial, sometimes of sectional origin. Difference of opinion also arose on the question whether delegates should give their individual views or be bound by the instructions of their respective governments. The committees appointed by Mr. Blaine were not altogether a success—the most serious troubles arising in the Welfare or Arbitration Committee. Jealousy and distrust of the United States some of the delegates from abroad made no attempt to conceal. The failure of the attempt to establish reciprocity treaties (the plan of customs unions being soon recognized as impossible) was mainly due to this prevailing fear of United States predominance. The chief issue of the Conference, M. Romero concludes, was that it left at Washington a better impression of the intelligence of the stranger delegates and of Central and South American civilization.

The presence in Canada of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," suggests memories of the great struggle which, nearly thirteen years ago, pitted two sections of the United States against each other in deadly conflict. Ever since the uncouth and inexperienced Tyrtaeus raised by his inspiring strains the courage of the late despairing Spartans, the war-song has been a power in the development of civilization. Long before Tyrtaeus, indeed, Moses and Miriam and Deborah and Barak sang songs of triumph for the defeat of their enemies, and still earlier in the world's strange history, savage tribes lifted their untrained voices in defiance or exultation. The part played by poetry and music in the wars and feuds of race and clan, of party and creed, has been by no means insignificant. Did not a wise Scotchman say that if one were permitted to make the ballads of a nation, he need not care who made the laws? And did not one who was both poet and soldier say that he never heard an old song but he found his heart moved as with a trumpet? Many a heart has Mrs. Howe's "Battle Song" moved as with a trumpet, calling them to arms for the defence of all they prized most. She has herself told us how it came to be written. Like the issue of the struggle which prompted it, darkness shrouded it as it first took shape on the paper. In December, 1861, Mrs. Howe, in company with Dr. Howe and Governor and Mrs. Andrew, paid a visit to Washington. The war was the absorbing topic of thought and conversation. Indications of the intense anxiety that prevailed met the eye everywhere. Pickets guarded the line of the railroad, and the gallop of horsemen, the tramp of infantry, the noise of drum, fife and bugle, made the air quick with ominous sounds. Returning one day with the Rev. James Freeman Clarke and other friends from attending a review of the troops, Mrs. Howe and her companions beguiled the time (for the multitude of soldiers on the road made progress difficult and slow) by singing army songs. Waking early next