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#### NOTICE.

The Burland-Desbarats Lithographic Company have removed to the magnificent six story building erected for them by G. B. Burland, Esq., at Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9 Bleury, near the corner of Craig, where they will carry on all their different branches of business and publish the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, L'OPINION PUBLIQUE and the MECHANIC'S MAGAZINE.

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS

Montreal Saturday, 8th April, 1876.

### THE SESSION.

The British Columbia papers on the Pacific Railway have come down, and Mr. DE COSMOS, on behalf of that Province, has had the question before the House, upon a resolution, however, so loosely and injudiciously worded that it failed to receive the sanction of the leader of the Opposition: and when it came to a division was thrown out by a vote of 154 to 6: Messrs. DE COSMOS, THOMPSON, BUNSTER, WALLACE, JONES of Leeds, and MCKAY WRIGHT, being the only members who voted for it. This is not, however, all the case, and it is very unfortunate for British Columbia that it has so injudicious an advocate in the person of Mr. DE COSMOS. There is undoubtedly strong feeling in that Province, and there is a great deal to say in favor of its case, as appears on the face of the correspondence. It must receive due consideration, but it is not now likely that anything further can be done in Parliament at this late period of the Session. The papers will afford food for reflection during the leisure of the recess. As regards the Pacific Railway proper, there is no reason whatever to believe that the MACKENZIE Government will recede from the obligation they have undertaken.

The questions discussed during the week have been of minor importance; but a good deal of acerbity has been manifested. The Government are pushing on their measures almost to the exclusion of everything else, allowing only one day (Monday) for the measures and motions of private members. Mr. BOWELL moved his resolution for a return of Government Bank balances which was the occasion of attack upon the Government for favoritism, especially in the case of the Ontario Bank.

Mr. COSTIGAN brought forward his O'Donoghue motion, but he made very little by it. It was clearly proved that O'DONOGHUE was connected with the raid of 1871, which was of Fenian origin, and even Mr. DEVLIN admitted that if the facts stated by the Minister of Justice were established, O'DONOGHUE had no claim to consideration. Mr. POPE advised the withdrawal of the motion, and Mr. COSTIGAN intimated that he was willing to have it declared lost on a division; but the House insisted on a vote, and it was negatived. Yeas, 38; nays, 136.

Perhaps the most unpleasant feeling manifested during the Session took place in the discussion of the Customs and Post Office items in the Supplies, between Dr. TUPPER, Lieutenant-leader of the Opposition, and Mr. HUNTINGTON, the Postmaster General. Mr. HUNTINGTON answered with some vigour the remarks of Dr. TUPPER; and the latter replied that he could bring disgraceful charges against the Postmaster General. The matter stopped there; but it is a clear principle that allegations of this sort should not be made without proof,

nor should they be at all ventured upon unless the utterer intends to follow them with proof.

Among the minor measures advanced a stage may be mentioned the Mechanics Bank's Bill; and the City Bank and Royal Canadian amalgamation bill.

The Committees did a good deal of work during the week. That on Immigration put on record some valuable information in reference to the agricultural capabilities of the North West and British Columbia, as given in the evidence of Prof. McCOWN, of Belleville. He showed that the extent of cultivable land in the North-West territory was immense. Mr. NYE, of the Hochelaga Cotton Mills, and Mr. WHITEHEAD of the Cornwall Mills, both showed that the Americans had superior advantages in manufacturing cotton, and that this interest, in Canada, required increased protection. Several iron manufacturers also gave evidence to the same effect as to their industries. The Committee on Mr. DROST's case have reported that no proceedings can be taken against him. The Agricultural Committee have taken a good deal of evidence tending to show that there is a desire among the farmers to obtain some protection. Among the persons examined may be specially noticed Mr. IRA MORGAN, for many years President of the Ontario Agricultural Association, and the Hon. Mr. COCHRANE, both of whom thought some measure of protection to farmers desirable, and the advantage of a home market very great. The Royal Albert Bridge bill has excited a great deal of interest in the Railway Committee room. Conflicting evidence was taken in reference to its effect on the navigable channel in a very swift current. Mr. ANDREW ALLAN said its effect would be to wreck the steamers of his line. Mr. PAGE thought it objectionable at that point, and Mr. LEGGE said he had no objections to go further down the river to the still water below St. Helen's Island. Other witnesses thought it would be better to take it still higher up. In view of the conflict of opinion Mr. YOUNG withdrew the bill for the present session.

#### A FINE POINT.

A return has been laid before the House of Commons respecting the non-admission of Fish and Fish oils, the products of British Columbia, into the United States, free of duty, under the Treaty of Washington of 1871. The facts disclosed are both interesting and important. They are briefly: The Collector of Customs at Victoria, B. C., telegraphed to the Minister of Customs, in October, 1873, that while he, in accordance with instructions, admitted the articles in question free from the United States, the United States would not admit them except upon paying duty. The question was at once referred to the Minister of Justice, and, in February, a decision was given in which Mr. (now Chief Justice) DORION concurred to the effect that Fish and Fish oil, from British Columbia, were entitled to be entered free at United States ports. A good deal of correspondence arose, and some Orders in Council were passed; and the short of the whole of which was that Sir EDWARD THORNTON, the British Minister at Washington, wrote to Lord DUFFERIN, in April, 1875, that "as British Columbia was not at the time of signing that Treaty (of Washington) a part of the Dominion of Canada, I do not feel justified in making a representation upon the subject to the United States Government without instruction to that effect from the Earl of DERBY." The Treaty itself, as it appears from the representation made on the authority of Mr. DORION, bears date May 8th, 1871; while British Columbia was admitted as a part of Canada on July 20th, 1871. The date of the Treaty itself is, therefore, prior to the admission of the Province. But the Treaty was negotiated at an earlier date not given in this correspondence. There is no question about any other point. The Canadian Act of 1872, and the Act of Congress of 1873, together with the President's Pro-

clamation of 1873, would all, by their terms, cover British Columbia. The United States Customs officers on the Pacific coast, however, declined to admit the articles in question under the Treaty, they having instructions from Washington not to do so. There comes again further a long correspondence and Orders in Council maintaining the position that as the date of the Treaty was anterior to the admission of the Province, and the terms of the Public acts of both countries included the Province, it was an infringement of the Treaty not to admit the products in question free into the United States. The short of all this correspondence was that the documents are submitted for the Law officers of the Crown, and on August 12th, 1875, Lord CARNARVON writes to Ottawa that the interpretation of the Treaty must be governed by the state of things which existed at the time of its negotiation, and cannot be held to have a signification to extend to territory not then forming part of the Dominion of Canada. Lord CARNARVON therefore regrets that it has not appeared possible for Her Majesty's Government to instruct Sir EDWARD THORNTON to bring the matter before the United States Government as proposed by the Dominion Government." The matter, therefore, drops. It is quite unnecessary to make any commentary on the facts, as the sharpness of the practice, and the narrow petty-fogging way in which the point has been made against Columbia must be apparent to all.

An apathy more apparent than real on the part of those chiefly interested need not hinder our representatives at Ottawa from making the lives of our people secure from the danger of explosions. In this country the bulk of people are always more or less in action about their personal safety, and it is the high intelligence and special function of our elected representatives that we look for setting matters right. Life interests are as important and as national as trade interests. The work will bring comfort and pleasure to its promoters while in the end it will gratify all classes. It will be a source of elevated satisfaction to reflect that (as in the case of the river steamers) the legislative course pursued has been the means of saving many lives and of retaining many families in unbroken happiness who would otherwise have been plunged in untold misery.

We believe we are not presuming too much upon our critical powers in the domain of music when we say that a Canadian *prima donna* has been found in Mrs. CAULWELL of Quebec, who delighted a large audience of all our creeds and races at a concert in the Music Hall, in that city, on last week, by the grandeur, richness, and compass of her voice, and her admirable rendering of the compositions of Donizetti and other great masters. We have now many good artists in Canada, and we believe they will unite their homage with ours in the presence of these gifts. We should be glad to see such singing as Mrs. CAULWELL'S, well supported as it was on Thursday week in the other departments, enjoyed by large audiences of the people, for such music is a refining influence.

Even the pleasant vernal season has its special dangers. In Canada, our railway lines and embankments are particularly exposed to these vicissitudes. After being hardened for months by frost and protected by snow, they become all at once reduced in resisting power and exposed at various points to the ravages of floods. This is what the thaw does for us, and railway managers have to exert an unusual vigilance at this season—a call that is intensified where the line is a new one—and to drop anything like parsimony in the items of inspection and track repairing if they would, as they are bound to do, guarantee the travelling public against fearful accidents.

We take great pleasure in giving the publicity of our columns to the following paragraph which does much credit to the spirit of enterprise and the philanthropy of our contemporary, *The Evening Star*, of this city. It is well-known that, at the Christmas season, the advertising of holiday goods is far in excess of that of any period of the year. The proprietor of the *Star* gave notice that he would devote the half of the proceeds from that source to the poor. Here is the voucher that he has kept his word, and the testimonial does credit to the whole of our profession.

Montreal, 31 March 1876.

I have delivered one hundred lots of handwood during the winter to poor families of all denominations and nationalities, by order and at the expense of the proprietors of the *Evening Star*, which, as I understand, was the proceeds of one half of the Christmas advertising in the *Star*.

G. N. HOKEY,  
Wood Merchant,  
Cor. Sanguinet and Vitre St.

Owing to the pressure of letterpress on our hands, which had to appear in the columns of the present issue, we are obliged to curtail much of our ordinary matter, while leaving as much more for the next number.

### THE FREE LANCE.

The English papers are congratulating the Prince of Wales upon his immunity from disease during his visit to India. Judging from the Indian pictures which crowd the *Illustrated London News* and *Graphic*, we should rather say that the Prince has been afflicted with elephantiasis.

A warning to the uxorious.

The anagram of Uxor is Uxor.

The Artful Dodger of the Session was Messrs. Jetté, of Montreal East. He stacked the two test votes on Protection.

Six or seven of our tea traders are about emigrating to New York. In disgust they take their leaves from us.

The *Times* must have been mighty bad in Ottawa, when Malcolm Cameron felt called upon to help.

Coon Cameron was lead by the nose with a Cotton thread.

Sir John refused to strike the other day. He dodged the vote on Petroleum Colly's resolution.

The Royal Albert Bridge fell through before it was built. A wag says that is better than falling through after it was built.

The great art of musical criticism consists in saying just enough. If you say too much, you offend. If you say too little, you offend. The other night I was called upon to give my opinion of a lady who sang at a concert. She had no voice, but a very pretty face. I got out of the difficulty by simply exclaiming: "Beautiful singer!"

In the United States, book agents are ubiquitous and the wits are always poking fun at them. In this country it is the insurance agents who pollulate and give us occasion for merriment. New companies are springing up every day, and new agents make their appearance at every turn. Though you are used to them, they always surprise you. Passing by a new building one startles you with:

"What a fine risk!"

That is the fire man.

Passing by a handsome female, he exclaims:

"What a beautiful risk!"

That is the life man.

A true story about an insurance agent.

His office is not many miles from Place d'Armes Square. A farmer from Laprairie calls.

"You are Mr—"

"Yes, that is my name."

"You insure things?"

"I do that. Insure every thing. Terms better than those of any company in the country. Have you anything to insure?"

"I have, sir."

"What is it?"

"A mill."

"Oh! Ah! Very good. Mills are just in our line. What sort of a mill?"

"The very best. Wood and iron."

"Capital. Let's go and see it."

"But it is at Laprairie."

"Oh! that's nothing. I'd go to China to see a mill."

The farmer then politely offered our friend a seat in his sleigh and they drove over to Laprairie. When they reached the village, it was getting dark, and the farmer extended his politeness by inviting his guest to stay with him over night, promising to show him the mill the following morning. The insurance agent, who is a handsome, gallant badysman, spent a most agreeable evening with the farmer's daughters,