

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY. DECEMBER 21, 1872.

SUNDAY.	Dec. 15.—Third Sunday in Advent. Isaac Walton died, 1683.
MONDAY.	" 16.—John Selden born 1584. Whitfield born, 1714. Malesherbes born, 1721. Weber born, 1786.
TUESDAY.	" 17.—Beethoven born, 1770. Sir Humphry Davy born, 1778. First Lower Canada Parliament met, 1792. Bolivar died, 1831.
WEDNESDAY.	" 18.—Ember Day. Prince Rupert born, 1619. Lord Elgin's Administration closed, 1854. Samuel Rogers died, 1855. Great Western RR. opened to Petrolia, 1865.
THURSDAY.	" 19.—Scheele born, 1742. Capt. Parry born, 1790. Fort Niagara captured, 1813. Turner died, 1851.
FRIDAY.	" 20.—Ember Day. First Railroad Car arrived at Bytown, 1854.
SATURDAY.	" 21.—St. Thomas, Ap. & M. Boccaccio died, 1375. Kepler born, 1571.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at St. Beaver Hall, Montreal, by THOS. D. KING, for the week ending Dec. 8, 1872.

	Mean Temp. of day.	Min. Temp. previous night.	Mean Rel. Hum.	Mean height of Bar.	Gen. Direction of Wind.	State of Weather.
Dec. 8	33.2	24.2	88	29.61	SE to NE	Overcast.
" 9	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 10	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 11	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 12	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 13	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 14	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 15	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 16	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 17	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 18	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 19	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 20	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
" 21	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.
MEAN	33.1	24.3	89	29.64	W	Snowing.

Extreme Range of Temperature, 23.0; of Humidity, 29.0; of Barometer, 29.41 inches. Maximum height of Barometer on the 7th, 30.20; Minimum height on the 8th, 29.49.

Whole amount of snow during the week, 9.50 inches, equivalent to 6.60 inches of rain; equivalent to 21,492 gallons of water per acre.

NOTE.—Cloudy and overcast during the week. On the 4th a few hours bright sunshine with blue sky and cirrus clouds during the morning.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

The Christmas number of the

"ILLUSTRATED NEWS"

will be unusually attractive. It will contain a variety of seasonable sketches and engravings: a series of

DEER HUNTING SCENES,

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BY CANADIAN AUTHORS.

Full particulars in our next.

The undersigned has much pleasure in acquainting the public that he has entered into arrangements with Mr. Johnston, C.E., of Montreal, for the early publication of his large "Map of the whole Dominion, from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island, with the Northern and Western States."

This Map is approved and recommended by the highest Geographical Authorities in Canada as being the most accurate, comprehensive and useful Map yet made. It will be the special care and aim of the undersigned to place this valuable work before the Canadian public in a style commensurate with its great merits, early in the ensuing year.

GEO. E. DESBARATS.

[See Prospectus.]

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The Proprietor of this paper wishes to secure the services of two responsible, active, intelligent business men to take charge, the one of the North-western Ontario, and the other of the Eastern Ontario Agencies of THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS. Exclusive territory and liberal percentage given. Satisfactory references or adequate security required. Apply at once to

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS OFFICE,
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TO CONTRIBUTORS.

Contributors are requested to take notice that any MS. sent to the Editor on approval must be accompanied by the name and address, in full, of the author.

Rejected MSS. will not be returned unless accompanied by stamps to defray postage.

NOTICE TO INTENDING SUBSCRIBERS.

Persons and Clubs sending in their names Now, accompanied by \$1.00 for each subscription, will receive THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS from the date of their remittance to 31st December, 1873.
16th November, 1872.

OUR CHROMO FOR 1873.

We are happy to state that we are preparing a fine Chromo for presentation to our subscribers for 1873. The subject and execution being thoroughly Canadian and very artistic, will no doubt please our numerous patrons. It represents a Snow-shoe Party by Moonlight, halting at a farm-house near the Mountain of Montreal, and is taken from a photograph by Notman, coloured by Henry Sandham. It will be printed on plate paper, and be the size of a double page illustration in THE NEWS. We hope to distribute it early in January to our subscribers; and we take this opportunity to request an early renewal of all subscriptions, and trust that our friends will exert themselves to send us each a few new names. The price, \$4.00, is henceforth strictly payable in advance. One remittance of \$20.00 entitles the sender to six copies for one year, which will be addressed separately if desired.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that Mr. T. O. Bridgewater is not and has not been for some time past agent for this paper, and that payments made to him will not be recognized by this office. In Western Ontario Mr. W. Rowan is at present our only travelling representative.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1872.

The mission of Sir Bartle Frere to Zanzibar with the object of putting an end to the iniquitous slave trading which has for some years past been carried on on the West Coast of Africa, is a subject deserving of more than passing notice, inasmuch as it involves some very delicate questions of international law, for the successful settlement of which all the discretion and tact of an experienced diplomatist will be required. This the British Government has tacitly acknowledged in the appointment of Sir Bartle Frere—whose long services in India, and great experience in Eastern affairs, point him out as the man of all others best fitted to conduct the disagreeable and difficult negotiations which may be expected to arise with the Sultan of Zanzibar.

The movement for the suppression of the East African slave trade is no new one. For some time past this horrible traffic has engaged the attention of eminent publicists and humanitarians. It has been the theme of much comment in the English press, and has been reported on by a Special Commission representing the principal departments of the British Government, and by a Select Committee of the Imperial House of Commons. Little, however, was done beyond talking, until Mr. Stanley arrived in England, bringing with him communications from Dr. Livingstone, urging the Government to take immediate steps for the repression of the traffic. Dr. Livingstone's representations, strengthened by Mr. Stanley's account of the horrors he himself had witnessed, so wrought upon the popular feelings that hesitation became no longer possible. An expedition was fitted out, and Sir Bartle Frere was commissioned as special envoy to the Sultan of Zanzibar, with orders to put an end to the slave traffic—by treaty if possible; if not, by other means.

Unfortunately, as already stated, there are several obstacles to the successful termination of any negotiations that may be entered upon. For the proper understanding of these it will be well briefly to describe the system of the slave traffic as carried on on the East Coast. The principals in the business are certain wealthy Banian merchants, whose head-quarters are in the island of Zanzibar, and who are themselves protected British subjects. These merchants make a business of speculating in the slave-trade—and a very safe speculation it has proved hitherto. They lend money to the Arab slave-dealers, who organize slave-stealing expeditions into the interior of the continent. The atrocity of the business lies mainly with these Arabs, who are absolutely pitiless and reckless of human life, and, for the sake of a handful of captives, will burn a whole village and slaughter two-thirds of the inhabitants. When they have collected a sufficient cargo of their human wares they return to the coast and ship for Zanzibar, where they divide the profits with the Banian merchants. And this under the very noses of the British cruisers; for by the treaty at present existing between England and the Sultan of Zanzibar, the former is pledged to allow the free passage of slaves in Zanzibar waters. What the profits of the traffic are may be judged from the statement of Mr. Stanley—and there is no reason to suppose it to be exaggerated—that every dollar put into the business multiplies a hundred-fold. Of course the revenue derived from this traffic is very considerable, and the Sultan is naturally loth to abolish a practice which contributes so largely to swell his treasury. This brings us to the second difficulty with which the British envoy will have to contend. By the terms of the arbitration, conducted some ten years ago

by the Indian Government between the Sultan of Zanzibar and the Imam of Muscat, it was agreed that the former should pay to the latter an annual tribute of \$40,000. The Sultan claims that in order to meet this yearly draw upon his exchequer he is entirely dependent upon the revenue due to the slave trade. But he further half intimates his willingness to co-operate with Great Britain in the suppression of the traffic provided either that compensation for the loss of the revenue therefrom be guaranteed him, or that he be absolved from his engagement with Muscat. It has therefore been suggested as the simplest solution of the difficulty—and this, it is understood, is the view taken by Sir Bartle Frere—that England should assume the responsibility of the payment of the yearly indemnity. This proposal has met in certain quarters with vigorous opposition. It is objected that England should not be made to pay for the luxury of doing good. As was pointed out by the Bishop of Winchester at a recent public meeting, the loss occasioned the Sultan by the suppression of the slave-trade will be more than compensated by the returns of the legitimate traffic which has recently sprung up, and which would receive a new impetus by the abolition of slave-trading. But by far the most general feeling appears to be in favour of the immediate repeal of the disgraceful treaty with Zanzibar, and of the adoption of vigorous measures for the suppression of the slave trade. Mr. Stanley's word at the meeting alluded to may be taken as the embodiment of the sentiments entertained by the large majority of Englishmen:—"Tell the Imam that we make no terms in this new crusade, that we will not pay him a farthing for the abolition of the bellish traffic. If he wants any indemnity from Zanzibar, let him exact it at the point of the sword, and know that he will have to do so in the teeth of English cruisers armed with English guns."

Yet another difficulty—and one which seems to have escaped general notice—is pointed out by the *Daily News* as lying in the impossibility of stopping the demand for slaves. This is an obstacle that did not exist—at least to so great an extent—in the case of the Western slave-trade, where furthermore England was helped in her efforts at repression by the fact that the Governments whose subjects were willing to buy slaves, and thus fostered the trade, were pledged to its suppression. In the case of the East Coast it is otherwise. Slavery is an Asiatic institution, and the whole Eastern world regards the slave-trade as a legitimate traffic. The suppression of slavery in the East would be a revolution in the social system of the Oriental world—a revolution which would be one of the greatest benefits bestowed on humanity, and for the accomplishment of which the English expedition to Zanzibar has the best wishes of all civilized peoples.

NEW BOOKS.

ISOLINA; or, The Actor's Daughter. By E. O. S. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. Montreal: Dawson Bros. pp. 479.

Were it not for its great length "Isolina" would undoubtedly be a success. But in this respect, and in that of the number of characters introduced, it strongly resembles one of those interminable Chinese plays, the representation of which drags its slow length over weeks and frequently over months, until the interest of the spectator flags, and he becomes heartily sick of the whole affair. The book is a description of the trials and troubles of that sorely over-worked drudge, the English governess. Isolina is the daughter of a popular actor by whose death she and her mother—a hapless, helpless, Mrs. Nickleby kind of a body—are thrown upon their own resources. Isolina becomes in time a governess, and as she is by no means deficient in personal attractions, she incurs the suspicions of her employers as harbouring designs on every eligible young man who comes near her. A weary life the poor girl leads, though her dark, thorny path is not altogether uncheered by the kindness and encouragements of her friends. Finally she succumbs to a disease of the lungs, which carries her off just as a happier life appears to be dawning upon her. With the exception of the defects already mentioned, and a slight tendency on the part of the author to prose, the book is interesting enough. It is chiefly valuable for the insight it gives of the struggles and temptations, the snubbings and insults to which the large majority of resident governesses are exposed.

VICTOR NORMAN, RECTOR. By Mrs. Mary A. Denison. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

The thanks of the fiction-reading public are certainly due to Messrs. Lippincott & Co. for publishing such a very charming novel as "Victor Norman." The majority of works of this class are generally irredeemably worthless, or at best but indifferently good. It is therefore a real pleasure to be able to introduce to our readers a book which needs but its own merits to recommend it. Mrs. Denison's novel is one of this kind. It is marred neither by trashy sentimentality nor doubtful morality. The characters have nothing unreal in their composition, and the plot, without being too perplexing or too impossible, is sufficiently ingenious to maintain the readers' interest without flagging to the end of the book. There is a mystery, of course, in the story—a mystery which hedges in the Rev. Victor Norman, Rector of Bogwood, and causes him to be looked upon with suspicion even by the best of his parishioners. But the rector is an honest, conscientious man, and though often sorely tempted to leave his charge, labours on in his sacred vocation through good report and through evil report, until the mystery is satisfactorily solved and the clergyman comes out of the ordeal with unblemished honour, and with new claims upon the respect and love of his flock. We have no hesitation in recommending the volume as well worthy of perusal.