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

NOTICE.

THE DOMINION EXHIBITION.

The next number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be almost entirely devoted to sketches of the Exhibition, in its different departments. Orders should be sent in early.

TEMPERATURE.

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

THE WEEK ENDING

Table with columns for Sept. 15th, 1880, and Corresponding week, 1879. Rows include days of the week (Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun.) and temperature readings (Max., Min., Mean).

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, September 25, 1880.

THE WEEK.

AFTER a certain unavoidable delay, the Government of Quebec have begun to reap the fruits of their successful Parisian loan. A first instalment of \$250,000 arrived at the Capital last week.

The idea of commemorating the great Dominion Exhibition by an appropriate medal is quite proper and very creditable to the author, M. JOSEPH LEROUX, of this city. We publish a view of the medal in the present number, and the public can judge for themselves of the excellence of the workmanship.

For the credit of the Militia everywhere, and especially for the sake of the Wimbledon meetings, we are glad to learn that the court-martial has acquitted Sergeant WILLIAM MARSHMAN who was accused of falsely marking at the butts, during the recent meeting of the National Rifle Association.

We hear of large cargoes of ice arriving in New York from Norway. Surely this is a trade which Canada might nearly monopolize. A shrewd observer recently stated to us that there were two branches of business in which, to his wonder, Canadians had not yet seen their way to embark. One was the exportation of oysters, and the other the exportation of ice. Fortunes might be realized from both in a short time.

GENERAL LUARD, the new Commandant of Militia, is going about his work in earnest. He attends inspections and reviews in different parts of the country, and does not satisfy himself with the usual forms of faint praise. We notice that some of our contemporaries find fault with his criticism of our militia—that while it excels in physique, it is lacking in drill. If a militia is worth maintaining at all, it is worth maintaining well, and that condition essentially includes proficiency in drill.

It seems that, with all our sad experiences during so many past years, no effectual means of arresting bush fires have been found. The catastrophe in Bagot county is simply appalling. The total loss is over \$200,000, and extends over six or seven parishes. A further misfortune is that the victims are generally poor. No time should be lost in organizing a scheme of succour, and while charity knows no limits of creed or race and appeals to all, yet it is the special duty of our French fellow-citizens to step forward generously in aid of their unfortunate countrymen.

THE late election in Maine is very much like a drawn battle, but the advantage is on the side of the Democrats, who had quite abandoned all hopes of success. The Republicans were sanguine of carrying the State by a majority of at least fifteen thousand. The effect of the election on the Presidential contest in November will depend very much on the continuance of the fusion between the Democrats and Greenbackers. The result is not so certain, however, inasmuch as the Greenback party have a candidate of their own for the Chief Magistracy—General WEAVER—and will naturally enough support him.

THE news from Paris, as we go to press, is grave. There has been a Ministerial crisis, and M. DE FREYCINER has resigned the Premiership. The point at issue was the further enforcement of the Congregational Decrees, which the Prime Minister was anxious to defer until the appeal of the Jesuits to the Courts had been decided. The victory is a personal one for M. GAMBETTA, and if, as the despatches say, the present Minister of Education, M. JULES FERRY, is called to the head of the Government, we may look for the pursuance of a vigorous policy. Anything like disturbance, however, is not to be apprehended for the time being.

THE Powers have been very patient with Turkey, for the reason that they appreciate the difficulties in which that nation is involved. The Albanian and Montenegrin questions are exceedingly complicated, through the semi-civilized character of the inhabitants. A solution, however, is about to be reached by the presence of the allied fleet in Aegean waters. Vice-Admiral SEYMOUR, of the British Navy, commands the combined squadron, and his instructions are to proceed with the utmost moderation. Dulcigno, a view of which we publish in its number, will have to be surrendered by the Turks to the Montenegrins, in accordance with the decisions of the Berlin Treaty and Conference.

THE rectification of the Montenegrin frontier is not the only perplexing element in the present aspect of the Eastern question. That problem will probably be solved by the cession of Dulcigno under the pressure of the allied fleet. There remains the Greek Boundary question. As will be remembered, the Conference unanimously decided, in accordance with the Berlin Treaty, that parts of Thessaly and Albania, including Larissa and Janina, should be made over to Greece. Until now the Porte has not moved in the matter, beyond sending forth two notes asking for reconsideration, which, of course, was declined. The only concessions made by the Powers were that they would adopt, with the Sultan's Government, any means of facilitating the transfer. The question arises—will the united squadron, now anchored at Ragusa, content itself with the surrender of Dulcigno, or will it tarry until Greece has received satisfaction from the Porte?

A brief, but rather interesting discussion took place a few days ago in one of the papers of this city, on the underlying principles of the Democratic party in the United States. The best exposition we have seen of these principles, and so

tersely put as to be useful for reference, is from ex-Governor HOFFMAN, of New York, who, in an interview at Paris with a representative of the New York Herald, stated that Democratic principles, "include home rule, honest money, free ships, a tariff for revenue, freedom of elections from the control of centralized power at Washington, whether Republican or Democratic. No soldiers at the polls. To the States and to the Federal Government all the rights the constitution gives to each. No more and no less. In other words, a government as strong as the constitution and no stronger, and to the supreme court the respect due to it as the expounder of the constitution, as long as it does not attempt, under the cover of judicial interpretation, by partisan decisions to revolutionize the government itself."

THE DOMINION EXHIBITION.

We present our readers in the present number, with a series of sketches illustrative of the great Dominion Exhibition now being held in this city. It is no exaggeration to say that it is the largest and most successful display of the kind ever made in Montreal, and in its representative character it certainly excels every thing in that line ever attempted in Canada. There have been a few hitches—unavoidable in a first essay of this nature—but in general the officers of the different departments and the chairmen of the various sub-committees deserve the utmost credit for the intelligent efforts they all put forth. With the experience gained this year, a subsequent show will be faultlessly conducted, and the undoubted success of the present encourages us to believe that we may look for a yearly repetition of the fair.

We desire to call attention to the exhibition of the Montreal Horticultural Society and Vine-growers Association of the Province of Quebec, a view of which appears on our first page. Perhaps no society deserves better of the public than this one. By dint of perseverance and hard work, its promoters have raised it to the rank of second in point of membership and amount of subscriptions among the many societies of the kind in America. Its show this year was exceptionally fine, and the officers, especially the indefatigable secretary, who devoted so much of their time to its preparation are to be congratulated on this success. No one would believe, unless he had ocular demonstration, that so cold a climate as ours could produce such varieties of delicate fruits and flowers. The culture of grapes is a case in point, and the out-door specimens were simply marvellous. The show of apples was magnificent, including certain species for which the Province of Quebec may be said to be unrivalled. We question whether there is a finer apple in the world than the Fameuse.

The scene on the grounds of the Exhibition was a lively one during the week, several days after the opening being consumed in preparation. The Crystal Palace was the centre of attraction. A visit to that splendid bazaar, was worth all the time and expense involved in it. The display is a credit to the country, and one cannot repress a feeling of pride on beholding it. Not only are the specimens numerous and costly, but they are in the vast majority of cases the product of our own people. Articles which have been imported time out of mind, are now exposed as of native manufacture, and the quality is no less. In almost every industrial and mechanical department Canada is here shown to be virtually self-supporting, and it is one of the chief advantages of such exhibitions that they make that fact patent to the multitude. Manitoba and Prince Edward Island are well represented, and the incident is significant as proof of the material union of the Provinces. It is thus that we come to know and appreciate each other better.

The supplementary attractions were numerous last week, as will be seen by some of our sketches. Sports of all kinds have been indulged in, the series ending on

Saturday afternoon with the great Lacrosse match wherein the Shamrock maintained their supremacy as champions. The formal inauguration of the show, by his Excellency the Governor-General, will give a new impulse to the attendance during the present week, and the railway lines are in consequence offering the very lowest terms to excursionists. We invite our readers to come in as great numbers as possible, promising that they will not regret their journey. Meantime we shall prepare a number of sketches for our forthcoming number.

RETURN OF THE MINISTERS AND THEIR MISSION.

It is definitely announced that the Ministers sailed from Liverpool by the Allan steamer of the 16th, and they may be expected to arrive in Canada very shortly after these lines reach the public. There was a statement in the London Times, directly authorized by the Ministers, which appeared after the remarks in our last impression were printed, and which calls for notice. It shows there has been a still further modification in the Pacific Railway arrangements, as compared with the previous announcements in the Ministerial papers in Canada, to which we last week referred. But the main result is the same. An agreement has been completed with a powerful London, Paris and American syndicate; and a provisional contract signed by the Ministers in London, on behalf of the Canadian Government; subject to approval by the Canadian Parliament, at its session in February next, and not at a special session to be called, as previously announced. Another point is that the names of the capitalists or firms composing the syndicate are not the same; and they do not cover so wide a field in the financial world. But they are quite equal to the undertaking and that is enough. Messrs. MORTON, ROSE & Co., are the London firm mentioned; La Société Générale de Paris, the French; and the American comprise the Canadian and United States capitalists before referred to in connection with this enterprise. In our eyes, especially in view of the tone of the English press, it is particularly important to have these last, because of their experience. The London Economist throws cold water on the project, but its assertions are based on the manifest ignorance of its editor of the question, on which he yet undertakes to dogmatise. The London Times further published a leading article on the question on the day after the Ministers sailed, which has been telegraphed by the Atlantic Cable. We might take exception to some points in the tone of this; but we cannot to the general tenor of the argument. It states the shady side of the bargain for the capitalists to whom the concession has been assigned, is the portion of the road north of Lake Superior. This cannot be denied. We have in fact ourselves set forth the same. That region is yet a howling waste, but it is known to possess great mineral wealth, probably much greater than that of the south shore, of which there has been profitable development. The question has been asked, will the Canadian Parliament ratify the Act of the Government? We cannot ourselves see any reason for doubt on this head. The fact is that both sides are deeply committed to the principle of the arrangement. We believe it will be found on comparison that the scheme which Mr. MACKENZIE'S Government was committed to, and which it advertised, would have been far more onerous to the country than that which the Government of Sir JOHN MACDONALD will submit to Parliament. The details of this will probably be reserved for Parliament. The Times put one point in its leading article, containing an expression of doubt. It asked: If the enterprise is to prove so profitable, why does not the Canadian Government retain it in its own hands? Why give it to others, especially as a community is better able to wait for future profits than individuals? The answer is, as has several times been