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TEMPERATURE.

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

THE WEEK ENDING

January 9th, 1881.			Corresponding week, 1880.		
Max.	Min.	Mean.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon.. 27°	17°	22°	Mon.. 28°	19°	23° 5
Tues.. 15°	7°	11°	Tues.. 20°	12°	16° 5
Wed.. 18°	4°	11°	Wed.. 25°	22°	23° 5
Thur.. 30°	12°	21°	Thur.. 35°	18°	26° 5
Fri.. 33°	22°	27° 5	Fri.. 34°	20°	27°
Sat.. 25°	20°	22° 5	Sat.. 30°	19°	24° 5
Sun.. 20°	14°	17°	Sun.. 39°	14°	26° 5

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CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, January 15, 1881.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

THE ONLY ILLUSTRATED PAPER IN CANADA.

PROSPECTUS FOR 1881.

With the New Year we present to our subscribers and the public generally the XXII. Volume of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

A new era of prosperity is dawning upon the country. After a long period of depression the good times are close at hand. Through good and bad alike we have not relaxed our efforts to maintain and improve our standard of excellence, and now that prospects are bright once more, we come forward to offer a paper improved as well as the times.

We have made changes in our editorial department, by which we hope to ensure bright, sparkling and original reading matter. The want of a good, readable family paper is widely felt throughout Canada, and this want we are determined to supply. Our paper is to be read, not merely looked at for the illustrations.

With the new volume appear the first chapters of a new and highly interesting tale, entitled, "Against the Law," by Dora Russell, an author whose "Beneath the Wave" was so much appreciated by our readers a couple of years ago.

The illustrations of the paper we propose to materially improve, and shall endeavour to bring them to the highest possible state of excellence. A greater amount of original work is to be introduced than heretofore; and in this department we appeal to our friends throughout the country to send us sketches and notes of such subjects as they may think will interest our readers. Where possible, such drawings should be in pen and ink, but we shall be glad to receive drawings of any kind, or even photographs, where the subject is of sufficient importance.

From our literary friends we ask the same favours. The Editor will be pleased to receive stories, articles, or notes on any subject of interest.

In conclusion, we would say to our present subscribers: If you have been satisfied in the past, you shall be more satisfied in the future; if you were right in subscribing to us last year, you will have double reason for renewing your subscription, while all such as have never yet taken the paper, we would remind that the New Year is the time to turn over a new leaf—and that leaf should be the page of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

THE WEEK.

As might have been expected, the greater part of the Speech from the Throne is occupied with the discussion of Irish affairs. We look in vain however, for any clear exposition of the Government policy, or any hint, even, as to the exact course they mean to take. That the division in the Cabinet is very serious can hardly be doubted, and this it may be which has closed Mr GLADSTONE'S mouth. As far as one may judge in the dark, the Speech points to a crisis near at hand, and a necessity of dealing with it once and for all. Meanwhile, in spite of the consoling statement that "attempts at life have not grown the same in proportion as other offences," the situation has at least become sufficiently serious to invite the comments of some of the French journals on "the war between England and Ireland." Something very like it seems daily threatening; and while tenants are arming on the one hand, and landlords furnishing themselves with bullet-proof coats-of-mail, we should be glad to know with a little less of ambiguity what the Government propose to do in the matter.

We are glad to learn on good authority that the accounts with which the so-called "Society Journals" have been favouring us of late, relative to the supposed quarrel between the Queen and the Princess Louise are absolutely without any foundation. We are the more concerned with these scandalous accounts in Canada as in connection with them we have been told that the non-return of the Princess to our shores was due to her own wishes, and in opposition to the views of the Queen, who was in favour of her re-visiting Canada. The real facts are entirely different. Sir WILLIAM JENNER has distinctly stated that the Princess' health has been so seriously affected by her late accident that it has become a question of life and death as to whether she should remain quietly at home under medical treatment, or venture on an Atlantic voyage and a Canadian winter. She is still under Sir WILLIAM'S care, and the only part the Queen has taken in the matter has been to exert her maternal authority to prevent her daughter risking her life in an attempt to return, as she was herself anxious to do, to spend the winter among us.

LORD HOUGHTON'S critique on "Endymion," which has been eagerly looked for by the *literati*, appears in the *Fortnightly Review* for January. Those who expected to find in it a spiny attack upon Lord BEACONSFIELD will be grievously disappointed at the generous and eminently fair tone in which the work is discussed, and the entire freedom from personalities throughout the review. Lord HOUGHTON finds fault chiefly with the treatment of the representatives of literature in the text, and, assuming that "St. Berbe" is intended for a portrait of THACKERAY, criticises the description as at once "false and feeble." For ourselves, we have been able to distinguish few of Thackeray's salient characteristics in the sketch of the ill-tempered, conceited, and, withal, tuft-hunting journalist; and it seems rather a stretch of criticism to find out likenesses, in the first instance, for oneself, and then to complain that they are not at all like. For the rest, the newest point made by Lord HOUGHTON is the discovery of an original for the character of "Baron Sergus,"—no less a person than Baron STOCKMAR, the great ally of the late Prince Consort, and the trusted confidant of the Queen and the late King Leopold of Belgium. Of him Lord HOUGHTON speaks discreetly as "a mysterious German gentleman who, years ago, lived in Buckingham Palace."

LORD PENZANCE seems to have taken a new departure in the matter of judgments under the Public Worship Act, for which the Ritualists are alone to blame. Mr. de la Hère has been deprived of his living of Prestbury, near Cheltenham, for repeated

acts of disobedience to the law and the Court. It is unquestionably a more severe punishment than imprisonment until submission, such as Mr. ENRAGHT is now undergoing, but it is one which is less open to criticism. For ourselves, though in church matters as in politics we strive to be neutral, yet we cannot find any fault with the Court if it declines to have its decrees set at naught and its injunctions disobeyed to the letter. The Church of England is a State Church—there may be many who wish that it were not so—yet, while it is so, it seems to go without saying that its ministers must accept the judgments of the Courts of the realm, exactly as private persons have to do. It is a common mistake to suppose that Messrs. DALE and ENRAGHT have been imprisoned for Ritualistic observances. They have simply been imprisoned for refusal to obey the orders of the Court which the State has appointed for the regulation of their actions. A layman who should refuse to obey a judgment properly given against him in the Court of Chancery would meet with little sympathy if he were conveyed to Holloway gaol and left to come to his senses; and Mr. ENRAGHT can purchase his freedom in the same way exactly, by simple submission. But the Ritualists will have none but themselves to blame if the Court refuse to subject themselves to endless trouble and misrepresentations in future, and take the simpler, if more rigorous, course of absolutely depriving recalcitrants in lieu of endeavouring to bring them to their senses.

FRANK BUCKLAND is gone. The most genial and open-hearted of our Naturalists. Unlike many, of whose discoveries and researches the public hear but rarely, and who keep the fruits of their labours locked up in their own desks, FRANK BUCKLAND was liberal to prodigality of the results of his study and observation. The special branch of study to which he devoted himself was the Natural History of Fishes; indeed he styles himself in one of his works "Fisherman and Zoologist." But whatever he did and whatever he discovered, he was ready for pure love of his subject to let the public have the benefit, and the readers of his many charming articles will be the losers by the death that has arrested his pen forever.

A SCHEME of reform, by no means unworthy of the attention of the Government, is that proposed by Mr. CHARLES RUSSELL in his "New Views for Ireland," just published. It consists in the formation of a commission to buy up such private estates as their owners are willing to part with, all corporate estates, waste lands and mortgaged lands, which will pay off the mortgage, for the purpose of reselling these to tenants. Payment might be made by means of land bonds, to bear Government security. The *Daily News* speaks in high terms of the scheme, predicting its entire success if these considerations be observed—viz., that the lots should be at once large enough to support a tenant, and not too large to deter a peasant from buying. The last seems to be the main difficulty, and it is to us, at least, an unsolvable problem in political economy how a man, who cannot pay rent for his land, can possibly afford to buy it. Of course, it is pleasanter to be monarch of all one surveys than to have a disagreeable demand for rent at fixed periods, but it seems unreasonable to say to one's landlord, "I can't afford to pay rent; it bothers me to have you continually asking for it, so—I will buy the place of you."

By THE death of the late Chief-Justice Moss the whole country has sustained a severe loss. Apart from his great judicial ability and unwearied devotion to the duties of his office, the courtesy and kindness which marked his intercourse with all who ever knew him, endeared him as well to the profession as to society. We hope in our next number to publish a fuller account of his career. We cannot go to press, however, without these few lines in tribute to his memory.

THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD DEBATE—RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS—GRINDING WHEAT IN HOND—THE ALLEGED EXODUS &c.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, JANUARY, 1881.

The House of Commons resumed its sittings on Tuesday last, pursuant to its resolution of adjournment. The house was far from full, but it was noticeable that immediately after the opening, Mr. Scott, the new member from Manitoba, was introduced by Sir John Macdonald and Mr. Langevin. Of course this was what one expected, but then people had been talking of the effects which had been produced by the recent action in Manitoba on the Syndicate question.

After routine business, the House immediately went again into Committee of the Whole on the Pacific Railway resolutions. Mr. Cameron, of Huron, opened the Debate on the Opposition side, and made a speech of three hours. The sum of his argument was that the Government had given altogether too good a bargain to the Syndicate, and he contended that there was now no use in making comparisons with the proposed Allan contract, in view of the fact, that the circumstances of the country had quite changed. He said the business of Parliament was to consider the question by the light of facts as they stood. He expressed his belief that the lands made over to the Syndicate are worth \$5.00 an acre, and that the proceeds from these alone would be sufficient to build the Railway. Whatever may be the value of arguments and statements of this kind, there still remains the stubborn fact, that no company would think of undertaking the work on less favourable terms than those agreed upon by the Government; and that some of the strongest capitalists refused to accept even these; while the present Company are known to be not over keen. As respects the price of the lands, it is certain that these are worth nothing to the Dominion as they stand; but they sell for \$5 an acre in some cases, in others less, and again in others more, when they are opened up by a railway for settlement. But it is not by any means certain that all these operations and the cost of procuring settlers may not come to more than five dollars an acre. They certainly could in the hands of the Government.

Mr. Plumb followed in a speech occupying the remainder of the evening, and which was admittedly the best he has yet made in Parliament. He had evidently taken a great deal of trouble to collect and arrange his facts, and a full report of this speech will contain matter of much interest on the general Railway question. It is of course quite impossible for me, within the limits of my disposal to furnish even a summary of his elaborate statement. I can only generally say that he made a defence of the Government position, replying to the attacks along the whole line; and on the point of Railway monopolies, some of his utterances were at least new in this debate. He referred, for instance, to the great Vanderbilt Monopoly, and contended that this was by no means the unmitigated evil which it was supposed at one time it would be. He showed that the consolidation of many lines from the west to the seaboard under one management had had the effect of reducing rates between the west and the east, to a point never before known. It is in fact contended by some able writers, that if the state of things arising from this so-called monopoly had not existed, there would have been much greater distress in Europe during the recent scarcity in bread stuffs.

Something of the same kind of argument will apply to the Grand Trunk extension to Chicago. That would have been denounced in terms of unmeasured invective a few years ago, but will probably prove to be of immense advantage to many interests. On the point of exception from taxation, Mr. Plumb adduced numerous facts from the practice of the Western States. He showed there was nothing unusual and certainly nothing to fear in the proposal in this respect. He had a good deal to say on the ingratitude of the Opposition to Mr. Mackenzie and described him as being bound hand and foot while compelled to listen to the speeches of Mr. Blake, last session; he might have added this session also. It is certain that the whole of these speeches and in fact, the whole attitude of the present Opposition is in most cruel inconsistency with the policy of Mr. Mackenzie's Government, and the bitterness of his position will not be very much relieved by the reflection that his party is inconsistent. Mr. Mackenzie has not thus far spoken in this debate, but he has been unwell, and that may be the reason.

At the close of Mr. Plumb's speech Mr. Mills rose, but as it was then nearly midnight, it was agreed that he should move the adjournment of the debate, so as to have possession of the floor on Wednesday. Sir John Macdonald gave notice that he would move on Friday, that on and after that day, the Pacific Railway Debate should be carried on from day to day, and have precedence after the routine proceedings. This, of course, means that nothing else shall be done requiring debate, until these resolutions are disposed of. When the motion came up on Friday, Mr. Blake objected, but he did not divide the House.

Mr. Bunster has given notice of an amendment in the interest of British Columbia. The substance of it is, that while the general terms