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All remittances and business communications to be addressed to G. B. BURLAND, General Manager.

All literary correspondence, contributions, &c., to be addressed to the Editor.

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### NOTICE.

We are constantly receiving letters and messages for back numbers or extra numbers of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS. Our friends should remember that, in every case, a sufficient sum should be enclosed to pay for the price of the paper and the postage.

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, 26th August, 1876.

### TO OUR READERS.

The most of our friends and subscribers throughout the country have heard of the misfortune by fire which befell us on the morning of Sunday, the 6th inst. The fire took place in the third, or lithographic flat of our establishment, and the large lithographic press which was ready to begin the printing of the pictorial side of the NEWS was precisely the one which suffered the most injury. The loss was likewise severe in other portions of that story. At first we had thought that the loss was not so great as to interfere much with the publication of the paper, but a closer examination revealed the fact that the publication of the NEWS would necessarily be postponed. We have made all diligence in repairing and replacing the injured material, and our readers may rest assured that not an hour was lost in bringing out the NEWS, as soon as it was possible to do so. We anticipate no further cause for delay and hereafter we shall publish the paper at the proper intervals. We may take the present occasion to say that, owing to the large sums we have outstanding in small amounts, and the difficulty and heavy expense of employing collectors, we think it only right that our friends should remit to us the amount of their arrearages or annual subscriptions by return mail, or at the earliest possible day. We hope and believe that they desire to see the only illustrated paper in Canada carried on; but if subscribers neglect to pay their subscription, we cannot be expected to bear the sole burden of publication unaided. Please, therefore, help us in this enterprise (which is really a national one), and not only promptly remit us your own subscriptions, but send us one or two new names to be added to our list. It should also be borne in mind that the subscription is only \$4 when paid in advance, and \$4.50 when not so paid.

### THE WEALTH OF NATIONS.

"I take the first," says the king. "Give me first fruits," say the nobles. "Give me tithes," says the priest. "Pay me wages," says the soldier. "Give me profits," says the Jew. "Pay us," say the lawyer and the leech. "Give! Give!" whines the beggar. "Heaven help me," prays the yeoman, "for I have to help you seven."

This bit of mediæval folk-lore is not

without its point and application in the Canada of to-day.

There is obviously only one way in which a family or nation can get poor;—by consuming more than it produces.

Now the producers of wealth in a nation may be conveniently divided into two classes—those who produce it directly, and those who produce it indirectly. Among the former class are farmers, miners, fishers. Under the latter head will come teachers, preachers, doctors, mechanics, storekeepers and agents.

Now, unfortunately, the "Indirect Producers of Wealth" have, in these latter days, been indirectly secure in undue percentage of profit. From this have flowed naturally two results. Firstly, they have increased unduly in numbers. Secondly, having made unduly large profits they have become unduly large consumers. When we consider the comparatively small numbers of the "direct producers of wealth" in Canada, the little band of our farmers and miners, and the most of storekeepers, furniture-makers, peddlers of moribund Yankee fruit-trees, agents for sewing machines and harmoniums (forcing goods on the farmer at four times their prime cost) to say nothing of lawyers, doctors, insurance men, etc., etc. which these farmers support, how can we wonder at hard times?

The farmer wears coarse clothes, and those patched like Joseph's coat; he is early to bed to save his home-made tallow candle; we know one, in North Sutton, who economized the very suds in which he washed his hands by feeding them to his pigs. The vendor of patent medicines dressed in broad-cloth, smokes imported cigars; lives at hotels, where one-third of all consumed goes to waste. Look on this picture and on that! Heaven help the land where agents flourish and the agriculturist decays.

But farmers are themselves greatly to blame for this, by introducing a second great cause of national distress—a vast system of credit. No farmer can afford to be trusted. A farmer's investment is comparatively safe, and he, therefore, is not calculated to make more than five or seven per cent. on his capital, in addition to being paid so much for his labour. The most modest trader, on the other hand, expects to make 10 per cent. on his principal. The trader then must, somehow, charge the farmer 10 per cent. on all store debts. Hence the farmer loses 3 per cent per annum to begin with. And again, when the trader has money owed him by so many, he is sure to lose on some. He has to increase his rate of profit to pay for this loss, and so the honest pay for the dishonest; the economical atone for the extravagant, and the penurious, without knowing it, is supporting the spendthrift.

Again, when a man buys "on tick" he is apt to buy more things than he can absolutely get along with, and more of each article. This again tends to end in loss both to himself and the trader, which loss those who are more prudent have in the end to make good.

Let the farmer mortgage his farm at 9 per cent per annum, and get a discount of 10 per cent for three months, for cash; or if buying a mowing machine, sewing machine or organ, offer the agent little more than half "that fixed price which he never reduces!"

Were there a few stores in a country place, each doing a large business and all paid in cash, they could turn over their capital three or four times in the year. Buyers could get goods at an advance of ten per cent. As it now is, they never pay less than 33 per cent advance on cost, on stationery they pay 50 per cent, and on some fancy goods 250 per cent.

The Quakers of Prince Edward county were the best customers the Belleville merchants ever had. They were known to pay cash. They asked the prices of things at two or three shops. They never beat the trader down. Hence the salesman lost no time over them, and to secure their cash, sold goods to them at 20 per cent less than to the Hastings farmers.

Round Inverness, the farmers are so poor that, although they live in hovels, they have to run in debt each spring for their seed corn. Just imagine what a percentage of profit they have to pay to the traders. All we could suggest them would be to use oxen (the cost of whose keep is recouped in beef) instead of horses, or to sell their farms and hire out, till they have a little money put by.

There is one invaluable counsel both for the rich and poor agriculturist. Never go to law. Do not let the lawyer build palaces "out of the sweat of thy face," which barely then suffices to keep yourself in bread. Shame your foe into submitting things to friendly arbitration. Endure wrong. There is six miles of road in Abbotsford, vis-a-vis its whole length by very wealthy farmers and a peace-loving clergyman. There has not been a law-suit on that road for twenty years.

The cure for hard times will, we hope, work itself out. Co-operative stores may help. One has been started in Waterloo, and is doing well. It needs further organisation which is, we hear, to be effected next month. But the main thing is for the ranks of our direct producers to swell and our general consumption of foreign luxuries to decrease. Those who are most adept at the "pursuits of indirect production" will manage, by going without such thing as stores, cigars, drinks, &c., &c., to hold on. The rest will have to fall (or rather to "rise") to the ranks of the farmers or farm labourers, if not maintained, through mistaken kindness, in idleness. Nearly every farmer in the Townships, nearly every farmer in Ontario, will, we are credibly informed, gladly give any able bodied man employment, and even small wages during the winter. Many can find housework for their wives. Arrangements can be made to transport them cheaply to their destination by rail or road. Let the cities care tenderly for children and for the sick, but let them beware lest they break the Gospel law, "If any will not work neither shall he eat."

### REBELS OR PATRIOTS.

In order better to understand the state of things in the East it is well to have before us the geography and condition of the countries in revolt against Turkey. The CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS furnished its readers, lately, with a very excellent map of the insurgent provinces. We will supplement that map by the best information procurable, meagre though it be.

The united population of Servia, Montenegro, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Albania and Roumania is about thirteen million, or threefold that of Canada; their square miles of territory number about 200,000, or four times that of Great Britain. Of these, the most active in revolt are Servia and Montenegro, with a total population of a million and a half; an area of 20,000 square miles, and annual revenue of 36,000,000 piastres.

But the insurrection of these places is rendered the less insignificant by the fact that every Serb is trained to the use of arms, and the national guard of the country can be raised to the enormous proportion of one tenth of the population. Servia and Montenegro belong almost entirely to the Greek Church. The rest of the provinces said to be in revolt may be very roughly described as half Mahometans, three-eighth Greek Christians, and one-eighth Roman Catholic, Protestants, Jews, Gipsies, and what not?

These countries are as blessed by nature as they have been cursed by mis-rule, and both to an extent hard to over-estimate. In Servia, we read of forests of pear trees, and of one mine which yields £13,000 worth of copper annually to an English company. In Bosnia, even the imperfect mining economy of the natives cannot prevent mines of copper, lead, iron, marble and mercury from being worked to a profit, and the whole valley of one river (the Bosna) is believed to be one vast underlying coal-bed. In Servia cereals abound,

even so as to overflow into being articles of export; and wine, figs, rice, tobacco, and even cotton grow in the lowlands of most of the provinces, while timber is floated down from the hills and mountains. The latter are enough to tempt a member of the Alpine Club. In Bosnia, they rise from the height of 4000 feet (or the altitude of the very loftiest amongst us) to 8000 feet, or twice that height. The very capital of Montenegro is reached by a mountain path, or rather by shattered irregular steps. It is a veritable Nephelococcygia.

In Servia is the famous Iron Gate, where the mightiest river in Europe, the Danube, breaks through the towering barrier of the rugged Carpathians.

So dark did the wooded hills of Montenegro seem to the sailors of the Adriatic that in all nations its name is the same in meaning—Czernagora, Karadagh, Montenegro, Black Mountain. Here are fantastic caverns, in which the mountain streams plunge, and like Arethusa of old, re-appear again after a mysterious subterranean trip. One writer compares the whole country to a petrified sea, another to an enormous cake of wax perforated by a thousand holes.

But, while every prospect pleases, man is comparatively vile. The state of civilization among nations may be gauged by the ever increasing scale on which "pleonexia" (or the natural impulse to "grab") must be carried on, in order to seem praiseworthy.

Thus among the Highlanders the cattle-lifter was a gentleman; among the early Greeks piracy was no disgrace; among the English of the seventeenth century the highwayman was a "gentleman of the road"; among the Russians and the (non-British) Americans, "grab" is honourable if it be of Mexico, Alaska, Indian Reserves or Canada; and murder meritorious if it be of a Turk, or a Sioux.

The civilization of Bulgaria and Montenegro is of the old Highland, or young Henry V. type. The Montenegrin shepherd leads his tender flock armed to the teeth, and the "Balkan gentleman," *Balkan tchelebis*, removes your purse with the well-practised ease and courtesy of Robin Hood, or Little John. In Montenegro, as among the Indians, a schoolboy's revenge is still a virtue. In Bosnia, cruelty has hardly ceased to be a vice.

The happiness of a people depends upon the prevalence of primary education in it. In Herzegovina not one in a hundred knows how to read; in its capital, a town of 50,000 inhabitants, there is not a single bookseller's shop, and in Servia female education is unknown.

The march of civilization is stepping into private families, punishing the father for grossly maltreating his children, and forcing him to educate them. Cannot the common sense of most of the nations hold these fretful realms in awe, free them from the oppression of the Turks, on condition of the establishment of an efficient police, of protection afforded to life, and foreign capital, and of a rough but ready network of schools? Alas! we fear not.

### INSANITY AND THE PRESS.

In our last, we published an article on the momentous subject of the increase of insanity, in connection with a lecture recently delivered on that topic, by Dr. HENRY HOWARD, of this city. This week, we deem it altogether worth our while to supplement the discussion by adverting to the views of such an authority as Dr. JOSEPH WORKMAN, of Toronto, on the terrible effect which a sensational press produces towards the increase of criminal insanity. Dr. WORKMAN says, that long ago, they were instructed by the most able conductor of a newspaper in Canada that journalism was simply a commercial enterprise, and with that view the news must be made as attractive as possible to the heterogeneous mass of readers. The great prominence given to the details of terrible crimes in the public press is undoubtedly