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The Burland-Desbarats Company take the earliest occasion to deny the rumors which have circulated of late in the city papers to the effect that *L'Opinion Publique* had been sold by them to Mr. L. O. David, or to any other parties. So far from this being the case, the Company intend continuing the publication of that interesting journal with increased energy, and making it in French, what the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is in English—a national undertaking to whose encouragement every family ought to contribute.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, May 8th, 1875.

CANADIAN CENSUS.

The third volume of the Canadian Census has just been issued; and, it is understood, as the compilation and tabulation are now completed, that the remaining two volumes will be issued as soon as they can be printed. The tables in the volume before us have reference to land owned, agriculture, and products. A glance shows that they are carefully arranged, and may be consulted with convenience. The French and English titles are put together, and so the cost of double printing is saved to the country, one volume serving for the two languages, instead of two being necessary, as formerly. It is no exaggeration to say that there never were tables more clearly and carefully arranged; and if any one, who understands any particular branch or industry treated in this volume, applies to it the criticism of sharp common sense, he will find that it will bear that test; which is a great deal more than can be said for the census volumes which have hitherto been issued either in this country or on this continent.

It would take altogether too much space in our columns to endeavour to give a summary of the volume before us; but it may be interesting to extract a few figures: The total number of acres owned in the four old Provinces of Canada in 1871 was 49,368,029; of which Ontario owned

19,605,019; Quebec, 17,701,589; New Brunswick 5,453,962; and Nova Scotia 6,607,459.

The number of dwelling houses owned in the same year in Canada was 539,512. The number of warehouses factories and shops was 68,914.

The total number of occupants of land, in the same year was 367,862, of whom 326,160 were owners and 39,583 were tenants. The total number of acres of land occupied in the four Provinces was 36,046,401 acres; of which 17,335,818 were improved,—that is 11,820,358 under crop, and 5,240,786 in pasture. In orchards and gardens there were 274,674 acres.

The total number of light carriages was 514,116; vehicles for transport 342,514; ploughs, harrows, &c., 573,648; reapers and mowers 44,204; horse rakes 63,003; threshing mills 30,735; fanning mills 41,925.

The total number of horses was 648,171; colts and fillies 193,572; working oxen 139,638; milch cows, 5,251,209; other horned cattle 5,283,445; sheep 3,155,509; swine 1,868,083; hives of bees 144,791.

The number of acres in white crops was 1,646,781; and the yield spring wheat 10,355,912 bush; fall wheat 6,367,961 bush; barley 11,496,033 bush; oats 42,489,453 bush; rye 1,064,358 bush; peas 9,905,730 bush; beans 220,644 bush; buckwheat, 3,726,484 bush.; Indian corn 3,862,830 bush.

The number of acres in potatoes was 493,792. The yield of potatoes was 47,390,187 bush.; of turnips 24,839,476 bush.; and other roots 3,553,260 bush.

These agricultural returns carefully as they have been arranged and classified will serve as a basis for future statistics in that they will afford a point of comparison with the year 1870. And they might also be used as a basis for annual estimates of crops and acres under cultivation by serving as a point of comparison.

The total tonnage owned in Canada as given by these tables is 843,126, and the number of craft of all sorts 5,672. This does not include the vessels built in Canada and owned out of the country; which it is contended by some writers ought to be added to the tonnage of the country.

THE CANADIAN FISHERIES.

We place before our readers a number of interesting facts on this important subject extracted from the Report of the Commissioner of Fisheries, for 1874, just transmitted to us.

The condition of the fisheries generally throughout the Dominion is still improving. Some further amendments in the fishery regulations and requisite additions to means of enforcing them having been made, continued improvement may be expected.

The following tabular statement exhibits the yield of our fisheries last year as exceeding considerably that of the preceding year. Their money value, in 1873, amounted to \$10,754,998. It amounts, in 1874, to \$11,681,886. An increase of nearly one million of dollars. These figures comprise chiefly fish produced for exportation. It is computed that about ten per cent. more should be added for domestic supply. The produce of British Columbia, Manitoba and the North-West Territories, is not at present accounted in these returns.

Five fish-hatching establishments are now in successful operation in the Dominion: at Newcastle, Ontario; at Tadoussac; at Gaspé; at Restigouche, and at Newcas-castle, N. B. The quantity of fish-eggs laid down in these five establishments exceeds four millions, of which number about 83 per cent. will probably become young fish, and serve to re-stock various streams. It is proposed to recommend the building of other similar establishments in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, the Eastern Townships, and on the Detroit River, near Sandwich. A favorable place has been found near the Narrows among the Thousand Islands, on the Canadian shore of

the River St. Lawrence, to hatch and rear such fish as bass, pickerel and maskinonge.

The fish-breeding house at Newcastle, Ont., is situated on Wilmot's Creek, some distance from its outlet into Lake Ontario. Along this distance immense numbers of salmon hatched in the establishment, and since grown to maturity in the Lake, have returned to spawn and remain below the reception house. Also the great quantities of adult salmon over and above what are needed for stock fish, should be caught by nets and marketed.

About half a million of young salmon, trout, and white-fish hatched in 1873, at Newcastle and Restigouche, were distributed in several of the rivers of Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. Those placed the previous year in Salmon River, on the Lower Ottawa, were found to have grown very rapidly and to thrive well. The experiment will next season be tried on the River Rouge, another tributary of the Ottawa, near Grenville. The fry from present stock of salmon eggs laid down last fall will be apportioned among streams in New Brunswick, Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Ontario. Between three and four millions of young fish will be distributed in this manner.

The inevitable fate attending excessive pursuit of the fauna of forest and flood, threatens speedy extinction of seals in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. While seal hunting on the ice was carried on from sailing vessels and by shore-nets, the vicissitudes of the pursuit afforded some natural protection to this animal, and its numbers kept up a flagging pace with the legitimate annual destruction. But the recent employment of steamers has overcome many former difficulties, and enables the sealers to pursue their prey with indiscriminate slaughter. These vessels reach the seal fields either before the cubs are born, and thus disturb the herds and their progeny perish, or arrive whilst the young ones are yet unable to escape, and the sealers massacre indiscriminately parents and offspring. There were at one time last season engaged in this destructive business, on the Arctic seal grounds, nearly forty steamers and as many sailing crafts from various European ports; and so great was the havoc committed that it has excited universal apprehension. About the same time extensive operations by American steamers in the Gulf of St. Lawrence also attracted attention.

The marked success which has attended official efforts to restore exhausted salmon streams by natural and artificial means, has induced many persons to propose investments of private capital in this enterprise. They apply for leases of rivers suitable for cultivating salmon. Instead of granting exclusive privileges for this purpose it has been decided to undertake the work as a public project. The adoption of this policy will necessitate establishing at convenient places fish-hatching houses, from which to procure the supply of ova or fry. At first, therefore, these establishments should if possible be placed at or near some central locality, within easy distance of rivers still frequented by salmon, and having reasonable facilities for distribution by lines of railroad or steamboat communication. The transport of fish eggs or young salmon is not so much a matter of time as it is of means. Hundreds of thousands of either may be conveyed for great distances by rail cars or steamer, requiring only the constant attention of a skilled attendant.

JOURNALISTS AND NEWSPAPERS.

The editorial career is everywhere justly regarded as a profession. Whether we consider its influence on the intellect or conduct of thousands, the talents it requires, the integrity and high moral rectitude it presupposes, the designation is just and the editor takes rank beside lawyers, physicians, schoolmen and other leaders of the people.

While, however, the standing of journalists is thus universally recognized, their

practical treatment is widely different in different countries. In the United States and Canada, they are generally overworked; they do not get credit for one tithe of the material labor and the mental strain they undergo for the sake of their exacting readers, and, except in a few cases where the conductors of metropolitan journals are blindly followed as oracles, there is not generally that esteem for the profession which it is entitled to claim. It must be admitted, too, that journalism in this country, though wide spread and distinguished for material enterprise, has many obstacles to contend against, which are not found in other lands. An editor is supposed to know everything, and, to keep up his prestige, he is bound to pretend to know a little of everything. Variety, which is the spice of a newspaper, forces him to touch on every subject, however superficial, and to omit nothing that may cater to the curiosity of the public. Then again, the editor, as a general thing, writes too hastily. In the small hours of the night, if the telegraph brings an important message, he must set to work, though drowsy and hungry, to write an exhaustive article on the subject for his morning readers. If he fails to do so, his subscribers grumble and tell him that he is not up to the times. This haste and hurry are the great bane of our newspaper literature. They are fatal to elegance of style, perspicuity of thought, learning and erudition. Hence literary articles—or articles written with literary grace—are pretty much banished from the literary sanctum. This is so true, that we frequently hear of the "newspaper style," as a distinct department of literature. People say: "he writes like a newspaper man," not as an author. Doubtless journalistic writing has one redeeming feature—that of directness. It cannot be said of editors as it was said of GIBBON, and more recently of BANCROFT, that they write periphrastically, as though they durst not look one in the face, but surely this directness does not necessarily exclude the other excellences of style. The English papers are generally wanting in this directness; but the French are not. They combine it with perfect beauty of literary form.

Our great boast is that we look for news as the chief end of a paper. We have plenty of that, certainly, but it is not all reliable or all wholesome, and are we the better for our crowded columns of sensational and often immoral items? The real end of a newspaper is the intellectual and social improvement of the masses.

In the matter of remuneration, we are likewise behind hand. Our printers are paid the best of any in the world, but our editors, correspondents, reporters, those who do the brain work, are not rewarded as they should be, nor as they are elsewhere. England, France and Germany employ large staffs on each paper and pay them handsomely.

The following schedule of the Paris *Figaro*, will show how they managed these things in France only a few years ago. Now it is even better.

Villemeasant, editor-in-chief	\$4,500
Belmont, business manager	\$4,500
Rocheport, three essays (causeries) a week	\$4,500
Wolf, three causeries a week	\$4,500
Scholl, "Les Echos"	\$4,500
Richard, "Chronique de Paris"	\$4,500
Villemont, one causerie a week	\$2,500
Jouvin, one article a week.	\$2,500
Burtheret, politics	\$2,500
Marx, "Indiscrétions Parisiennes"	\$2,500
Fleurichamp, money article	\$2,500
D'Aunay, local editor	\$2,500
Maillard, city items	\$1,800
Magnard	\$1,800
Rocher, law courts	\$1,200
Prezel, theatrical news	\$1,200
Auber, foreign clippings	\$1,200
Lockroy, local items	\$1,200
Ulbach, dramatic critic, 15 cents per line.	

The story (feuilleton), is paid 5 cents a line, and the *Figaro* never pays less than \$20 for any single article. Thus the editorial department alone of this paper costs \$50,000 a year.

What is the consequence? The consequence is that every article, every contribution is a gem, perfect in form. The