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OUR CENTENNIAL STORY.

We call the attention of our readers to the original serial entitled

THE BASTONNAIS,

three of the initial chapters of which are published in the present number. Those who desire to follow one of the most momentous and critical episodes of Canadian history, presented in popular shape, would do well to secure this romance from the beginning, as back numbers are in many cases almost impossible to supply.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal Saturday, Jan. 1st, 1876.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1876.

ON THE OPENING OF A NEW YEAR we feel justified in calling upon the public in every part of the Dominion to aid us in making the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS second to no journal of its class in the world. We have accomplished much in the way of improvements, and we think we have fulfilled the promises we made twelve months ago. But we feel that there still remains much to be done, and we call upon our friends to assist us in doing it. This is the only illustrated newspaper in the Dominion. As such it has special claims upon the patronage of Canadians. It is a national undertaking, designed to reflect PICTORIALLY and EDITORIALY the life, the sentiments, and the daily history of Canada. No other paper can do this in the same way, and hence the ILLUSTRATED NEWS has an intrinsic value quite distinct from any other publication.

Its principal features are:—

- 1st. The pictorial illustration of all leading Canadian events as they occur.
- 2nd. A complete gallery of all Canadian celebrities with biographies attached.
- 3rd. The reproduction of the finest works of art.
- 4th. A great variety of original and selected literary matter.
- 5th. Stories, sketches, poems, and other contributions by leading Canadian writers.
- 6th. Special attractions for the home circle.

Every Canadian ought to be interested in the success and continued progress of the ILLUSTRATED NEWS, and should consider it is his duty to encourage it to the extent of at least one year's subscription. None know better than ourselves how

much it can still be improved, and we warrant that if we receive the patronage which we solicit, no effort on our part will be left untried to introduce a number of the most desirable improvements. Let the public throughout the country come forward generously with their support and we guarantee to furnish them a paper which shall be a real credit to the Dominion. We will supply the material if our friends will only furnish the patronage. Our terms are very moderate:—

1st. FOUR DOLLARS in advance, including the postage paid by us.

2nd. To those who neglect paying in advance, FOUR DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS will be charged to cover postage and other expenses.

3rd. Clergymen, Professors, and School-teachers, THREE DOLLARS in advance.

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

The happy and unusual coincidence of the first day of the new year with the first number of the new volume of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS furnishes us an apt opportunity to extend to all our readers the compliments of the season. During the year which has just closed there has been a constant intercommunion of ideas between them and us, and relations of mutual sympathy have subsisted without interruption. We can conscientiously say that we have done our best, frequently amid circumstances of anxiety and trouble, to discharge our obligations towards the friends and patrons of this journal, and the generous encouragement we have received from them is the strongest proof we could desire that our efforts have been appreciated. As stated in the Prospectus for 1876, printed in another column, we are aware of our own shortcomings and of how much remains to be accomplished before the News comes up to our own ideal, but the support we have received in the past is an earnest of the increased assistance which we may expect in the present year, and to us it shall be an incentive to more zealous labor and diligent attention for the promotion of the interests of our paper.

The year which we have closed will be a memorable one to all classes of the community for the financial stringency and commercial stagnation which have distinguished it. The times have pressed hard upon all; upon many they have told with distressing severity. But it is one of the pleasant features of the New Year that we can foretell a lifting of the clouds and a near return to better days of ease and prosperity. The winter season, with its usual dullness of trade, and exceptional expenditure in clothing and fuel, will retard this consummation for a few months, but with the advent of spring and the opening of navigation, there is every reason to expect that the country will lapse once more into its normal and necessary career of thrift and progress. Canada has reached a stage where it must advance. It is in that transition period of development where its blossoms must burst into fruit. The sap cannot be allowed to rush backwards to the roots, and the blight of etiolation is a contingency not to be thought of. Cheered, therefore, by these prospects it is with sincere gratification that we wish all our friends the benisons of the New Year. In their hearts and in their homes may they enjoy the benedictions of peace and contentment. May abundance reign in every enclosure and throughout all our borders, and may God bless our common country.

ARE WE CREEPING TOWARDS THE PACIFIC?

We are free to say that the new endeavour of the Government to give up their part of the solemn engagement entered into for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in the expectation of British Columbia cancelling the agreement, has taken us by surprise. The lover, it seems, proposes to take back the engagement ring, and leads us to ask if it will ever come to a marriage. This is humbling to the patriotic aspirations of

all Canada. MR. MACKENZIE has shown himself on more occasions than one as a real Dominion Minister and man of large views, as opposed to mere complaisances. We heartily think that he will still be persuaded to look a little further towards the future, that future of great promises and a Western Suez giving new life to the nations. The Government have not absolutely declared that they will never make the road. But they have taken one more step in descent towards the sad negation. It was very well for the Dominion to give up, if able to do so, the responsibility of the local line in Vancouver, for that was no part of the Pacific Railway proper, but it is quite a different affair to determine an arrangement that, while noble and promising, was not onerous in any intelligent view. Canada had become an object of interest to the civilized world and especially to the great Empire of which she forms a part, and this mainly because she seemed to be imbued with an idea—to be aggregating a unity—to be looking forward to a future. If the country shall go with the Government in their hesitating step, all this will soon be of the past. We shall come to be regarded not merely numerically as a community of but moderate strength, but as nationally and governmentally humdrum and uninteresting, sturdy breakers of the clods like Russians, brave mariners like Norwegians, but with little to mark us out for collective distinction, or to point us as a people with a grand inheritance. The offering of a bribe to British Columbia to keep quiet was politic—an amiable appeal to local instinct—always too powerful, and quite in the line of parish politics. It will carry with it probably a fair chance of provincial success. The money is in hand, and that always works wonders.

One of the best ways, though far from being the only one, of helping the working classes in a time of need is for those whom Providence has blessed with the means, to meet their obligations promptly, thus keeping the money in circulation—wisely scattering and so increasing the general benefit. There will still remain the needful measure of assistance in contriving new work for those who for the time are plunged in involuntary idleness. Montreal has not been slow this year in careful provisions and thoughtful offerings.

The late meeting in Montreal on Boiler Inspection elicited a praiseworthy willingness on the part of manufacturers to submit to regulations truly requisite for the protection of life and property. Montreal is, we believe, in advance of almost the entire Dominion upon this vital question. We might well say that other cities should follow, but there is really no reason why such right feeling and civic action should not be made the model of general governmental provision.

We still receive accounts of ocean steamers sinking almost instantaneously after being struck in collision. When shall we have an "Association" to demand, in the light of existing knowledge and invention, that this thing shall cease and determine for all the future of the race we belong to and are concerned to benefit?

LITERARY NOTICES.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE makes a strong bid for popular favor during the coming year by beginning in the January number a series of papers entitled "The Century, its Fruits and its Festival," and designed, as the name indicates, as a record of the Centennial Exhibition while in progress. The opening paper gives a spirited sketch of the general advance in the past hundred years and the chief inventions and improvements that have revolutionized society. After this preliminary survey the series will be illustrated, and can hardly fail to prove attractive as well as serviceable. The third installment of Mr. Bruce's "Up the Thames" furnishes very pleasant reading, and throws fresh interest on the historical sites and picturesque scenery depicted in the fine wood-cuts that accompany the text. Another illustrated article transports us to India, and deals in a somewhat novel manner with its religious systems and ideas, always objects of won-

der and inquiry. Three other articles in the number call for special notice: "The House on the Beach," which is a graphic account of the signal service and the benefits it confers upon the country, by Mrs. Rebecca Harding Davis; an anecdotal paper on court life in France, under the title of "Gentilhomme and Gentleman," by a writer who has evidently a personal knowledge of the scenes and incidents described; and a letter from Portugal, giving a vivid but appalling picture of the destitution and demoralization that prevail among the masses of the people. The variety of the contents is well maintained by an entertaining article on "Old Plantation Life in South Carolina," by Robert Wilson; the continuation of Mrs. Linton's able and interesting serial, "The Antonement of Leam Dundas," and a story by the author of *Blindpits*, "Lady Arthur Eildon's Dying Letter," which is marked by the shrewd observation and insight into character that distinguish this anonymous writer. A fine poem by Mrs. Kemble, and a letter in the "Gossip" describing the recent performance of the *Kreuzschnee* at Ober-Ammergau, should not be overlooked. The whole number is bright and readable in a high degree, and commends this Magazine strongly to those desiring to subscribe to such a periodical for the coming year. \$4.00 per annum. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Publishers, Philadelphia.

WITH the January number "The Galaxy" enters on its twenty-first volume. The marked success which it has attained in its eleven years of existence proves pretty clearly that a high-toned literary magazine will be generously supported. For the year 1876 it expects to make a great advance. At no time during its existence has "The Galaxy" been surrounded with so strong a staff of elegant and brilliant writers. Every department will be maintained at even a higher standard than heretofore. A new serial story will be commenced in the January number of "The Galaxy," by Wm. Black, author of "A Princess of Thule," "Strange Adventures of a Phaeton," etc., etc. Wm. Black is now one of the most brilliant novelists of the day. Miss Annie T. Howells, sister of W. C. Howells, the delightful essayist and novelist, has just commenced a serial story in "The Galaxy." Miss Howells has written several short stories full of promise, and giving evidence of a delightful fancy and graceful style. This is her first novel and will justify the high expectations which are entertained of it. Henry James Jr., Albert Rhodes, Richard Grant White, and Prof. H. H. Boyesen will contribute to "The Galaxy." Gen. Geo. A. Custer, the brilliant cavalry officer, will also contribute a series of sketches, giving some of his exciting and interesting adventures in army life. Gen. Custer handles his pen as well as his sword, and is sure to furnish a most charming series of papers.

DOMESTIC.

FINE PANCAKES.—Take a pint of cream, eight eggs (leave out the whites), three large spoonfuls of orange flower water, a little sugar and grated nutmeg; melt a small quantity of butter with cream over the fire, then add three spoonfuls of flour, and mix well together. Butter the frying-pan for the first; let them run as thin as you can in the pan, fry them quick, and serve them up hot.

SAUCE PIQUANTE.—Brown lightly, in an ounce and a half of butter, a tablespoonful of eschalots; add a teaspoonful of flour when they are partially done; pour to them half a pint of gravy or of good broth, and when it boils, add three chillies, a bay-leaf, and a very small bunch of thyme. Let these simmer for twenty minutes; take out the thyme and bay-leaf, add a high seasoning of black pepper, and half a wine-glassful of the best vinegar.

PRUSSIAN CUTLET.—Take a piece of veal, say one pound, from any part of the calf, with a little fat, chop it up, but not too fine; add to it two teaspoonfuls of chopped eschalot, one of salt, half a one of pepper, a little nutmeg, chop it a little more, and make it into two pieces of the size of two walnuts, which give the shape of a cutlet, egg and bread-crumbs each, keeping the shape; saute in fat, oil, lard, or butter, give it ten minutes on a slow fire till a nice, brown colour, dish and serve with sauce, in which put a tablespoonful of Harvey's; they may be served with stewed vegetables. Any other meat may be used as well as veal.

BEEF-STEAK PIE.—From two to three pounds of steak will make a good family pie. Trim off part of the fat, should there be much of it. If the beef should not appear very tender, it may be gently beaten with a paste roller until the fibre is broken; then divide into slices, and lay in a dish bordered with paste. Season with salt and pepper, and sufficient water poured in to make the gravy and keep the meat moist. Lay on the cover, join it securely to the paste which is round the rim, trim both off close to the dish, make an incision through the middle of the cover, and lay some slight ornament of paste round it. Let the pie remain in a well heated oven for nearly an hour and a half. You may season with minced onion and eschalot. Mushrooms improve all meat-pies.

PLUM PUDDING.—1. One pound of suet chopped very fine, one pound of grated bread, one pound of carrots, one pound of raisins stoned, the rind of half a lemon shred as fine as possible, six Jamaica peppers in fine powder, four eggs, a glass of brandy, a little salt, and as much milk as will make it a proper consistence; boil it nine hours, and serve with sweet sauce. The pudding will keep after it is boiled for full six months, if not taken out of the basin. Tie it over a clean cloth, and boil it a full hour when wanted.—2. Half a pound of potatoes, a quarter of a pound of carrots to be well boiled, worked through a colander, a tablespoonful of treacle, half a pound of currants, quarter of a pound of moist sugar, quarter of a pound of suet well chopped, two canned candied peel, a little grated nutmeg, half a pound of flour; mix all together the night before wanted, and boil four hours.—3. Half a pound of suet, chopped very fine, half a pound of grated bread, half a pound of raisins, stoned; the yolks of three eggs, and the whites of two, a little nutmeg, two spoonfuls of sugar. Boil it six hours; serve it to table with a little butter and sugar.—4. Half a pound of grated bread or flour, half a pound of suet, three ounces of brown sugar, half a pound of currants, a wine-glass of brandy, the yolks of five eggs and whites of two, one nutmeg, grated, candied peel to your taste. To be well mixed, and boiled four hours.—5. One pound and a half of beef-suet, one pound of grated bread, one pound of currants, one pound of raisins, one glass of brandy, half a nutmeg, a teaspoonful of salt, eight eggs, leaving out half the whites, a small quantity of loaf sugar, and a few bitter almonds. Boil six hours.