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#### CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, June 23rd, 1877.

#### THE GREAT ANNIVERSARY.

The 1st July is a holiday throughout the Dominion which, we are pleased to be able to record, has always been celebrated in a becoming spirit of patriotism. But the 1st of July, 1877, should be a holiday of special enjoyment, because it is the tenth anniversary of the establishment of Confederation. When the great scheme of Union was inaugurated, there were not wanting the prophets of evils, like Calchas of old, who predicted that it would not live to see the dawn of its tenth year, and in the interval restless spirits have been at work, at first openly enough, and then more covertly, to divert the ship from its channel and wreck it on the rocks of Annexation or a premature Independence.

The prophecy has proved a mockery, and the efforts of malcontents have only resulted in cementing and consolidating the structure of Confederation. At present Canada finds herself a compact, homogeneous people, has taken a distinct rank among the nations of the earth, with something of a substantial past to look back to, and the broad vista of a glorious future to stimulate her energies towards the fullest development. The fruits of Confederation are there, and they cannot be overlooked. Our destiny is in our own hands, and we have only to operate upon the material within our reach to secure all the advantages which nature lays out before us.

We think it is a debt which we owe both to ourselves and to our country that we should celebrate the coming anniversary with more than usual splendor. The great cities of Toronto and Montreal should take up the brilliant example set them by Ottawa and prepare a fitting demonstration. The time is indeed close at hand,

but yet it is not too late. A few public-spirited men who would take up the movement could accomplish wonders in the next ten days. Committees should be formed here and in every town and village throughout the country. The co-operation of the militia and of other public bodies and societies can always be depended upon, and should be secured at once. The usual display of fire-works, illuminations, regattas, excursions on land and water, the unfurling of banners, and patriotic mottoes, games and sports, could all be incorporated into the proceedings, as part and parcel of the celebration. The Fourth of July orations have been much laughed at in the United States, but nothing has more contributed to keep up the patriotic spirit among American youth than these outbursts, and a few such speeches from the young men eloquent of our towns and villages would be quite in order, and might at least be tried as an experiment this year.

We most earnestly call upon our fellow citizens to respond to the invitation which we hold out to them. Let the readers of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS throughout the country see to it that the occasion is not allowed to pass away without a proper demonstration of patriotism. The enthusiastic celebration of the first decade of Confederation will inspire us with courage to enter upon the second decade with energy, determined to do our whole duty towards the country. With the return of financial ease and commercial enterprise, there is every reason to hope that Canada will add immensely to her resources in the next ten years.

#### THE SASKATCHEWAN COUNTRY.

There is perhaps no Province of the Dominion so well known as Manitoba. Thanks to the works of distinguished travellers, both European and Canadian, and the official reports of the authorities, the resources of the Prairie Province are as familiar as those of the four original members of the Confederation. And the consequence is that emigration has set in westward in a steady tide, with results, since 1872, which must be accepted as satisfactory, when all circumstances are considered.

Among those who have most contributed to bring Manitoba to our knowledge is Mr. THOMAS SPENCE, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of that Province, whose valuable pamphlet, entitled "Manitoba and the North-West," reached a distribution of 60,000 in Europe and the older Provinces of Canada. The same gentleman is now attempting to do as much in behalf of the Saskatchewan country, and with that view has published, through the Lovell Printing and Publishing Company, another pamphlet containing information on that important portion of the great North-West Territory. That section contains an area of about two hundred and eighty thousand square miles, equal to that of France and Germany, or about six times that of the State of New York. The seasons are much the same as in Manitoba, winter beginning about the middle of November, and breaking up about the 10th April. The rivers are generally open about the 20th of April. Snow falls to the depth of about two feet, and continues all winter. The climate is exceedingly healthy, and, owing to the rolling character of the prairie and the loamy nature of the soil, ploughing can be commenced whenever the snow is off the ground, and especially on land cultivated for any length of time. Summer frost never injures anything. The wheat, barley, oats, roots and vegetables raised at this settlement could scarcely be excelled in any part of the world. The adaptation of the climate to agriculture is evinced from the statement that the returns from Prince Albert and other new settlements on the Saskatchewan show a yield of 40 bushels of spring wheat to the acre, in several instances mostly off newly broken land, the average weight being about 63 pounds to the bushel. The average yield of wheat in the Pro-

vince of Manitoba deduced from the local estimates is 25 bushels to the acre, while the average production in the State of Minnesota as deduced from its own official returns, and which is considered the best wheat-growing State in America, is only set down at 20 bushels to the acre. This is certainly a very important statement, and one that must arrest the attention of emigrants and intending settlers.

The prairie lands of the Saskatchewan country resemble those of the United States, and offer all the advantages which have rendered these for years the great home of settlers. The hewing of the forest is dispensed with, the labour and expense of "clearing" are eliminated, and the pioneer finds himself at once in the full, free possession of his acres. Of course the want of supplies of wood is a drawback, but not so serious as to counter-balance the advantages of rich and fertile pasturage.

Perhaps the chief source of wealth of this country, and one which alone will be sure to insure its colonization, is its coal fields, ranking among the most extensive in the world. Between the 50th parallel and the North Sea, it has been calculated that there cannot be much less than 500,000 square miles that are underlain by true coal. The average breadth of this belt is about 280 miles. In addition to the coal, this country contains rich deposits of iron ore. On the North Saskatchewan River coal prevails with little interruption in beds two and two and a-half feet thick on the bank of the river, from a little below Edmonton upwards for two hundred miles. On the Pembina River, 70 miles to the west, there is a seam ten feet thick, of a very superior quality. On the Battle River it is also noted, and in the Red Deer Branch of the South Saskatchewan, 170 miles from its mouth, are extensive deposits of coal, and at 100 miles further up it is there in beds so close that of 20 feet of strata exposed, 12 feet are coal.

We cannot follow the author in his figures and statistics, which would weary the general reader, but it is only justice to say that he makes out a strong case in favour of the Saskatchewan country, which, with the Province of Manitoba, he declares to afford the finest and most inviting field for emigration in the world to-day. He is an old resident in the North-West, his official position gives authority to his words, and it may be well further to know that "he has no real estate to sell and is in no wise connected with the land business."

He concludes by informing us that the best and most advantageous time for emigrants destined for the Saskatchewan to arrive at Winnipeg is as early after the opening of navigation as possible, say about 1st of May, and should not be later than, say the end of August, in order to have time, after their journey over the plains and arrival at their destination, to make temporary provision for the winter in building. All necessary further information regarding this can be had on their arrival at Winnipeg, when selecting their necessary outfit. Doors, sashes, flooring, and all kinds of dressed lumber, well seasoned, for fitting up the interior of a temporary log house comfortably, can be had at Winnipeg at reasonable prices. During the winter months the settler may profitably occupy his whole time getting out timber for larger buildings, fencing, etc., and generally preparing for an early start on his land in the spring. Before the snow falls, if provided with a mower, he will cut sufficient hay for his cattle during winter to feed when not turned loose.

#### DON CARLOS.

It will be remembered that, a few days ago, DON CARLOS was invited to retire from his residence at Passy, and seek a resting place somewhere else. He accepted the invitation, like a sensible man, and the last we have heard of him is that he is residing on the confines of Austria. We allude to this circumstance, however, not for the purpose of discussing it, but in

order to call attention to the reckless manner in which it is appreciated by no less a journal than the London *Graphic*. Maintaining, as we have the right to do, that the editorial mission is to instruct and to guide, we protest that a writer for the press ought to know what he writes about, before venturing to place his views in type. The *Graphic* expresses its legitimate pride at the refuge which England has given political exiles of every stamp during the last eighty years. "Refugees of numerous nationalities, and of the most conflicting political creeds, have sought the shelter of our flag. Priests and nobles flying from the guillotine; members of Royal and Imperial families, Legitimist, Orleansist and Bonapartist; Poles and Hungarians escaping from the vengeance of 'Holy Russia,' or of absolutist Austria; French, German, and Italian Republicans of the reddest dye; Bourbonist and Papal adherents; Spanish Carlists and Intransigent; North American Confederates, and South American *pronunciamento*-makers; here they have been seen, like a 'Happy Family,' all living in the same cage. Nothing, moreover, has stirred popular feeling more deeply than any attempt to restrict this right of exile. Even when there was strong evidence that this country was being made the focus of plots against the life of the late French Emperor, we firmly declined to give up the alleged conspirators. Such being the state of feeling here, the expulsion of DON CARLOS comes like a shock of surprise, and makes us feel that England and France are, in some respects, a couple of hundred years apart." While heartily granting England all the credit which is her due in the premises, we beg to deny the inference which is instituted. The insular position of England makes her particularly fit for the reception of political exiles. They are safe within her boundaries from all police or military pursuit. Neither has England dynastic or political relations with other powers which would make these exiles dangerous to the English community. It is very different in France, especially in the case of DON CARLOS. That prince is a member of the Bourbon family, one of the three monarchical aspirants to the French throne, and one of the three parties that are continually keeping that unfortunate country in turmoil. If DON CARLOS could or would remain as quiet in France as he would naturally do in England, he would not be disturbed. As a matter of fact, so long as he did remain quiet, he was left in peace. It was only when his presence in Paris was made the occasion for secret movements, and even demonstrations which affected Spain as well as France, that he was required to pass the frontier. Every other continental nation would have acted in the same way under the circumstances. When, therefore, the *Graphic* adds, by way of clincher, "We offer no opinion here as to whether the De Broglie Government were right or wrong in the step they have taken, but the fact that such a step should be possible proves that France, politically, is still in the swaddling clothes of the seventeenth century." We can only say that if France, with her present position in the ranks of modern civilization, "is still in the swaddling clothes of the seventeenth century," the condition of the other nations of the continent must be very primitive indeed. Fortunately the man who proves too much proves nothing.

#### BEEF SUGAR.

We have received a pamphlet on the Economical Production of Beef Sugar in the Province of Quebec, from the pen of Mr. E. A. BARNARD, a well-known authority, who is Director of Agriculture for this Province. The subject is one of such considerable importance that, although our space does not allow us to summarize the able paper of Mr. BARNARD, we cannot refrain from calling attention to the principal conclusions which the writer attains. From the facts and figures adduced by him he states his conviction that we can grow beets here as cheaply as in Europe, a