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NOTICE.

To prevent all confusion in the delivery of papers, our readers and subscribers are requested to give notice at this office, by post-card or otherwise, of their change of residence, giving the new number along with the old number of their houses.

NOTICE.

Great Holiday Number.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

The next number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be entirely devoted to sketches of incidents connected with the

International Celebration

of Her Most Gracious Majesty's Birthday in Montreal.

Among the illustrations will appear:—

- THE SHOOTING OF THE LACHINE RAPIDS BY THE AMERICAN TROOPS.
- THE GRAND RECEPTION AT JACQUES CARTIER SQUARE.
- THE REVIEW AND SHAM BATTLE IN PRESENCE OF HIS EXCELLENCY AND HER ROYAL HIGHNESS.
- THE DRILL OF VOLUNTEERS ON THE CHAMP DE MARS BY ELECTRIC LIGHT.
- THE INAUGURATION OF THE ART ASSOCIATION BUILDING—INTERIOR VIEW.
- EXTERIOR VIEW OF THE ART ASSOCIATION BUILDING.
- GRAND LACROSSE MATCH BETWEEN THE MONTREAL LACROSSE CLUB AND THE CAUGHNAWAGA INDIANS.

TEMPERATURE,

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

THE WEEK ENDING				Corresponding week, 1878			
May 15th, 1879.							
Max.	Min.	Mean.		Max.	Min.	Mean.	
Mon.. 48°	35°	43°	Mon.. 76°	56°	66°		
Tues.. 55°	37°	46°	Tues.. 79°	57°	67°	5	
Wed.. 57°	40°	48°	Wed.. 75°	60°	67°	5	
Thur.. 61°	47°	54°	Thur.. 74°	55°	64°		
Frid.. 62°	44°	53°	Frid.. 61°	48°	54°	5	
Sat.. 67°	45°	56°	Sat.. 75°	49°	62°		
Sun.. 66°	54°	60°	Sun.. 76°	55°	65°	5	

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, May 24, 1879.

THE CLOSE OF THE GREAT SESSION.

The historical first session of the fourth Parliament of Canada was brought to a close on Thursday, the 15th inst. Week by week we have published full accounts of its labours from one of the most authorized pens of the Dominion, and our readers have only to refer to them in their serial order to obtain a complete record of what is admitted to be the most important, the most momentous session since the establishment of Confederation. Having had opportunity to see all the Parliamentary correspondence sent to the chief papers, we believe we are justified in saying that by not one was ours surpassed in fullness and accuracy of information, breadth of view or impartiality of criticism, and we are sure our readers

will be happy to learn that the writer has kindly consented to continue them occasionally during the recess, according as circumstances may require. It remains now to chronicle the closing scenes.

The prorogation was made by His Excellency. The Princess was not present, and the Union Jack instead of the Royal Standard floated from the great tower of the Parliament House. There was the usual time-honoured ceremony, the Foot Guards and Princess Louise Dragoons doing the military honours. The riding and movements of the latter were very creditable for the short time they have been drilling. The last days were marked by the passage of measures of unusual importance; notably the Pacific Railway Resolutions and the Act to purchase the River du Loup Branch of the Grand Trunk Railway. It was necessary for the Government to acquire this line in order to have a terminus for the Intercolonial at Quebec. This fact was admitted by Mr. Mackenzie, although he would have preferred a lease to a purchase. But in view of all the facts and the obligations of repairs which the Government would have to undertake, the purchase is probably the most desirable. The sale of this piece of road will enable the Grand Trunk to make an independent extension to Chicago, and so strengthen its position in the West. It may fairly be set down as a new fact in our history that an important purchase of this kind is made from the Grand Trunk with the concurrence of both political parties, and the absence of all attack, in view of the savagery which formerly marked all similar negotiations of the Grand Trunk with the Government.

Dr. Tupper made two speeches, one at the opening, the other at the close of the debate on the Pacific Railway Resolutions, and it is much to say that both efforts were worthy of the subject. He set forth the almost illimitable resources to be developed, and the enormous forces to be called into play by this great undertaking. The subject seems to grow upon the minds of those who bestow upon it special study; and it can only be appreciated by those who do. There is no other interest so important to Canada as this. It is in fact more than a Canadian question—it is one of Empire. The development of the vast areas in the North-West of this continent, with their agricultural, mineral and commercial advantages, means the creation of forces which must in the future constitute the great power of this continent.

We published in our last Ottawa letter a summary of the resolutions introduced by Dr. Tupper. The one hundred millions of acres of lands set apart at a minimum price of two dollars per acre represent a minimum capital of two hundred million dollars; but if they are properly put on the market and sold, the grant will really mean a capital of six hundred millions. The analogy of the large grants of lands to the great railway corporations in the Western States sufficiently establishes this assumption as fact; and there is, moreover, the further fact that the lands in the fertile belt of the North-West Territory of Canada are of a better quality and in a far more important situation as regards the trade and seat of population of the future than the lands of the companies in the Western States. There is, however, in this consideration the serious question of the obligations to be undertaken in the present before there will come time to make these lands available; and this is a matter involving large figures. There is also the consideration of the kind of skill with which the Commission will manage the practical question of immigration on their lands; but they have in this the experience of the great United States Companies to guide them. Some objection was made to the effect that such a Commission would be a bar to settlement, and the Government had better keep its lands. Against this argument, however, may be set the fact that the intensest interest of the

Commission would be immigration to its lands.

There was a good deal of feeling excited by the Senate's rejection of Mr. Bechard's Bankrupt Law Repeal Bill in the face of the very decided opinion of a vast majority of the House of Commons, which the Government, in the person of the Minister of Justice, seemed quite unable to control in this matter. It is said the Senate acted on the advice of the bankers or banking interests; and it is undoubtedly true that without some such measure we should again have the disgrace of preferential assignments and all the class of frauds which they imply. On the other hand there cannot be a doubt that the whitewashing facilities of the bankrupt law have led to hundreds of fraudulent bankruptcies with all their demoralization. We think it is in the circumstances much to be regretted that the recommendations of the Committee moved for by the Minister of Justice were not adopted. They would have been if the House of Commons had been in better temper as regards this question.

The leaders of the Opposition could not let the session close without a debate on the Letellier case. They did not appear to have got over their disgust at Mr. Mousseau's allowing his motion to stand at the request of Sir John Macdonald; and Mr. Mackenzie on the second reading of the Supply Bill brought the question up, as the forms of the House allowed, the Supply Bill being in an especial manner the test of confidence in the Administration. What the Opposition wanted to tell the Ministry was that the advice they had given to the Governor-General was bad, if not unconstitutional. Sir John Macdonald was taken up for his slip of the tongue in expressing "regret" that the Governor-General had not seen fit to agree in the first place with the advice of his Ministers. He did not reply to this and must have felt the slip he had made. They next declared the Ministry were not justified in telling His Excellency that the usefulness of Mr. Letellier was gone on the strength of the resolution passed by the House of Commons, and further that such resolution did constitute such "cause" as was contemplated by the Confederation Act for which a Lieutenant-Governor might be removed. They further contended that the removal of Mr. Letellier would be an invasion of the freedom of administration which the several Provinces ought to possess. The answer of Sir John A. Macdonald was that the Ministers were really only a Committee of the Senate and House of Commons, and, therefore, bound to advise His Excellency in the sense of the resolutions of those Houses. They certainly were obliged to do this, or themselves resign their positions. The time, therefore, for such arguments as those which were urged by the Opposition was before Mr. Mousseau's resolution was passed; except, indeed, for any value they may have for a reproach, or for making political capital.

With regard to the altercation between Messrs. Huntington and White, it is a matter of very great regret that the House of Commons should be made the arena of personal debates of this nature, however necessary they might be elsewhere for the purification of the atmosphere. But there is one thing clear, that the Pacific scandal, as a political issue, is dead; and the Opposition leaders will gain by a recognition of the fact.

It may be mentioned that the bill to reduce the capital of the Consolidated Bank passed through all its stages, in the absence of the notices required for private bills, in view of the fact, as Mr. Tilley explained, that the promoters of this measure had calculated upon acting upon a provision of a Government measure which was not passed. It was, therefore, only fair not to take any objections of form against this bill, which, as a measure of prudence, affecting many personal interests, ought to be allowed to pass, and, therefore, it did pass.

RESPONSIBILITY IN CRIME.

According as they appeared in print, we have had occasion to notice the writings of Dr. HENRY HOWARD on topics connected with the painfully interesting problem of insanity, and, while not always approving the metaphysical conclusions of some of his doctrines, we have borne willing testimony to his efforts in the direction of the improvement of perhaps the most utterly miserable of the many unfortunate classes of human kind. In a paper lately read by Dr. Howard before the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society, of which he is the actual President, a further attempt is made to throw light on the question of Responsibility and Irresponsibility in Crime and Insanity. We shall not enter into a summary of the arguments which it contains, but briefly indicate a few of the novel facts and ideas which modern pathological science has brought to bear on the subject. That these are largely revolutionary and subversive of old respectable theories, Dr. HOWARD rather reluctantly admits, and he feels forced to confess—what he was not disposed to do in his previous writings—that they are suspiciously tinged with materialism. It is going rather far to assert that the mental scientist does not pretend to treat of anything else but matter, but seeing that matter is so intimately connected with mind, we are less surprised to learn that the cause of men's moral differences lies in the cortical substance of the parietal and occipital portions of the hemispheres of the brain. Similarly we are told that irritation of the frontal cells renders the most intellectual man a raving maniac; that irritation of the parietal cells renders the most honest man a pickpocket, and that irritation of the cerebral cells renders the most pure being a filthy, impure creature. It follows therefore from innate and congenital human imperfection that every man has in him a criminal neurosis—some to a greater, and some to a less degree. At this point, Dr. HOWARD gives us the difference between criminal neurosis or moral depravity and moral insanity. The latter is that morbid condition of the human faculties whereby they are altered either by disease or accident with consequent loss of power over moral acts from the loss of nerve control. Such a man may will to do right, but he has not the nerve to resist his impulse. The capital punishment of such a man in capital offences, Dr. HOWARD boldly calls judicial murder. Criminal neurosis or moral depravity we are next told is hereditary and the fruit of a radically unsound moral organization. The morally insane have been so from their birth. "They never knew good; evil to them is good. They are as incapable of reasoning as a wild horse; they cannot recognize the rights of society; they are Ishmaelites—their hand is against every man. If they have controlling nerve power they do not know how to use it, or if they do, they use it for their own vile ends." These last are terrible words and the professional man who sends them out before the world incurs a responsibility which he must be prepared sharply to meet. That our author has not written hastily, however, is clear from the high authorities which he cites. For instance, the Lord Chief Justice of England is reported as saying that, "as the pathology of insanity abundantly establishes, there are forms of mental disease in which, though the patient is quite aware that he is about to do wrong, the will becomes overpowered by irresistible impulse and the power of self-control when destroyed or suspended by mental disease becomes, I think, an essential element of responsibility." Dr. BECKWILL, another eminent authority, writes: "Responsibility depends upon power and not upon knowledge and feeling, and a man is responsible to do that which he can do; not that which he feels or knows it right to do." Turning to the practical remedy for insanity, the Doctor very properly calls for Legislative initiative in the partial removal of pauperism, because from