

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

HON. FELIX GEOFFRION.

The Minister of Inland Revenue is a Notary Public by profession and resident of the beautiful village of Verchères. He was born there in 1832. His life has been taken of the quietude of his country home. He was Registrar for Verchères from 1854 to 1863, in which year he was elected to the Canada Assembly for his native county. He has since continued to represent it in Parliament. Last summer, on the retirement of Hon. Mr. Dorian from the Government, Mr. Geoffrion was called to a seat in the Cabinet and offered the portfolio of Inland Revenue which he accepted and has since held with acceptance.

HON. THOMAS COFFIN.

Mr. Coffin, like so many Nova-Scotians, belongs to an U. E. Loyalist family. He was born at Barrington, in 1817, where he was educated, and where he has always resided, carrying on a large and prosperous business, as shipbuilder and owner. He represented Shelburne in the Nova Scotia Assembly from 1851 to 1855 and again from 1859 till 1867. Since then he has represented the same county in the House of Commons. He was appointed to his present office in November 1873.

FREDERICTON, N. B.

A small but beautiful city in the county of York. It is the capital of the Province, and the shire town of this county, and is pleasantly situated on a level plain, on the left bank of the River St. John, 84 miles from the Bay of Fundy. The city is well and regularly laid out; its streets are wide and airy, crossing each other at right angles. Queen is the chief business street, and on it are situated most of the public departments, law offices, banks, hotels, &c. At the east end is the Province building, a large wooden structure, in which the Provincial legislature holds its sittings; the Supreme Court also meets there. There is a fine library in the building and in close proximity are the various public offices. At the west end is the Government house, a fine stone structure, with no pretensions to architectural beauty, yet possessing ample accommodation as the residence of the Lieutenant Governor. On the north side of Queen Street is the Custom House and City Hall, two large brick buildings, and the barracks, a stone structure capable of accommodating a regiment of infantry. In the rear of the city, on a hill, stands the University, a large substantial stone building. It is well endowed, has a good staff of professors, and as a seat of learning is in high standing in the Province. There are eight churches in the city, Episcopal, Roman Catholic, Church of Scotland, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, and Free-Will Baptist. Christ Church Cathedral is a fine stone edifice, and a good specimen of church architecture. The See House of the Lord Bishop of Fredericton is situated almost opposite. The scenery around Fredericton is very pleasing; a fine view may be obtained from the University building of the river and adjacent country. The St. John river is navigable from St. John to this city for large steamers and other vessels, and during high water steamers can proceed to Woodstock, Tobique and Grand Falls. Opposite the city is a pretty village called St. Mary's, with which there is constant communication by ferry steamer, and lower down is the river Nashwan. There is an extensive lumbering establishment a few miles from the mouth of this river; there are also several large saw mills adjacent to the city. Fredericton is an incorporated city, and its affairs are managed by a mayor and Council. It is lighted with gas, has four weekly newspapers, one bank, a reading room, an office of the Western Union Telegraph Co., and is the head office of the Fredericton Railway. Its population is about 10,000.

THE SENATE BOMBHELL.

The Mills resolution may very properly be described as having the effect of a bombshell. It has created a very lively discussion in the press, and some prophets foresee that it will result in a disruption of the Liberal party. We shall not enter on this dubious ground, but rather confine ourselves to the amusing aspect of the situation. In our cartoon, the representative editorial senators, Brown and Penny, are shown as frightened out of their wits, while the phenomenal Usher of the Black Rod is positively on the eve of giving up the ghost.

THE DOMINION IMMIGRANT STATION.

Under the active and urbane administration of Mr. J. J. Daly, Dominion Immigration Agent for Montreal, the station at the Tanneries have been made neat, comfortable, and altogether worthy of their destination. It is a very important distributing centre for immigrants, the first which they reach after leaving the steamer. Here they are received, fed, cared for and sped on their journey, with all the information and attention which they may require. The work is an arduous one, extending through all seasons, carried on by night as well as by day, and devoted to hundreds of immigrants at a time, of all classes and ages. Our picture represents a large number which passed through last week. They are coming in steadily by every steamer, taking advantage of the low rates which will be stopped very shortly.

THE HORTICULTURAL BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA.

A few weeks ago, we gave views of nearly all the buildings of the Great American Centennial Exhibition, to be held at Philadelphia, next year. We supplement them, to-day, by a representation of the Horticultural Hall, where will be exposed the garden products of every nation under the sun.

MARGUERITE.

We call particular attention to our reproduction of a beautiful steel engraving representing the fair and unfortunate Marguerite of Goethe's immortal drama. Our copy is perfect in every line giving the original with all its purity of tone and softness of shadowing. It is a work worth studying and preserving.

THE GLEANER.

THE House of Commons votes annually a sum of money which is known as the Civil Contingencies Fund. This fund is available for the payment of those charges which spring up unexpectedly, and some very curious items are invariably found in the list. Here are some specimens:—Repairing the Speaker's plate, £33; burying the carcasses of porpoises washed ashore, near Londonderry, £1 18s.; Duke of Connaught's visit to Norway to be present at the Coronation of the King, £258 4s. 4d.; Installation of the Shah as Knight Companion of the Garter, £439 3s. 4d., and Gratuity to Hon. Henry J. S. Wood, 11th Hussars, for bringing the despatches relating to the fall of Coomassie, £500.

A CURIOUS little incident of relic-worship is mentioned in connection with the trade society's banquet to Garibaldi, at Rome, the other evening. After Garibaldi's spirited address, some workmen went upon the stage carrying with them a paper hatbox, from which they took a battered, stained, old felt hat. It was that which Garibaldi had lost in the swamps of the Comacchio in 1849, when evading the pursuit of the Austrians, and which had been preserved by a man named Levi, a skilful preserver of old hats.

DR. STABLES, in his book on cats, treats his readers to the following statistics:—"It is the very lowest average to say that every cat in this country does away with twenty mice or rats per annum; and also on the lowest average, each mouse or rat will destroy one pound's worth of property a year. Well, there are in the British Islands over 4,000,000 cats; that, multiplied by 20, gives an annual saving of £80,000,000 worth of property; and these cats do not take £4,000,000 to keep them alive—not more at any rate.

THE excitement of curlers on the ice is worse than that of turfites at the Derby. A laird in Strathaven who owned a quarry and was reported to be worth "a gey twa-three bawbees beside," was playing one day, and his foreman, whose name was Lawrence, was playing with him on the same side. The laird was very anxious he should take a certain shot, and he cried out in this fashion—"Noo, Jock Lawrence, d'ye see whaur my broom is? Lay yer stane doon there, and, as sure as death, I'll gie ye my dochter Jean if ye do." Birr rushed the stane out of Jock's hand, and went trintling along to the very spot where the laird wished. "Capital! Jock, capital! Ye couldna ha'e dune better, and you can get Jean the morrow if ye want her." "Ye maun gie me something else than Jean, laird; I ha'e got her already. We were married at Greta Green sax weeks since, and we've been thinking about asking your blessing ever since, but something aye cam' in the way." The laird was dumfounded when he heard the news, but he compromised matters by saying, "Aweel, aweel, Jock, I'll let by-gones be by-gones. A man that could lay down a pat-lid like that is worthy o' the best and bonniest lass in Lanarkshire; keep her and welcome, and ye'll maybe get the matter o' sax pounds wi' her. Keep her, Jock, and if ye ha'e any laddie weans atween ye, bring them up in the fear o' the Lord, and be sure that ye dinna neglect to mak' them a' guid curlers."

An English paper has the following amusingly inaccurate account of Canadian winter sports:—"In the days when Lord Monck was Governor-General he remarked to a distinguished Englishman who came to lunch with him, and whom he invited to have a sleigh-drive. 'I regret that I cannot provide you with a muffin.' Perplexed to know what 'a muffin' could mean, and fancying that it was something to eat or drink, the stranger replied that, after a capital lunch he wanted nothing more. A merry laugh from the bystanders told him that he had made some mistake, and he was not long in ascertaining that, in Canadian parlance, the lady who is driven in sleigh by a gentleman is called 'a muffin,' and plays the same part as though she were his partner in a quadrille. But, in addition to sleighing and skating, there is another amusement to which Lord and Lady Dufferin are said to be very partial, and which is called 'tobogganing.' The 'toboggan' is an Indian device, and resembles one of the runners or slides which Barclay and Perkins' draymen prop up against the backs of their waggons, and run their barrels downwards along its incline. The 'toboggan' is, in short, a narrow sleigh upon runners about five or six feet in length, and greatly turned up at the points, like skates. A gentleman takes his seat first upon this uninviting vehicle, and is followed by one or two ladies, of whom the first catches tight hold of the shoulders of her male companion, and is in turn clutched by her female comrade. The 'toboggan,' thus freighted, is started down a steep ice-covered incline, and is carried with tremendous velocity by its own weight into a valley out of which it climbs *proprio motu* up the side of the opposite snowbank. All this is very pretty, but our readers will smile at it. Did they ever hear of 'muffin'? We never did. Making women stand behind men in a toboggan is new. And representing toboggans as going up a snowbank by their own acquired velocity, is likewise novel. Our English friend will have to try again.

THE PRESTONIAN PRESS.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 17th inst., a number of journalists representing the press of Montreal met at the office of the Montreal Evening Star to view the inauguration of the new Prestonian Web-Feeder Perfecting Press, just set up by that paper. The event was an interesting one in every particular, as displaying the growth of newspaper enterprise in the Dominion.

The "Walter" press, perfected by Mr. John Walter of the Times, and which caused such a sensation at the London Exhibition of 1872, was the first web-feeder; the one here in use is an improvement on the Walter, and is known as the "Prestonian," taking its name from Preston, England, where the manufactory is. In principle, the Walter and Prestonian are very similar, but the great advantage which the Prestonian press possesses over not only the Walter, but the Bullock, the Victory, or any other kind of web-feeder, is that it prints direct from the type or stereotype, instead of from stereotype plates only, as all other kinds do. Printers will at a glance see what an important advantage this is in saving both time and expense. We shall endeavor briefly to describe the press and its manner of working, avoiding technical phrases as much as possible, so that it may be more easily understood by the general reader. The press is 18 ft. in length by 6 feet wide, and the height of the highest cylinder from the ground is 8 feet. It consists of a heavy iron frame, which rests on a strong brick and wood foundation, so made as to leave a hollow space or "well" under it large enough for a man to get into for the purpose of cleaning or repairing the lower portions. The press has two large type cylinders and fourteen small impression and carrier cylinders. The paper used is a web, that is it is one long strip of paper measuring about three miles and a-half, and is not cut into sheets until after it is printed on both sides. Nearly all news paper is made in a web, but it is cut into sheets at the paper mill and packed in reams; but the paper for the Prestonian is made specially, and made to a very unusual length. The roll of paper, which is like a gigantic spool of tape, being placed at one end of the machine, the sheet is carried forward by rollers to the first type cylinder. These type cylinders are each composed of eight pieces. Two of these pieces are called "turtles," from a fancied resemblance to the shape of that animal, and are heavy iron frames into which the type is placed; the other six pieces are used as inking surfaces, and as the type cylinders revolve, a series of ink rollers, which are placed near but below the impression cylinder, run over the ink beds and then over the type, just before it reaches the paper to be printed. The type is securely fastened in by a series of screws, each column being separately secured in its place, and the whole then firmly forced together. Of course the turtles are convex, as they have to fit around the cylinder, and the type presents a smooth but rounded surface. The turtles being put in their places and screwed down, the machine is ready to start, and the paper is printed as follows: The paper coming to the first turtle, passes between it and an impression cylinder, and there receives the impression of the second and third pages; it then proceeds round what is called a carrier cylinder to the second impression cylinder, when the pages are printed again, and so on round two more cylinders, making four papers in all printed on one side. It then passes to the second type cylinder, which runs in reverse motion, and instead of going under the paper, passes over it, receiving the impression of the first and fourth pages on its blank side. The paper is now complete with the exception of cutting. A series of tapes now take the web along the top of the machine to the extreme end, when it passes between two cylinders, in one of which is the perforating knife, which cuts the paper into sheets of the requisite size. To this knife is attached a little counting machine, which registers every cut, so that by simply looking at the index the exact number of papers cut can be told. The cut sheet goes now to the collector, a very simple but ingenious contrivance, which swings back and forth like the pendulum of a clock, bringing the sheet down to two sets of rollers at the bottom of the press, where they pass between double rollers in such a way that two sheets reach the "flyer" at the same moment and are landed together on the receiving table. This process has taken a long time to describe, but the paper travels through the press at the rate of nearly six miles an hour, so that it takes the web less than a second from the time it touches the first turtle until it is placed on the receiving table. The web looks remarkably curious when the press is in motion, passing as it does under and over sixteen different cylinders, and forming a continuous band of moving paper across the whole length of the press. Previous to the web being put into the press it is run through a damping machine and rewound on a large spool. The main advantages of the Prestonian web-feeder are the rate of speed and saving of expense in running with the old style of press of half the capacity, requiring six boys to feed the sheets to the machine, so that a four-cylinder Hoe would require at least four, and perhaps eight boys or girls to feed it. Now the Prestonian does not require any one to feed it; all that has to be done is to put the end of the web into the machine and it unwinds it for itself and does all the work until its three miles and a-half of paper is used up, when all the time and labor involved is three minutes to remove the empty spool and replace it with a full one. We congratulate our contemporary on the enterprise which has secured this press.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

MARCH 15.—The "Polynesian," the first steamer for Quebec this season, will leave Liverpool on the 15th of April.

At the Consistory held at Rome to-day, Archbishops Manning and McCloskey were among those created Cardinals.

The Walkem Government of British Columbia, have been sustained in their railway policy by a majority of five votes.

The London, Ontario, Board of Trade have drawn up a petition to the Senate and Dominion Parliament against the new Insolvent Act.

News has been received of a surveying party, commanded by a British Lieutenant and consisting of 63 sepoy and coolies, having been massacred by the natives of Assam.

MARCH 16th.—The Governor-General will shortly go to Europe.

Italy and Germany are exchanging confidences as to the successor of Pope Pius IX.

The debate on the resolution for the admission of Pinchback into the U. S. Senate has been postponed till the second Monday in December next.

The result of the Louisiana arbitration will be to give the Conservatives a majority in the Lower House of the Legislature.

The work of construction of the North Shore Railway is to be commenced at once, the late difficulty having been satisfactorily arranged.

In the French Assembly M. Dufaure said the Government had not yet considered the question, but he thought dissolution should take place in August and the new writs be issued in the Autumn.

A debate was commenced in the Prussian Parliament on the new Ecclesiastical Bill. During his speech on the Bill, Bismarck said the maxim that more obedience was due to God than to man did not mean that more obedience was due to a Pope, misguided by Jesuits, than to the King.

MARCH 17th.—The Lincolnshire Handicap to-day was won by Gunner; Laxiser, second; and Madge Wildfire, third.

Seton College, South Orange, N. J., has been temporarily closed on account of typhoid fever having broken out among the pupils.

An Interprovincial Exhibition is shortly to be held in this city, from which articles will be selected for the Philadelphia Centennial.

An extra session of the Brazilian Parliament was opened to-day to consider the Budget and the unsettled state of the country.

The break up of the ice on the Susquehanna river yesterday morning has been attended with most disastrous result. No estimate of the damage can yet be formed.

The Very Rev. Archdeacon Fuller has been elected Bishop of the new Western Diocese, receiving 32 out of 51 clerical votes, and 33 of the 44 votes of lay delegates.

MARCH 18th.—The Grand National was won by Pathfinder, Duinity second. The odds against both horses were 50 to 1.

A meeting of capitalists took place at Syracuse, N. Y., for the organization of the Rochester & Montreal Steamboat Company, and it is expected that by next year an American line of steamers will be running on the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario.

The Provincial Secretary of Nova Scotia has given notice that he will move for an allotment of 200,000 acres of Crown Lands in Cape Breton, and a subsidy of \$5,000 per mile to any company that will guarantee to build a line of railway from the Strait of Canso to Louisbourg.

MARCH 19th.—The Ecclesiastical Bill has passed its second reading in the Prussian Parliament.

John Mitchell is sinking fast and his life is despaired of.

The inhabitants of Owen Sound are jubilant over the arrival of an engine and a carload of shovellers on the Toronto, Grey and Bruce, to clear the road. It is only 44 days since the last passenger train arrived there from Toronto.

MARCH 20th.—Oxford won the boat race. General Camphas has defeated the Carlists and taken 900 of their prisoners.

The treatment of the press by the Spanish Government is said to be daily growing more arbitrary, causing much dissatisfaction.

A despatch from Dublin says recent political events tended in a great measure to accelerate the demise of the late John Mitchell, who died to-day.

A rumor is abroad in New York of the failure there of a large banking house, with extensive German connections, but no particulars are given.

A Halifax despatch relates the death of a veteran who had served under the Great Napoleon, and who died at Port Felix, Guysboro', lately, aged 112 years.

Dr. Moody has cabled Rev. Mr. DeWitt Talmage to go to England to assist him in his revival services. The aggregate attendance at the three services in the Agricultural Hall, London, yesterday, was 49,000.

LITERARY.

BRONSON Howard, who is now in England, will present Tennyson, on behalf of the Lotos Club, with a finely bound volume of "Lotos Leaves."

TENNYSON is said to present when wandering about his demesne on the Isle of Wight, the appearance of the Count de Luna "out for a prowl."

MAJOR Butler, who has gone out with Sir Garnet Wolseley, has left a book behind, which will be published in May. It is called *Akim-foo, the History of a Failure*, and deals with his adventures in the Afghans.

PROFESSOR Mills, of Queen's College, Cork, has lately returned from a tour in Egypt, bringing with him impressions of the hieroglyphical inscriptions from the "Chamber of the Cow," from the tomb of Seti I., more generally known as Belzoni's Tomb, at Thebes.

CHARLES Alston Collin's widow, who is the daughter of the late Charles Dickens, was married in June last to C. Perugini, Esq., the artist. It has been stated in error that she was about to be married to Pellegrini, of *Vanity Fair*.

MR. Gladstone, when in the House of late, has been engaged in letter-writing, which is the only pastime, save the diversion afforded by divisions, in which the ex-Premier can indulge in Parliament if he is to observe complete silence. Mr. Disraeli sometimes casts a long look upon him, half-curious, half-anxious, as though he thought the scribbling might perchance concern him. The opinion is that some day Mr. Gladstone will give vent to a sudden burst of torpedo-like oratory.

AN adverse criticism of *Hamlet* at the London Lyceum Theatre has arisen in a very curious quarter. A Ritualist correspondent, who has been to see Mr. Irving, is scandalized at the manner in which Ophelia's funeral is conducted. It appears that the priest wears a white cope and a green chasuble, when he ought to be in a simple black cope and biretta. The crucifer also carries the processional cross incorrectly, it is held sideways, so that the shorter arm points straight in front of him.

PROFESSOR Whitney has carefully examined a passage of 1,000 sounds from each of ten standard English writers, in order to ascertain the relative frequency of sounds in the language. He finds that the sound of "r" is the most frequent, occurring 744 times in 10,000 sounds; "n" follows with 673, and "t" with 592. The short sound of "i" is the most common vowel sound, having 590 occurrences. The least common vowel sound is that of short "o," eight times in 10,000; the least common consonant sound is that of "sh," twice in 10,000. In all he found 6,271 consonant sounds and 3,729 vowel sounds. A very valuable use of time.