The Canadian Illustrated News is printed and published every Saturday by The Burland Lithographic Company (Limited,) at their offices, 5 and 7 Bleury Street, Montreal, on the following conditions: \$4.00 per annum, in advance; \$4.50 if not paid strictly in advance.

# TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

It has become necessary once more to call the attention of our subscribers to the large number of subscriptions which remain unpaid, after repeated appeals for prompt settlement. Prompt payment of subscriptions to a newspaper is an essential of its continuance, and must of necessity be enforced in the present case. Good wishes for the success of our paper we have in plenty from our subscribers, but good wishes are not money, and those who do not pay for their paper only add an additional weight to it, and render more difficult that success which they wish, in words, to be achieved.

Let it be clearly understood, then, that from all those whose subscriptions are not paid on or before the 1st of December next, we shall collect the larger sum of 84.50, according to our regular rule, while we are of necessity compelled to say to those who are now indebted to us that if they do not pay their subscriptions for 1882 before the above date, we shall be obliged to discontinue sending them the paper after the 1st January, 1883.

All those who really wish success to the Canadian Illustrated News must realize that it can only succeed by their assistance, and we shall take the non-payment of subscriptions now due as an indication that those who so neglect to support the paper have no wish for its prosperity

We have made several appeals before this to our subscribers, but we trust the present will prove absolutely effectual, and we confidently expect to receive the amount due in all cases without being put to the trouble and expense of collecting.

We hope that not one of our subscribers will fail in making a prompt remittance.

### TEMPERATURE

as observed by Hearn & Harrison, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal. THE WEEK ENDING

|     | Nov. 4th, 1882. |  |  |                              | [Corresponding week, 1881 |  |  |       |
|-----|-----------------|--|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--|-------|
| TES | -               |  |  | Mean.<br>490<br>5005<br>4705 |                           |  |  | Mean. |

### CONTENTS.

ILLUSTRATIONS.—Cartoon—Our Father—The Missionaries' Dinner at the first portage, River Abittibi—Spar Lock Bridge, Sussex, N.B.—The Beauyt Tournament at Budapesth—On the Upper Ottawa—The Mission of Lake Abittibi—Towing the Steamboat Matinean—The Grand Review in Cairo—A Fugitive Thought—The Khedive Decorating Sir Garnet Wolseley.

LETTER-PRESS.—The Week—The New Comet—The True Story of Tel-el-Kebir—Our Illustrations—Never write on your cuffs—How to choose a Minister—News of the Week—Ireland—Love's Loyalty Humorous—The last Farewell—Aunt Suky's "Chis"—Varieties—Sic Semper—Culture and Morals—How a Banker lost his Daughter—Echoes from Paris—True Honors—A few thoughts about Boots—Echoes from London—My Grandfather's Coat—An Eccentric Fishing Excursion—Musical and Dramatie—Our Chess Column.

# CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Nov. 11. 1882

### THE WEEK.

THE calamity which occurred in the burning of the Park Theatre on the very night on which Mrs. Langtry was to have made her first appearance, has deprived the New Yorkers of the pro-

mised treat for a time. However, Mr. Abbey lost no time in seeking for a fresh stage upon which to display his prolégé, and an arrangement was made almost immediately, by which Mr. Lester Wallack, in the most friendly manner, agreed to postpone his forthcoming novelty and allow the Jersey Lily to appear at his theatre, where she will make her first bow this (Monday) night. The account of Mrs. Langtry's loss by the burning of the theatre seems to have been wholly unfounded, but another public favourite, Mdme. Christine Nillson, lost, it appears, a considerable number of costumes and some valuable jewelery.

THE arrival of Mrs. Langtry seems to have put all other celebrities out of people's heads for the time being, and it is hard to realize that Nillson and the "diva" Patti are actually together in New York, and they are to be followed during the coming winter by scarcely less famous names. New York seems really to be deserving a reputation for the place in which art is most loved and honored of any city in the world, not excluding London. With the advantages of a large proportion of the wealth of the continent, and, indeed, of the world, the result of this awakening has been that artists are flocking to this new Eldorado, and the coming winter will probably show a larger array of first-class musical stars than can be seen at one time in any of the great cities of Europe.

RENEMBERING, says Mr. Yates, the many agreeable reminiscences of his contemporaries Carlyle has lately been made to favor the world with, through the good offices of his ingenuous friend Mr. Froude, it is in possible to read, without a secret feeling of satisfaction, what one of his contemporaries thought of him. Writing of him in 1852, that lively (and also very overrated) little body, Miss Mitford, opines: "In England his fashion is waning rapidly, and I have no doubt but that, like most overrated men, he will live to share the common fate of idels-knocked down by his former worshippers in revenge of their own idolatry." Which prophecy, according to M. Edmond Scherer, was in very truth fulfilled.

THE Oxford University examinations are beginning, it seems, to be severely criticized in England. Considerable indignation was felt and expressed at the end of last term at the ridiculously small numbers of those who were adjudged worthy of honors. There were numerous complaints, not only of the rigorous standard which condemned the large majority of candidates to third and fourth classes, but also of the injustice of many of the questions set by the examiners. But the examiners have outdone all their past performances in a fresh instrument of torture, which is known as the "Examination in lieu of Responsions," and which took place at the beginning of October. "Responsions" is the high-sounding title given to the first and easiest test which an undergraduate has to undergo in his academic career, the name being, of course, a piece of fine irony to signify the entire absence of "responding" on the part of the victim. On the present occasion, 394 young men presented themselves before their judges, and 218-more than half-went empty away. Now the examination is not in any sense competitive, all that is required being a very moderate acquaintance with elementary Latin and Greek grammar and elementary mathematics. Either, then, the ignorance on the part of young men of the age of eighteen is positively alarming, or else the examiners are to blame for excessive severity.

THE worst featurs in the case, which cannot but occur to any unprejudiced observer, is that it is more profitable to the University exchaquer that a man should be "ploughed" than that he should pass. Every time an undergraduate has to go up for an examination he has to pay a fee to the University chest. Thus a very unsuccessful undergraduate is a good investment for academic purposes, and the University gets a better chance of being able to pay off its enormous debt on the new schools. Is it too much to hope that the Master of Balliol, who is the new Vice-Chancellor, will spare some part of the time spent in attending 'Varsity sermons to a consideration of this important subject!

"HIGHLANDERS," were the words addressed by Sir John Moore at Corunna to the 42nd Rogiment-the famous "Black Watch"-" Highlanders," he said, " remember Egypt;" and the brilliant and decisive charge that followed is still held in honor as one of the brightest traditions of that distinguished regiment. In the criais of some great future battle similar words, no doubt, with similar results, may be addressed to the Royal Irish Regiment, who have earned at Tel-el-Kebir the especial notice of Sir Garnet Wolseley. It would serve to remind them of their dash at break of day on the fortified lines of the Egyptians, where they were first among the foremost, and where, while all were brave, they were accounted bravest of the brave.

#### THE NEW COMET.

In the beginning of the year 1880-more exactly on Jan. 27th there passed closeby the sun a comet with a long, but not very brilliant, tail. It was not observed till after it had made its nearest approach to the sun. But observations were made which suffice to show that it moved in an orbit very similar (at least in the sun's neighbourhood) to that of the comet of 1843. The idea was then thrown out that the comet of 1813, which was not expected to return in less than a century (some assigning to it a period of 400 years), had been so retarded during its passage close by the sun in 1843, that its period of revolution had been greatly reduced, so that it had returned in rather less (about one month less) than thirty-seven years, Many indeed, observing the singular resemblance between the orbits of the comet of 1665 and 1843, suggested the startling thought that the comet of 1668 had returned in 1843, after a circuit lasting 175 years, then in 1880 after a circuit of thirty-seven years, and so might re-turn in a much shorter period still: "as for instance," said Dr. Hind, "in fifteen years." Of course, all such estimates would be necessarily vague, since astronomers can tell very little of the effects of frictional resistance in the suu's atmosphere, or in whatever matter, coronal, meteoric, or otherwise, may exist in the sun's neighbourhood in such sort as to retard a comet moving through it.

And now a comet has come into view, rushing swiftly towards the sun, and circling sharp around him in its perihelion swoop, along a course so near that of the comets of 1608, 1543, and 1880 as to suggest that, not in fitteen years, but in less than thirty-two months, this strangely-freated comet has come back, to return next after a yet shorter interval, then more more quickly still, and so on in ever diminishing circuits, until eventually its path shall become actually circular and very close to the sun—a state of things which must inevitably lead before long to the absorbtion of the comet beneath the sun's glowing surface.

beneath the sun's glowing surface.

It may be well to recall here the fact that these ideas about the probable destruction of the comet of 1843 are by no means new. When that comet was visible in the southern bemisphere, it was thought by many that its course had actually grazed the sun's surface. "But it proved," says Sir John Herschel, "to have just missed by an interval of not more than 80,000 miles, which, in such a matter, is a very close shave indeed to get clear off." He then notes that the comet of 1668 was "just such a comet, with the same remarkable peculiarity, of a comparatively feeble head and an immense train." The comet of 1880 showed the same The comet of 1880 showed the same peculiarity, inasmuch that when news was sent home by an observer who had been so stationed that the head was above his horizon, he drew a picture carrying the outlines of the tail beyond the true place of the head, and wrote, have caught a comet by the tail, but the head we have not yet seen." This, however, was when the comet had already passed some distance from the sun. Lest any should imagine that the comet which on Sept. 17 and 18 last was seen close by the sun cannot possibly resemble the comet of 1843, which had a "com-paratively feeble head," let it be noted that the comet of 1843 also was seen at moonday, quite close to the sun, at Halifax, N. S.; for instance, so close to the sun that Sir John Herschei's informant told him the sun's light dazzled and almost blinded him as he looked at the comet.

It may, perhaps, interest the reader to know precisely how the track of our recent visitor is situated with respect to the sup.

In the accompanying figure S is the sun, A B D the earth's path, S E + the direction of a line to the earth at the time of the verual equinox; A the earth's place on Sept. 17, when the comet was first seen in the direction shown by the arrow n, close to the sun (on the side above the sun in the figure) and drawing apparently nearer to him; B the place of the earth on Sept. 24, when the comet was seen in the direction shown by the arrow m, and drawing away from the sun, as it had been ever since the afternoon of the 17th. The plans of the comet's path cuts the plane of the carth's motion in the line n S n'. The curve a pb represents Dr. Hind's estimate of the comet's path. The dotted curve k pl represents the part of the path of the comet of 1843 (according to the best elements) nearest the sun. The dotted part of the other part represents the rest of the curve, with the elements obtained by Dr. Hind. The

curve kpl represents the part of the comet of 1668 near the sun, about as closely as it represents the path of the comet of 1843.

It may, perhaps, be thought that the resemblance between the paths is not very close. But, in point of fact, it is only the part aph which is to be compared with the path kpl for only this part has been available for determining the orbit—and Dr. Hind's result is admittedly rough. I have obtained, myself, a different orbit, which, however, agrees with Dr. Hind's in running very close by the orbit of 1843, from a to b.

But a circumstance I have not yet seen noticed really leaves us, as I think, very little room for doubt that the new comet is doomed to speedy destruction. It is certain that on Sept. 17 the new comet was close by the sun as at p, while on Sept. 24, as observed at Vienna, it was at b, the position of which point on the figure I have carefully and closely determined, Now, the longer the period of the comet from p to the time of its next return, the farther from S would the comet have got on Sept. 24. But I find from a careful computation that, if the period were but a single year (in which case the centre of the comet's path would be at Ci, the comet on Sept. 24 should have been at ci instead of b. If, then, the Vienna observation on the 24th (as reported by Mr. Christie, the Astronomer Royal) is correct, the comet is retreating on a path which it will circuit in less than a year. So that, whether we regard at as indeed the same body as the comets of 1668. 1843, and 1880 come back, or as another comet which has chanced to arrive in a course resembling theirs, it has certainly undergone such retardation near the sun that it will come back in much less time than it occupied in its last circuit. For assuredly there has been no comet within the last twenty years, except the comet of 1880, which has traversed this comet's path near the sun.

It seems certain, then (if we can depend on the Vienna observation of the 24th), knowing, se we certainly do, that the comet was at its nearest to the sun on Sept. 17, that before many months are over we shall see it back again, to return in ever-narrowing circuits and ever shortening periods, until, finally, it will circle round the sun in a few hours, to be constantly retarded by frictional resistance, but accelerated in greater degree by resulting inrush towardthe sun, until, finally, each portion of its substance reaches the sun's surface with a relocity of a little more than a mile per second. There will then, in all probability, be considerable disturbance, but, although the idea is now utterly exploded that comets are mere films of vapour, the total mass of the comet thus dectroyed is, I conceive, too small for any such increase of heat to be produced, as will reriously trouble the juhabitants of the earth.

The motion of the comet as it recedes may prove that the Vienna observation was inexact, and the inferences I have deduced from it incorrect; but none of the observations yet recorded are consistent with an orbital circuit of long period.

Since the above was written Dr. Hind has calculated the orbit of the new comet afresh, with a result close to that which I have obtained (see last week's Knowledge), and bringing the path very near that of the comet of 1843 His result also gives evidence of serious retards tion when the comet was near the sun. Singuarly enough, there was evidence of a precisely similar sort (then neglected) in the case of the comet of 1843. It would occupy too much space to discuss the matter here; but I may be permitted to refer readers to next week's Knowledge for an account of the rather singular evidence showing that the comet of 1543 was bound to return in less time than its former circuit had occupied; and that so also is the great comet now passing away from us.

RICHARD A. PROCTOR.

[Besides the Illustration engraved for this page, we give a view of the comet as seen on the 2nd inst., at 4.30 a.m., at Lake Timsab, on the Suez Canal; this is from a drawing by Mr. G. T. Simmons, R. N., engineer to H. M. S. Orion.]

## THE TRUE STORY OF TEL-EL-KERIE.

Official despatches are at best but hald general statements; and the letters of private individuals seldom give more than n racting periences, extending over a limited area. The future historian who would give a clear com-prehensive account of the battle must depend on a host of minor details, which can only be gathered from the conversations and informal descriptions of those personally engaged. I have already had the pleasure of talking to several distinguished officers who have come home, and have learnt many curious and interesting facts. It is pretty nearly certain that the result of the action was an extraordinary fluke. No doubt Sir Garnet had carefully weighed all his chances, and had come to the conclusion that those in favour of a successful attack preponderated. But it was a very near thing. Our forward mov-ement was no surprise to the enemy. On the contrary, they were fully informed of it. The moment we broke up our camp, on the Monday evening, two Arab spies who had been actually in our midst ran off as hard as they could to Tel-el-Kebir and gave the alarm. Arabi's troops stood to their arms; the trenches were lined with soldiers, the reserves brought up from the main camp, and all preparations made to receive us. What upset the enemy's calculations was