

We rejoice to know that the exhibition of Canadian manufactures and products at *Sydney, New South Wales*, was successfully carried out. We trust that the result will be the opening up of a new market for Canadian goods even in so remote a region as the Australasian colonies, shipments of Canadian productions having already been made. Though the expenditure may exceed the estimate, we doubt not the cost to *Canada* will be amply repaid by the extension of her trade.

It gives us great pleasure to learn that preparations have been uninterruptedly carried on, during the last six months, for securing an ample but select exhibition of *Canada's* products and manufactures at the great exhibition to be held at *Paris* during the current year. We are prepared to concur in any further grant that may be required to meet the expenditure. That His Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, as Chairman of the British Commissioners, has assigned a prominent place to *Canada* in one of the main Towers, where a Canadian Trophy is now being erected, we are also very glad to hear.

We regret to know that a very disastrous fire occurred in June last in the City of *St. John*, which caused the destruction of a large portion of the City, including all the public buildings owned by the Dominion Government. Your Excellency's Government having deemed it necessary to contribute \$20,000 to assist in relieving the immediate wants of the people who were rendered destitute by so appalling a calamity, and Your Excellency having also sanctioned the appropriation of some public money, with which to commence the erection of new buildings for the public business, we shall be ready to do our part towards confirming those acts in the usual way.

We are glad to learn from Your Excellency that during last summer Your Excellency's Commissioners made another Treaty with the *Blackfeet, Blood* and *Piegans* Indians, by which the Indian title is extinguished over a territory of 51,000 square miles west of Treaty No. 4, and south of Treaty No. 6, that the Treaty has been made on terms nearly the same as those under Treaty No. 6, though somewhat less onerous; and that the entire territory west of *Lake Superior* to the *Rocky Mountains*, and from the boundary nearly to the 55th degree of North latitude, embracing about 450,000 square miles, has now been acquired by peaceful negotiation with the native tribes, who place implicit faith in the honour and justice of the British Crown.

We thank Your Excellency for the important information that early in the past summer a large body of Indians, under *Sitting Bull*, from the *United States*, crossed into British territory to escape from the *United States* troops, and have since remained on the Canadian side, and that the *United States* Government made a friendly but unsuccessful attempt to induce these Indians to return to their reservations. We agree with Your Excellency in hoping that such arrangements may yet be made as may lead to their permanent and peaceful settlement, and thus relieve *Canada* of a source of uneasiness and a heavy expenditure.

It affords us great satisfaction to be informed that the Surveys of the *Pacific* Railway have been pressed to completion during the past season; that a complete instrumental survey of the route, by the valleys of the *North Thompson* and *Lower Fraser* Rivers, has been made, with a view to ascertain definitely whether that route presents more favourable features than the routes already surveyed to *Dean Inlet* and *Bute Inlet* respectively; and that it is believed that the additional information now obtained will enable Your Excellency's Government to determine which route is the most advantageous from *Tête Jaune Cache* to the sea. We thank Your Excellency for the promise that full information will be laid before us at an early day of the season's work in this and other directions.

We accept with thankfulness Your Excellency's congratulations on the abundant harvest reaped in all quarters of the Dominion; and we rejoice with your Excellency, that under this and other influences there has been some improvement in the Revenue returns, thus indicating, we also trust, that the commercial depression that has so long afflicted *Canada*, in common with other countries, is passing away.

Your Excellency having been pleased to inform us that your attention has been called to some imperfections in the existing system of auditing the Public Accounts,