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PROSPECTUS OF VOL. XX.

We have the pleasure to announce to all our friends and patrons that this is the XXth Volume of

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, and in it we introduce a number of improvements tending to make it still more worthy of public encouragement. We have engaged the services of a talented Superintendent of the Art Department, competent to infuse new energy and excellence in our illustrations; and to show what we intend to accomplish in the Literary Department, we have only to publish the names of the following Canadian writers of note who have kindly consented to be occasional contributors to our columns:

J. G. BOURINOT, Esq., Ottawa.
 REV. A. J. BRAY, Montreal.
 DR. CAMPBELL, London, Ont.
 S. E. DAWSON, Esq., Montreal.
 F. M. DEROME, Esq., Rimouski.
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 THOMAS WHITE, Esq., M.P.
 REV. S. W. YOUNG, M.A., Toronto.
 COUNT DE PREMIO REAL, Spanish Consul at Quebec.

In addition to these attractions we beg to call attention to the following special features of the NEWS:

I. It is the only illustrated paper in the Dominion; the only purely literary weekly, and in every respect a family paper.

II. It contains the only Canadian Portrait Gallery in existence, numbering already over 300, and containing the picture and biography of all the leading men of the Dominion in every department of life. This collection is invaluable for reference, can be found nowhere else, and ours is the only paper that can publish it.

III. It gives views and sketches of all important events at home and abroad, as they transpire every week.

IV. It has been publishing, and will continue to publish, illustrations of the principal towns, manufactures and industries of the country, which, when collected in a volume, will constitute the most complete pictorial gazetteer ever printed.

V. Its original and selected matter is varied, spicy, and of that literary quality which is calculated to improve the public taste.

VI. It studiously eschews all partisanship in politics, and all sectarianism in religion.

The expenditure of an illustrated journal is double that of any ordinary paper, and to meet that we earnestly request the support of all those who believe that Canada should possess such a periodical as ours. The more we are encouraged the better will be our paper, and we promise to spare no effort to make it worthy of universal acceptance. A great step will be made if, with the new volume, all our friends help us to the extent of procuring for us an additional subscriber each.

OUR NEW STORY.

In this number we continue the publication of our original serial story, entitled:—

MY GREOLES:

A MEMOIR OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY,
 BY JOHN LESPERANCE.

Author of "Rosalba," "The Bastonnais," &c.

This story will run through several months, and we bespeak for it the favour which was accorded to "The Bastonnais," originally published in these columns two years ago. The subject is new and interesting. The book will deal, *inter alia*, with the mysteries of Voudouism, and touch delicately upon several of those social questions which have so thoroughly agitated the North and South since the war. Begin your subscriptions with the opening of this story.

NOTICES.

To prevent all confusion in the delivery of papers, our readers and subscribers are requested to give notice at this office, by post-card or otherwise, of their change of residence, giving the new number along with the old number of their houses.

Subscribers removing to the country or the sea-side during the summer months, are respectfully requested to send their new addresses to our offices, 5 and 7 Beary Street, and the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be duly sent to them.

TEMPERATURE,

As observed by HEARN & HARRISON, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING				Corresponding week, 1878			
July 27th, 1879.							
Max.	Min.	Mean.		Max.	Min.	Mean.	
Mon.. 80°	65°	73°		Mon.. 81°	68°	74°	5
Tues. 77°	65°	71°		Tues. 73°	64°	68°	5
Wed. 74°	54°	66°	5	Wed. 77°	61°	69°	
Thur. 72°	58°	65°		Thur. 80°	63°	71°	
Frid.. 74°	56°	65°		Frid.. 83°	67°	75°	
Sat... 80°	63°	71°	5	Sat... 81°	65°	73°	
Sun.. 73°	63°	68°		Sun.. 80°	65°	72°	5

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, August 2, 1879.

THE LETELLIER CASE.

The execution has been done, and as we write these lines, the political head of His Honour of Quebec has fallen into the basket. His successor, Dr. ROBITAILLE, governs in his stead. As respects the decapitation of Lieut.-Governor LETELLIER, there never was any reasonable doubt on the part of any well-informed man, after it was announced in the Parliament of Canada, subsequent to the large vote of the House of Commons, that the Ministers, strongly supported by that House, had advised His Excellency to remove him. We speak of the period before the reference of the case to England; but, even when it was referred, the advice of the Canadian Ministers, it was officially announced, was not rejected. It was only held over for deliberation, and in order that the hands of His Excellency might be strengthened by counsels from the Imperial authorities. When, however, it was known that the answer to this reference was that the question was one which came simply within the functions of the self-government of Canada, there was no longer, as was pointed out in these columns, a shadow of doubt. For it could not be supposed that the Marquis of Lorne would put himself in sheer antagonism with the new Parliament on a question of self-government of this nature, under our system. There may come some after-questions. We do not now discuss either the wisdom or the reverse of the action taken. We only say that in the situation which arose, after the Premier of Canada had given the advice to His Excellency, there came to be no road open for escape, either for one or the other. Perhaps Mr. LETELLIER will try to resuscitate himself under the cry of having been a martyr for economy in government, which his partisans may allege was necessary to save the Province; but this discussion has its two sides, which there will be plenty of time

to deal with. As respects the new governor Dr. ROBITAILLE, he is a well known and popular member of the House of Commons, and a man of many graces. He will probably be popular as Lieut.-Governor; and the fact of his appointment does not necessarily imperil the position of Mr. JOLY, any more than did the appointment of Mr. LETELLIER, the Conservative Ministers of Quebec of that day. Dr. ROBITAILLE will also have the advantage of the experience obtained by his predecessor.

AGRICULTURIST DISTRESS IN ENGLAND.

The news by telegraph and also by mail continues to show how profound is the feeling of uneasiness among the agriculturists in England arising from the severe and apparently increasing distress among them. The continued bad weather has now rendered a good harvest impossible; and this will make four bad harvests in succession. In the face of this calamity at home, there comes an accession of evil, at least in so far as the farmers are concerned, in the more systematised importation of wheat and meat, in the form of live stock. The wheat goes as a freight which serves as a cheapening of the carriage of live stock, and the two combined are carried profitably at very cheap rates.

A writer in the *Fortnightly Review* for June, uses these words: "They (the Americans) can now sell grain here at 20s. the sack. Should improvements in the means of transport enable them to lay down the sack at 15s., our home growers must come down to that figure; but no one supposes that our system admits of wheat being grown at even 20s. a sack." This price would be about 53s. 3d. per quarter; and at 15s. a sack, about 40s. per quarter. The actual average price in the last week of June, according to the report of the Imperial officers of excise, was 42s. 6d. per quarter.

Wheat and meat are the two great sources from which the English farmer obtains his revenue. All his other products are of no avail, when these fail him. This is the burden of all the reports and speeches in his interest. If he should be absolutely and permanently broken down in these two great staples, his occupation would, in fact, be gone.

As having an important bearing on this great question affecting vitally the prosperity of England, we may mention that we received a few days ago, from a well-informed correspondent, a little statement, showing the possibilities of competition from Manitoba. According to this statement, the farmer in Manitoba can put wheat in his granary, with profit, at 45 cents a bushel. Ten cents a bushel additional would afford a good average price to convey it from any part of Manitoba to Winnipeg. Thence, when the railway to Thunder Bay is completed, 15 cents more, according to our correspondent, who is good authority on this point, would be amply sufficient to take the bushel of wheat to Montreal; and 10 cents more would be a full price to convey it from Montreal to Liverpool. We should thus have a bushel of wheat in the docks at Liverpool for 80 cents, having given profit to everybody up to this point; and this is about 26s. 6d. per quarter, or about half the price at which the writer in the *Fortnightly* says it cannot be raised in England!

We have before shown in these columns, that with the improved methods of culture in Manitoba, one man can manage 100 acres of wheat, up to the point of putting it through the threshing mill; we have, therefore, no doubt that to the point of putting it in his barn, the Manitoba farmer may profitably raise it for 45 cents a bushel; and the remainder of the figures furnished by our correspondent certainly do not admit of much dispute. There are many millions of acres on which wheat can thus be grown, and when there is nothing between those vast wheat-producing areas and the British farmer beyond the cheap freights we have mentioned, it does not seem difficult to predict, with

confidence, that his days of competition, as respects this great staple, are nearly over. And we are afraid the same fact is becoming to be equally indisputable, from similar causes, as regards the other great staple of meat.

Our object in these remarks is simply to establish a fact which we observe is not appreciated by the writers and speakers who are now so actively discussing this question in England. It is admitted on all hands that the manufacturing interests of England will never again allow of a tax on the food of the people; but to us, it is apparent, on the other hand, that the vast agricultural interest of England, involving hundreds of millions of capital, which is also the foundation on which the aristocracy of England rests, if not that of the throne itself, will not be content to suffer total destruction without a convulsion, such as we have not yet witnessed. There will probably be something done before matters come to this point.

OUR SURPLUS HARVEST.

We had occasion a fortnight ago to chronicle the excellent condition of our three principal harvests—the hay, grain and root crops. Since then rain has fallen considerably, and there have been local showers of hail, but, from all accounts, no material damage has yet been done, and the calculation is that another fortnight of bright, warm weather will place the yield of all our fields beyond any danger. This is a most cheering prospect, which must needs go far toward restoring public confidence. We are now almost absolutely certain that our farmers will reap sufficient for an abundant supply of all their wants and have a handsome surplus to dispose of. It is this surplus which becomes an important factor in view of the reports of a deficiency in England and on the Continent. The news from the United Kingdom is to the effect that the harvest will be notably short in all its branches. We are informed that in France an importation of no less than 40,000,000 hectolitres of grain will be necessary to supply what will be lacking in the total of home consumption. This quantity represents the handsome sum of 800 millions of francs. There is a similar deficit in Germany, Belgium, Holland and the Northern countries. The markets from which these wants are to be met are naturally those of the New World, the United States in the first place, and Canada in her proportion. During the last fiscal year the United States sent abroad 135,000,000 bushels of grain and 5,000,000 barrels of flour, and this year they will doubtless export a great deal more. Fortunately their surplus is large. The wheat and oats now harvested as far north as Upper Illinois have turned out splendidly, and the vast wheat belt of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Dakota promises as well. The corn crop of the whole West appears to be enormous. In close proximity is our grand Red River valley, superior, if anything, to the neighbouring territories, and bound to be our own granary in the near future. Meantime, it will have its full share in the supplying of the needs of the older countries. The advantage with Ontario is its proximity to the seaboard, thereby lessening the cost of transportation and insuring a rapid transshipment. In the coarser grains, Quebec has a special advantage, which will make up for its comparatively limited breadth of wheat culture. There is no doubt that our farmers will be alive to the chances which lie open to them, and will put their grain into the market without unnecessary delay and on the assurance of fair prices. As we said a fortnight ago, this step may prove the initial one in a change from the present depression to renewed prosperity.

HON. DR. ROBITAILLE, the new Lieut.-Governor of Quebec, is forty-five years of age, having been born in 1834. He was educated at the Varennes Model School, at the Seminary of St. Therese, the Laval University, and McGill College, where he