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In the next number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, we shall publish a number of sketches fully illustrating the

**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION,**  
held at Ottawa last week.

## CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Oct. 2nd, 1875.

### OUR CHROMO.

In reply to frequent inquiries from our friends, by letter and otherwise, concerning the Chromo which we promised them in the course of the summer, we have to say that the work is progressing satisfactorily and will be ready for delivery at the latest, by Christmas. To those who may wonder at this delay we shall remark that it is not a mere colored print that we are preparing for them, but a real Chromo, a genuine work of art which, in both design and execution, will be worthy of a rich frame and a conspicuous place on the walls of any drawing room. To complete such a picture requires time, care and considerable outlay. The picture has already been two months in hand and is being proceeded with as expeditiously as a due regard for excellence of finish will warrant. Our friends may rely upon a Presentation Plate such as has never been surpassed in Canada.

We shall take this occasion to urge all our subscribers who are yet in arrears to settle their accounts as speedily as possible, offering as a further and final inducement, that every one who does so and pays a year's subscription in advance will be entitled to our beautiful Chromo. The offer is a rare one. Let all take advantage of it.

### CANADIAN SCIENCE.

We published some months ago, in the columns of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, a detailed account of the march of the North West Mounted Police from Dufferin to the Forks of the Saskatchewan. That narrative, accompanied by copious illustrations, was well received as affording much new information on the comparatively unknown regions of which it treated. To-day we are pleased to announce the publication of another work relating to almost the same route, but dealing exclusively with the geology, the flora and fauna observable along its whole extent. The book is the production of Mr. GEORGE MERCER DAWSON, Assoc. R. S. M., F. G. S., Geologist and Botanist to the British North American Boundary Commission. It is in every sense creditable to its author and ranks as a most important contribution to Canadian Science.

The explorations of Mr. DAWSON comprise the region in the vicinity of the Forty Ninth Parallel, from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, a section over 800 miles in length which has heretofore been geologically touched upon at a few points only, and in the vicinity of which a space of over 300 miles in longitude has—until the present researches—remained geographically unknown.

Mr. DAWSON begins his work by describing with the greatest fullness and accuracy, the Eastern and Western boundaries of this region, its slope, its three prairie levels, its southern and northern transverse watersheds, the areas drained by the different watersheds and the area of the plains themselves. This is preliminary to his minute description of the geology of the region.

Setting out from the Lake of the Woods, at the West end, he gives us a study of all the principal rocks, which are generally Laurentian in character as far as North Island, where he encountered an area of much-altered Huronian quite different from the typical Laurentian of other parts of the Lake. In the vicinity of Rat Portage, on the Winnipeg river, there is a junction of the Huronian and Laurentian series.

Our author next proceeds to an examination of the structure of the Rocky Mountains in the vicinity of the 49th Parallel. This portion of his work is very exhaustive and satisfactory, but it is so technical that it is impossible for us to summarize it within the brief space allotted to us. We should have liked, however, a more definite generic characterization of the rocks of this section, such as other geologists have given for other portions of the Rocky Mountains. Returning eastward to Pembina, Mr. DAWSON describes the Cretaceous and Tertiary rocks from the Pembina Escarpment to Wood Mountain and thence to the Rocky Mountains. This inquiry extends over several chapters and forms almost a main part of the volume. For the scientific student it is of the most curious interest and we make no doubt that it will aid in throwing much light on the geological characteristics of this continent.

A considerable space is also devoted to glacial phenomena and superficial deposits, and the character of the Red River Valley is fully explained.

The work concludes with two chapters on the capabilities of the region with reference to settlement and are, therefore, of the widest general interest. The future of the North West and its climate are amply discussed. A thorough inquiry into the grasshopper is made, confirming much of what has appeared on this subject in our own columns. In regard to the supply of wood in the North West, Mr. DAWSON enters into the causes tending to the destruction of forests, into the reasons why the prairies are mostly treeless and into the dryness of the soil and atmosphere, and winds up by presenting a scheme for the planting and preservation of trees.

This valuable work is supplemented by four important appendices—on the Plants, collected by the author, from the Lignite Tertiary Deposits, near the Forty Ninth Parallel; on the Vertebrate Fossils from the Fort Union Group of Milk River; on the nature and distances of the dykes and veins observed at the Lake of the Woods; on the Butterflies and Orthoptera, the Land and Fresh Water Molluscs and the Plants collected by Mr. DAWSON from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains.

### FRENCH IRRECONCILABLES.

While on the one hand, we learn with satisfaction that M. THIERS and M. GAMBETTA have agreed upon a common platform of action for the consolidation of the French Republic, we are informed, on the other, that M. LOUIS BLANC, has definitively broken away from the Left and set up an extreme party of his own, which has been named the Irreconcilable. M. BLANC is too enlightened a statesman and too ardent a patriot to have taken so serious a step without cause, and we are not surprised that he should, in self justification, have published a statement of the reasons which impelled his action. He declares that he and his friends did not refrain from voting the Constitution of the 25th of February merely for the sake of principle, but also on practical grounds. That the present Assembly was not at all convoked for the purpose of fram-

ing a Constitution, and had consequently no right to undertake the task, to the exclusion of the nation, was indeed a doctrine which they had invariably proclaimed, and after having declared over and over again that they would never be brought to forego their strong conviction on the subject, they deemed it incumbent on them not to forego it. But this was not the only reason which led them to take the course alluded to. They thought it was as little practical to expect the establishment of a Republic from a Monarchical and Clerical majority as it would be to expect peaches from an apple tree. They foresaw and foretold that such an Assembly would invest the President of the Republic with even more than kingly power; that the Senate instituted by such an Assembly would be one in which the Jesuits and the Bonapartists could hardly fail to have their own way; that the Executive and the Senate, backed by the army, would be enabled to override, or, in case of continued opposition, to expel the representatives of the people, at the risk of a revolution; that the task of conducting the Government of France, under the title of a Republic, would be intrusted to men who held the Republic in abhorrence, and that they would adopt reactionary measures which, being ascribed to the Republic by uninstructed minds, would only serve to make it odious to the people.

M. BLANC holds that every one of these predictions has been fulfilled. There, of course, he lays himself upon to contradiction, but it is not our purpose to discuss that phase of the subject. We prefer to rehearse the whole of M. BLANC'S apology. He declares that to the policy of compromise his friends and himself have no objection whatever; but they do object to that sort of compromise which consists in granting all and receiving nothing. He adds that he always sympathized with the motives of those among his friends who took a different view of the situation. There was a disinterested self-denying conduct. The exaggerated rumours that were spread respecting the imminent triumph of the Empire were, in his opinion, a snare cleverly laid for them by the Orleanist party; but their impatient desire to check Bonapartism at any price proceeded, beyond doubt, from a patriotic, praiseworthy feeling. He does not think they hit on the best means to put an end to that provisional state of things which had grown insufferable; but it was natural that they should attempt to do away with it in the way which seemed to them the easiest.

As for the promises, on the strength of which they voted a Constitution, so little concordant with their political creed, M. BLANC holds that they have proved so many delusions; no Liberal Cabinet has been formed; the Bonapartist functionaries have not been dismissed; the state of siege has not been raised; the mind has not ceased to be at the mercy of the sword; while those very members of the Right Centre by whom the Constitution was framed seem determined to substitute the *scrutin d'arrondissement* for the *scrutin de liste*—a most Anti-Republican scheme. It will be remembered that, only a few days ago, the cabinet of M. BUFFET have determined to insist upon this substitution, staking their existence upon it, and thus, in that point at least, realising M. BLANC'S apprehensions.

That gentleman is, however, resigned to make the best of things as they are. Accordingly, he says, the Republicans must stand closely united, but their union ought to rest on a perfect community of ideas and feelings. It is high time for them to guard against those artificial combinations into which divergent parties cannot enter without mental reservation and hidden thoughts. The Democratic principles which the Constitution of the 25th of February was meant to veil must be brought again to light and embodied in a programme to be presented for acceptance to the candidates in the forthcoming elections, so that those only should be elected who, by accepting it, will pledge themselves to serve a Republic truly Conservative—that is progressive.

### INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

Our latest British exchanges bring us the text of a remarkable discourse on this important subject published by Mr. HENRY RICHARD, M. P. We have no doubt that a brief summary of it will be interesting to our readers. After answering all the objections which have been urged against the principle of Arbitration, the author very appositely invokes the remark of CICERO that there are two kinds of contention, one by force, and one by reason, the one for men and the other for brutes. The evils of war make men stand astonished at the moral perversion which the world must have undergone when nations preferred the settlement of their disputes rather than consent to plead before an Arbitration Court. It might startle some, but the word honour should be taken from the vocabulary, and should give place to right. The pretext that the decision of the arbitrators might be against evidence and unjust, and that the judges might give the verdict against a rival Power whom they wished to humiliate, is met by the reply that twenty references have been made during the last few years, and there has never been a whisper of suspicion from any quarter as to the judgment delivered by any of these Powers. It is not necessary, however, that the arbitrator should be a Sovereign Prince. In the Italian Republics Doctors of Law were often appealed to for adjudication, and in modern times commercial corporations, such as the Senate of Hamburg, were requested to decide upon matters in which commercial interests were involved. Mr. RICHARD also refutes the plea that trial by wage of battle always issues in the triumph of justice; that victory is always on the side of right. Who could doubt that the judgment of a high court would be adhered to when it was delivered in the face of the whole world? A judgment so delivered is a security as strong as it is possible to obtain in human affairs. Vattel was of opinion that it was more likely the claims of justice would be overpowered by an appeal to the sword than mistaken by arbitration. As a foundation for a high court there must be a system of law on which it can be based. The codification of international law is not at present in a satisfactory state. But if the voice of law has been drowned in the roar of cannon, it is a subject for rejoicing that jurists are now endeavouring to improve the state of the law. It should be remembered that International Law took its rise in the horror of war. Albericus, Gentilis, and Grotius, the founders of the system, have distinctly avowed this. The unity and consolidation of the law of nations is an indispensable preliminary of the jurisdiction of an international tribunal.

### TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

Permit us to call your attention to the advantages of publicity offered by the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS to advertisers, especially Merchants, Manufacturers, Hotel-keepers, Railway and Steamship Companies, Professional men, and others, desirous of reaching the best classes of the community in every part of the Dominion. It has other points to recommend it besides its large and wide-spread circulation. In the first place, it is a family paper, taken home, read from beginning to end, and kept on the parlor table throughout the week, and then put by, and finally bound; not, as befalls the daily paper, torn up, after a rapid perusal of telegraphic news. The children con over the pictures, read the stories and the funny column, and finally meander among the advertisements and call their parents' attention to those that suit them. The ladies peruse it from end to end, dwelling especially on the fashions and the ladies' column, then naturally turn to the advertising pages to know where to buy the materials for their dresses, or the other ingredients of the toilet. The men read the leading articles, the stories, the paragraphs, study the cartoons and other pictures, night after night, and while sipping their tea, or enjoying