

The Department of Agriculture has issued instructions for the guidance of intending exhibitors at the Sydney, New South Wales, Exhibition, in April next. The Government will pay freight on goods for exhibition from Montreal or New York, a vessel leaving the former place on the 28th inst., and another the latter port on the 25th prox. All samples intended to be sent must be delivered at the port of shipment four days before the date of sailing.

OVER THE INTERCOLONIAL.

One of the most notable events of the summer was the opening of traffic of the Intercolonial Railway. A number of journalists went over the whole line to study its administration, and describe the magnificent country through which it passes. Among these were Mr. Fred J. Hamilton, Special Correspondent of the *Graphic* of this city, who wrote a series of elegant and highly useful letters on the subject, which attracted much attention at the time of their publication, and which have now been collected in a handsome pamphlet issued from the office of our spirited contemporary. We hail the appearance of this work for two reasons: first, because it is highly proper to disseminate knowledge on so important a public work as the Intercolonial; and secondly, because it is right that the able, conscientious writings of Canadian journalists should be preserved in book form, and thus rescued from the ephemeral existence of the newspaper column. For the sake both of the publishers and the author, we trust that the pamphlet will have a large circulation, serving as a most reliable guide-book and manual of statistics for all those who may have occasion to make use of the Intercolonial Railway.

Taking his departure from Rivière-du-Loup, the starting point of the Railway, Mr. Hamilton proceeds leisurely from station to station till he reaches St. John and Halifax. Every town or hamlet of any moment engages his attention, descriptions of their site, population and general history being given. The magnificent scenery of that lower country is not lost sight of. The glories of Cacuma, with the bold range of the Eboimonts in front; the sporting advantages of Isle Verte; the Indian Legend of Trois Pistoles and its beautiful Lakes; the unrivalled scenery of Miramichi, which is to be "the watering place of the future;" Rimouski, with its religious and educational Seminaries; Father Point with its miraculous church of St. Anne; the Metapedia, with its "camping" experiences; Campbelltown, with its Indian relics; Dalhousie, with its mosquitoes that sent a stranger half-an-hour before the cars arrive and wait to receive him, needing no introduction, "because they introduce themselves; Bathurst, with its fisheries; Newcastle and the Miramichi district, with their lumber; Chatham with its branch railway; Moncton with its workshops; St. John and Halifax, all are described in a lively and interesting manner. Along the whole route, too, the working of the Intercolonial is studied: the management of the stations, the engineering feats in gradings, and the splendid bridges. A great deal of valuable information, derived from official sources, is given in all these points.

The working force of the Line from Rivière-du-Loup is also furnished, although it does not include the salaries of the highest officers and is intended merely to enable the reader to form an approximate idea of the cost for labor only.

Number of Employees	NATURE OF DUTY	Average Daily Wages	Average Weekly Wages
700	Shopmen.		
170	Engineers.		
	This number includes other employees in locomotive and car shops. The rate of wages of these men is from \$1.20 to \$2.00. Assuming an average of \$1.75 per day, it would represent 1,175 men a daily expenditure amounting to \$20,562.50.	2,367.50	14,362.50
200	Tramway men at \$1.10 per day.	990.00	5,940.00
400	Station men, whose average wages are \$3.00 per year or per week \$9.62. This for 400 men would give \$3,848.00.		3,848.00
340	Tramway men, including conductors at \$2.21 per day, and brakemen at \$1.35 per day. Say 15 conductors at \$2.21 per day, and 325 brakemen at \$1.35 per day.	165.75	994.50
50	Officers and clerks. Say 10 officers at an average salary of \$1,000 per year, or per week \$19.23; or for 10 a total of \$192.30.	357.75	2,146.50
	Say 10 clerks at an average of \$600 per year, or per week \$11.53, representing, for the 40, a total of \$461.20.		461.20
2,060	Employees represented a total weekly expenditure of		22,082.20

Mr. Hamilton has supplemented his pamphlet and thereby, in our opinion, more than doubled its value, by two exhaustive papers on the Mineral Resources of New Brunswick and the Mining Industries of Nova Scotia, the fruit of his personal inspection. To these we refer our readers. The Red Granite Quarries, on Lake Utopia, 45 miles from St. John, must prove a source of national as well as individual wealth. The Gypsum Deposits at Hillsboro, are likewise exceedingly precious. The coal wealth of Nova Scotia is seemingly inexhaustible and it is with a feeling of pride and gratitude that one reads of its mines, yet in their infancy, as described in the pamphlet before us. The yield of gold is something so little understood or appreciated in the Upper Provinces that we feel justified in reproducing the following table, from 1861 to 1875 inclusive, due to Mr. A. Heatherington, F.G.S.

DISTRICT AND PERIOD.	GROSS YIELD.		VALUE.
	TOTAL QUANTITY	At \$19 46-6 Canada Currency per oz.	
Sherbrooke	ozs. 71,906 4 1		\$1,379,875.00
Waverley	4,087 14 7		970,913.99
Rouville	27,060 4 5		529,772.08
Wine Harbor	24,367 9 15		473,353.63
Montagu	15,806 17 21		307,707.53
Oldham	15,785 12 3		307,299.13
Tangier	12,583 8 13		245,152.05
Stornont	10,986 0 11		214,055.92
Unackee	8,261 11 15		161,825.45
Carleton	3,162 3 6		61,556.76
Ovens	2,292 8 6		44,625.61
Unclassified	1,830 8 16		36,000.48
Gay's River	1,472 11 3		28,765.75
Lawrenceville	512 0 15		10,351.54
Total	219,072 14 22		4,229,149.16

THE FREE LANCE.

The Mills of the Grits grind slowly, but they grind exceeding fine.

What is the chief attraction of the *Illustrated London News*? Its column of Laughing G. A. S.

I am furnished with the following which is the more acceptable that it comes from a lady. What is a marriage certificate? A writ of attachment.

The County of Beauce is still a Pover for the Tories.

The venerable Senators may snooze quietly in their seats. The Sage of Bothwell is muffled.

Lieutenant-Governor Laird has one comfort. He is sure to be long in office.

The Clouds of the Academy of Music were very fine last week, but, alas! they had not a silver lining.

Some people are very irreverent. They call Beaver Hall Hill Butcher's Row.

Nearly every preacher has some peculiarity of expression. One that I know uses the word "beautiful" at least fifty times in every discourse, pronouncing it "bee-utiful." Another says "now then" at every third or fourth sentence, especially when hard pressed for a sequence of thought, reminding one of Sullivan, an actor of local fame. A third is fond of the terms "Here a little, there a little." Some time ago he wrote a sermon in aid of that truly pious charity, the Flower Mission. It was a flowery composition, as became the occasion. After delivery, he asked one of his hearers what he thought of it.

"Well," was the reply, "I liked it here a little, there a little."

The words did not appear in the next sermon.

A bit of human nature at a book sale.

Two books were put up—Boccaccio's Decameron and the Heptameron of the Queen of Navarre. A young fellow, who was told that they were rather funny books, bid lively for them, and they were knocked down to him. On emptying his pockets, however, he found that he had money enough for only one.

"Then take your choice quick," said the auctioneer.

"I take the biggest," said the youth.

And snatching his treasure, he sailed out triumphantly.

Now that Prince Edward has lost its seat on the Treasury Bench, it will perhaps seek a place on the Opposition benches. There are lots of room there.

A wag has written "Big Push" on the heavy doors at the new Post Office here.

That is a refreshing notice in a morning paper of a gentleman who announces that he has the greatest pleasure to inform the public in general and his friends in particular of his severance of partnership with So and So. That man doubtless sings: Happy to part, sorry to meet again.

The other night, when the war news was so exciting, some gentlemen expressed their surprise that England should so persistently side with Turkey. A broker suddenly threw light on the question by saying that there were eleven million sterling bonds which tied the two countries together.

"What right have you Conservatives to call yourselves the party of gentlemen?" asked an indignant Grit of a Tory, the other day.

"Because we have blue blood, of course," was the ready reply.

The *Herald* says that Mr. Canchon is an "ornamental" piece of Cabinet furniture. If he is ornamental, what must the other pieces be? LACLEDE.

EPHEMERIDES.

There is the history of a curious case of starvation in the last number of that sterling publication, APPLETON'S JOURNAL. It contains the experience of the writer, H. M. Robinson, and of a Mr. Macdonald who, in the month of October 1871, left Manitoba House, on Lake Manitoba, for the purpose of visiting an island some ten miles distant. Their conveyance was an old frail skiff. Without following these consequences, it may be mentioned that the excursion proved full of perilous adventure, the chief of which was the total absence of food. The description given of the physical prostration and intellectual derangement caused by this is terrible, and supplies a chapter of wonderful psychological interest. In the same number of this periodical there is a paper on the number of the human senses, in which the writer shows from curious data that although the number of senses may be reckoned at three only—sight, hearing and feeling—yet if it is allowed that one organ may effectually serve more than one sense, then the number may be set down at five, seven, or even more.

Among the many excellent compositions in the October number of SCRIBNER, the following noble verses may be cited as particularly appropriate at the present time. They are from the pen of Thomas Bailey Aldrich, and are in every way worthy of his muse.

While men pay reverence to mighty things,
They must reverence thee, thou blue-veined isle
Of England—not today, but this long while
In the front of nations, mother of great kings
Soldiers, and poets. Round thee the sea-dragons
His steel bright arm and shields rise from the gulf
And hark of France. Secure with august smile,
Thou sittest, and the East its tribute brings.
Some say thy old-time power is on the wane
Thy moon of grandeur, blood, contracts at length—
They see it darkening down from less to less.
Let but a hostile hand make threat again,
And they shall see thee in thy ancient strength,
Each iron quivering, honest!

In the next number we are promised a new serial story, "Nicholas Minton," by the editor, Dr. Holland, who is unquestionably one of the most popular American authors of the time. This novel has also been chosen for publication in Bellard's new Canadian Magazine.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY has the trick of occasional strikingly original stories which stamp the success of a number. This argues both a fine choice of contributors and clever editing. The "Fourth Waits," in the last issue is an instance of the kind. It gives the weird history of a fiend, in the shape of a black spitz poodle, who haunted three artists to death, one after the other, and from whom the fourth artist, who is the writer, still awaits his doom. This history is told with much simplicity, but this very quality adds to its fantastic interest. Mrs. Frances A. Kemble continues her entertaining autobiographical gossip. She relates this characteristic anecdote of Miss Bruntton, who afterwards became Lady Craven. "That charming woman had an intense dislike for her profession, the stage, and sometimes in the midst of a scene, she would say aside to her fellow actors, 'What nonsense all this! Suppose we don't go on with it.' This feeling of holowness is not so rare as might be imagined, and I have known of several instances besides that of Miss Bruntton. Among the attractions of the ATLANTIC, for 1877, are announced two stories in dramatic form, of three numbers each, a novel feature in magazine literature, by the able editor, Mr. Howells.

One of the principal features of LIPPINCOTT during the present year has been a series of articles entitled, The Century—its Fruits and its Festival. The last number, beautifully illustrated treats of agriculture and horticulture, and the following is said of the Dominion:—"Canada takes upon her shoulders the cause of the mother country and fights her battle well. She fills at the same, it must be said, the place of the bat in the conflict of bird and beast. The character of her contributions reflects United States influence quite as decidedly as British. Agriculturally, her provincial allegiance is about equally divided. Her ploughs are after the American patterns, with an approximation to that of the old country only in length of beam and handle. So with her reaping and threshing machines. She surpasses England, and bids United States powers pause, by her specimens of wool of the gradestyled by the Merino and the Leicester. Her 'canned goods,' in which she figures largely, are got up in a style adapted to the British taste. Among the vizards thus emblazoned are noticeable some familiar to us only through English literature—mutton pie, for instance. With the proclamation emblazoned on tin of 'Every man his own pie-man' must begin the disappearance of a character classic from the days of Simple Simon to those of Punch. Much more attractive to some observers is another class of animal preparations from the same semi-arctic source. The natural history of Canada is illustrated by collections of

stuffed quadrupeds and cabinets of stuffed insects, the latter more carefully arranged and labelled than we usually find them."

St. NICHOLAS for November is in full harmony with the Thanksgiving season. "The Owl that Stared," "Borrowing a Grandmother," and "Tinsie's Conclusion," are three admirable Thanksgiving stories, and every one of them is beautifully illustrated. Of miscellaneous articles, the number contains enough to delight the boys and girls for many an hour. There is "The Kingdom of the Greedy," a new short serial, very humorous and entertaining; an article telling "All about a Lead-pencil," some delightful verses called "The Bess that went to the Sky," and an interesting "Reminiscence of Abraham Lincoln." Susan Coolidge contributes an historical article entitled "A Queen, and not a Queen," and H. H. has a charming practical talk; while the fresh and stirring "Story of a 'Tolerbul' Bad Boy," is by Sarah Winter Kellogg, who has written several excellent boy's stories. "Flowers in Winter," and "A Centennial Pen-wiper," furnish pleasant tasks for little hands; and there is no end to the pleasant rhymes prepared for little eyes and ears; such as "Benita," by Mary E. Bradley; "Listening," by Mary N. Prescott; "The Sunday Baby," by Alice Williams, and the dainty verses by Bessie Hill, entitled "Far Away."

One of the principal papers in the October GALAXY is based upon the original order book of General Burgoyne, kept during the famous campaign of 1777, which resulted so disastrously to the British at Saratoga. The writer, J. T. Headley, makes frequent quotations from the original unpublished documents of General Burgoyne to which he has access, and the scenes of the war are thereby brought before us with wonderful vividness. In another article, Albert Rhodes touches upon a subject which should be near the heart (or stomach) of every reader; the question of food. He analyzes and compares the diet and cuisine of various nations, and we are led to the unpleasant conclusion that the American is far behind other people in his knowledge of gastronomy, and that with all his attainments in science and art he is little better than a barbarian in his kitchen. An article on recent English fiction, by W. C. Brownell, is devoted to an analysis of the works of William Black, Thomas Hardy, and other novelists of the new school, and a comparison is drawn between these and the pioneers in novel writing. A. STIELE PENN.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

THE statement that Miss Abeni will marry Mr. Ernest Gye, the eldest son of the impresario of Covent Garden, was emphatically denied by the lady at the late Birmingham Festival.

THE disciples of Wagner in Europe have adopted a "Wagner-cray" as a sort of party badge. It is made of black silk with a flat knot which opens with a spring disclosing a medallion portrait of the Bayreuth master.

Miss Sarah Bernhardt's acting in "Phedre" has convinced the Parisians that she is a great tragic actress. Her power did not appear at the first like Rachel's, but unfolded slowly like the pathetic power of Mrs. Bancroft, of the London stage.

THE Manchester critics have been very hard on Mr. Irving and have said all sorts of hard things about his *Hamlet*—that it is not the *Hamlet* of Shakespeare, nor one at all worthy of Shakespeare. Indeed, they have entirely reversed the judgment of the Metropolitan critics.

MAZZONI, a favorite Italian tenor at the Academy N. Y. ten years ago, a singer who had a mainly graceful style of action and a very pleasing voice is back again in New York with Madame Mazzoni (née Orsini-Bignoli) and a boy pianist, who is said to be a marvel.

In the midst of a colloquy between Booth and McCullough, as *Imps* and *Offends* in San Francisco, a huge watermelon rolled out from the wings to the centre of the stage, then down the flight incline to the footlights, struck Booth's legs, and finally fell into the orchestra with a thud and a splutter.

The deficit on the performances of the *Revue des Nibelungen* at Bayreuth, amounted to \$15,000, when the corporation of the town has undertaken to pay on condition that the Tetralogy (not Trilogy) shall be repeated next year. The price of admission for the series will be \$25. This year it was \$75, and over \$100,000 was spent by the visitors at Bayreuth during the progress of the performances.

DOMESTIC.

SUET AND MILK FOR INVALIDS.—Two ounces of mutton suet (that next the kidney is best), cut into small pieces, and simmered in half a pint of water fifteen minutes; then throw the water away, and add to the suet one quart new milk, two ounces loaf-sugar, two drachms cinnamon-bark, quarter-ounce isinglass. Simmer for fifteen minutes, strain, and drink lukewarm.

TURNIP-TOP PERLIN.—Take a quantity of turnip-tops, pickled clean and washed, and put them in a saucepan with a little water. When thoroughly done, put them on a hair sieve to drain. When all the water is thoroughly drained from them, pass them through the sieve. Mix in a saucepan a tablespoonful of flour with about one ounce of butter, add the turnip top purée, stir well, put in pepper and salt to taste, and serve hot in a dish garnished with fried sippets of bread.

APPLE SAUCE.—If you have a barrel kettle, take thirty gallons of sweet cider, that just from the press is preferred; but if you have only one-third of the quantity, then add altogether about two bushels of pared, quartered, and cored sweet apples, about one-third at a time, judging as to the quantity of apples; then stir the whole mass constantly with a long-handled wooden stirrer, reaching down to the bottom; this stirrer must be from four to five inches broad at the bottom, rounded a little to fit the bottom of the kettle, and have half a dozen or more half-inch holes bored through it. The mass must be kept boiling and stir until the whole is reduced to say one-half of the original quantity of cider assumes a dark color, and is perfectly smooth and palatable. For this purpose samples should from time to time be taken out and tasted. When done it should be put in jars, well tied over with paper, and placed in a cool place. Otherwise it may "work" and lose a great deal of its value.