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All literary correspondence, contributions, &c., to be addressed to the Editor.

When an answer is required, stamp for return postage must be enclosed.

NOTICE.

THE DOMINION EXHIBITION.

In the next number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will appear a number of sketches of the Dominion Exhibition at Montreal.

TEMPERATURE.

as observed by HEARN & HARRISON, Thermometer and Barometer Makers, Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

THE WEEK ENDING

Sept. 11th, 1880.			Corresponding week, 1879.		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.. 82°	68°	75°	Mon.. 71°	58°	64°
Tue.. 81°	68°	74°	Tue.. 71°	53°	62°
Wed.. 78°	58°	68°	Wed.. 71°	57°	64°
Thur.. 69°	53°	61°	Thur.. 70°	55°	62°
Fri.. 74°	56°	64°	Fri.. 67°	57°	62°
Sat.. 68°	55°	61°	Sat.. 67°	51°	59°
Sun.. 72°	60°	66°	Sun.. 68°	52°	60°

CONTENTS.

ILLUSTRATIONS.—Music in the Square—The International Chess Congress at Wiesbaden—Reflection—The late Miss Neilson—Home Rule Riots in Glasgow—The Harvest Queen—Bird's-Eye View of the Dominion Exhibition Grounds, Montreal—Views at the Great Toronto Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition—St. Julien, the King of the Trotting Turf, Time 2:14—Wreck of the *Ferra Cruz* off the Coast of Florida.

LETTER PRESS.—The Week—More Information—Lovell's Advanced Geography—The Dominion Exhibition—White Wings (continued)—Selections—A Female Crusoe—Hearth and Home—Varieties—Humorous—Literary—Musical and Dramatic—Our Illustrations—History of the Week—Gleaner—Our Chess Column.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, September 18, 1880.

THE WEEK.

SCORE ONE for Montreal. We learn, from the official report of the Chief Engineer of the Board of Harbour Commissioners that the system of electric light on the wharves is the first that was ever attempted anywhere, and it is further very remarkable as including a single circuit larger by some two and a half times than any other which is known in electric lighting.

DOES it not strike our friends in St. John, N.B., Quebec and elsewhere, that they are making a mistake in being so hard on commercial travellers from Montreal, Toronto and other distributing centres? While Protection is the policy of the country as against outsiders, surely Free Trade ought to be the rule between the different ports of the Dominion. Indeed, logically considered, one is the direct corollary and supplement of the other.

IT is not expected that Messrs. PARNELL, DILLON and others will return to America during the recess of Parliament to renew the Land League agitation. There would be no use for them to come during the Presidential elections, when the American people are quite busy enough with their own affairs, and after that momentous event in November, the interval until the opening of Parliament in January or February would be too short for fruitful action.

WE thought at the time that the overhauling and complete unloading, and consequent detention at Quebec of the *Atalaya*, on the charge of carrying contraband cargo for the Cuban insurgents, was a case of excessive zeal, founded on insufficient evidence. The result having proved that we were right, the owners naturally sued the Government for damages amounting to a considerable figure.

An appeal was intended to be made to the Privy Council, but we now learn that it has been wisely withdrawn, and the heavy expenses will be paid forthwith.

THERE is quite a movement of colonization going on in the Lake St. John District below Quebec. The resources of that region have long been known, but have remained unexplored till now owing to difficulty of access. The Count de FOUCAULT, one of the French gentlemen who attended the St. Jean Baptiste festival at Quebec, last June, after visiting the valley, promised on his return to encourage the emigration of his countrymen thither. A patriotic missionary of the Oblate Order is also leading parties thither for the purpose of settlement.

So far from disguising the truth, we take pleasure in stating, what must be plain to everybody acquainted with the fact, that the Occidental Railway is being worked with much intelligence and spirit. The management appear quite awake to every opportunity to develop the resources of the road, often taking the initiative in supplying facilities both for shippers and passengers. The consequence is that the business of the line is steadily increasing and bringing more profit every day. The rolling stock and general equipment are surpassed by those of no road in Canada.

THE United States Census is not yet completed, but sufficient is known to warrant the claim of a population of nearly 50,000,000. This being an increase of 30 per cent. within a decade, marks a progress that is nothing short of marvellous. If that rate of increment is maintained, along with a similar ratio in the development of intellectual and social culture, the United States will be the premier nation of the world by the end of the present century. This will certainly be the case if they maintain their political institutions in their purity, a consummation devoutly to be wished for.

WHATEVER else the French may be twitted with, they cannot be wheedled into foreign complications. For once France has learned the cardinal lesson of minding her own business, and she is doing so in an admirable manner. Flattery on the one hand, and the temptation of self-interest on the other, have utterly failed to draw her beyond a watchful attitude on the Eastern question. The WASHINGTON policy inaugurated at the Berlin Congress has been steadily maintained by M. DE FREYCINET, and although the latter has allowed the French fleet to join the united squadron in the Archipelago, he has announced that he will recall it if a single shot is fired. France is right. She has had enough meddling in the affairs of other nations, in the hope of making friends and allies. In the day of her own distress, she was left severely alone and the lesson has not been lost.

THE British Parliament was prorogued on last Tuesday, after a stormy and rather incomplete session, the relative failure being in a measure due to the untimely illness of Mr. GLADSTONE. The vexed Irish question was not advanced a single stage, so far as we can see, and we are not sure that the action of the House of Lords against the Compensation Bill is to be made responsible for this negative result. It must be remembered that the late session was only a continuation of that opened by the Conservative Administration, interrupted for a few weeks by the general elections, and that the present Government had not the time to mature their policy. We shall have to wait till next session for a more definite programme of action from the GLADSTONE Government. The great victory near Candahar lighted up the last sittings, and placed the adjournment under good auspices.

LOVELL'S ADVANCED GEOGRAPHY.

IT is no exaggeration to call this a great work; and it fitly follows the "Intermediate Geography" by the same publisher which we some months ago had the pleasure of noticing in these columns. Mr. LOVELL's name has been for a generation familiar to Canadians as a publisher, and this "Advanced Geography" may well be said to be the crowning of the edifice of his publishing career. There cannot be a doubt that it will be largely circulated, and will continue to be the standard Canadian Geography for many years to come. It is printed in the quarto form, which affords sufficient size to display the maps with clearness. It contains 150 pages, making a respectable sized, but still not bulky or heavy book. The paper, the type printing, the engraving, and the maps, are, with some slight exceptions, perfection in these several arts. They are in fact, as a whole, a marvel of their kind; and nobody would have dreamed ten or fifteen years ago that the name of a Montreal publisher would ever be attached to such a work. The book is edited by Dr. HOBGINS, the Ontario Deputy Minister of Education, and it brings up the progressive science of geography to the present time. It gives the latest geographical discoveries, political changes, and statistics, together with very clearly expressed and well classified topographical details. The maps are all new and they delineate with distinctness all the great land divisions of the globe, and the principal countries of the world, the British American Provinces being most clearly and admirably set forth. If it were only for these clear and well arranged maps of our own country, this book should be in every library and every house. The letter-press description of Canada we have particularly noticed is clear and concise; and one may look in vain in any other published geography for information of such accuracy and value respecting our own country. This of itself is a reason to commend it to all Canadians. The text is everywhere illuminated, in fact, we may say alive, with finely executed wood engravings for illustrations; and these also make the book an object of both interest and instruction by simply turning over the pages. Besides its use as an advanced school book, this work has another, and one moreover of great convenience as a popular atlas. For all ordinary reference which the general reader may require, this atlas leaves nothing to desire in any part of the world while its classification is so perfect as to make any reference immediate. Its value in this single particular is a boon to the whole community, as an atlas which would cost \$30 or \$40 is not within the reach of everybody; while this book is within the means of the humblest cottager in the Dominion.

FURTHER INFORMATION.

"It never rains but it pours." The important information contained in our last impression had been no sooner published than there came a further telegraphic report from London of the greatest moment; first, in the form of a communication to one of the Government organs; and then in the associated press despatch given to the continent. All stocks and in fact all the great interests of Canada immediately felt the impulse of the news, and went up with a bound. It, in fact, communicated confidence everywhere, which is in itself prosperity, and which alone makes the chief difference between good and bad times. It was known that three syndicates were in communication with the Ministers in England, and their business has been to entertain negotiations with all of them, and so settle differences as to be able to unite them. This, it is now announced, has been successfully done; and the result is the most powerful monetary combination that the world has ever known, or of which history has any record. The ROTHSCHILDS, the BARINGS, GLYN, MILLS & Co., MORTON, ROSE & Co., BROWN,

PULLESTON and others in England; a strong French corporation in Paris; and GEORGE STEPHEN, R. B. ANOUS, D. A. SMITH, and a number of Americans connected with the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway, whose success in the considerable enterprise which they have managed is very remarkable, and whose intimate knowledge of the practical working of the great scheme to be undertaken affords an augury of success, are among the names of the combined syndicate or company. It is understood that this great corporation will take over the portions of the road already under construction at a valuation; and that they will have the running of the whole in perpetuity, the whole line being constructed from Lake Nipissing to the Pacific Ocean, and connecting at Lake Nipissing with the railway systems of Quebec and Ontario. There cannot be a doubt that a company so powerful as this will rapidly push the whole to completion, and plant settlers by hundreds of thousands, on the land along its line. We shall, therefore, see in our own North-West cities and towns a great civilization arise, such as we have seen in the last ten or fifteen years in the Western United States. This will give the manufacturers of the East the markets they sigh for, while it will bring a vast volume of food for their workmen, and the workmen of Europe. A commercial prosperity so vast as that which comes in the immediate future, has never been dreamt of in Canada; but it will necessarily arise from the success of this undertaking; while all business will immediately grow better from the influx of capital and labour necessary for the construction of the work. It is said that an early session of Parliament will be called to ratify the preliminary agreement made by the Ministers in London. It is well that there should be a special session for the consideration of so vast a question and further to prevent any time being lost. Some of our contemporaries have been discussing the cost of such a proceeding, but surely that is very drivelling in the face of such an interest. The session, moreover, need not be very costly, if at all more so than an ordinary session, for the reason that instead of a prorogation there can be a long adjournment until the time for the holding of the ordinary session. But even if this device were not plain to the perception of even the most inexperienced person in politics, the question of the expense of a session would not be at all a thing to set against the vast interests involved.

THE DOMINION EXHIBITION.

WE publish to-day a double-page illustration giving a bird's-eye view of the Dominion Exhibition Buildings, at Montreal, with a full key whereby the reader can gather for himself all the topographical information required in a visit through so vast an area. Indeed the picture can serve as a guide to every portion of the grounds. The citizens of Montreal have worked hard to promote the success of this show, and we can only hope that their exertions will not be disappointed. It would, perhaps, have been better if the work of preparation had been initiated earlier, as there is an immense amount of labour involved in the organization of an enterprise of this kind, but taking all things into consideration, a great deal has been accomplished, and if the results prove at all commensurate with the energy and industry displayed, we shall all have reason to be content.

The Exhibition will be divided into two distinct parts, corresponding with the two weeks during which it is held. The first week is mainly devoted to industrial products, machinery, manufactures and the like. The second week will be taken up with agricultural exhibits in general and the cattle show in especial. On the second day of this week, the formal inauguration will take place under the auspices of the Governor-General.

As a supplement to our guide-picture, we may add the programme of exercises