

The CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS is published by THE BURLAND-DESBARATS LITHOGRAPHIC AND PUBLISHING COMPANY on the following conditions: \$4.00 per annum in advance, \$4.50 if not paid strictly in advance.

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**PROSPECTUS OF VOL. XX.**

We have the pleasure to announce to all our friends and patrons that this is the XXth Volume of THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, and in it we introduce a number of improvements tending to make it still more worthy of public encouragement. We have engaged the services of a talented Superintendent of the Art Department, competent to infuse new energy and excellence in our illustrations; and to show what we intend to accomplish in the Literary Department, we have only to publish the names of the following Canadian writers of note who have kindly consented to be occasional contributors to our columns:

- J. G. BOURINOT, Esq., Ottawa.
- REV. A. J. BRAY, Montreal.
- S. E. DAWSON, Esq., Montreal.
- F. M. DEROME, Esq., Rimouski.
- F. L. DIXON, Esq., Ottawa.
- N. F. DAVIN, Esq., Toronto.
- GEORGE M. DAWSON, Esq., Montreal.
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- H. H. MILES, LL.D., Quebec.
- HENRY J. MORGAN, Esq., Ottawa.
- HON. E. G. PENNY, Senator, Montreal.
- REV. JAMES ROY, M.A., Montreal.
- JOHN READE, M.A., Montreal.
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- FENNINGS TAYLOR, Esq., Ottawa.
- THOMAS WHITE, Esq., M.P.
- REV. S. W. YOUNG, M.A., Toronto.
- COUNT DE PREMIO REAL, Spanish Consul at Quebec.

In addition to these attractions we beg to call attention to the following special features of the NEWS:

- I. It is the only illustrated paper in the Dominion; the only purely literary weekly, and in every respect a family paper.
- II. It contains the only Canadian Portrait Gallery in existence, numbering already over 300, and containing the picture and biography of all the leading men of the Dominion in every department of life. This collection is invaluable for reference, can be found nowhere else, and ours is the only paper that can publish it.
- III. It gives views and sketches of all important events at home and abroad, as they transpire every week.
- IV. It has been publishing, and will continue to publish, illustrations of the principal towns, manufactures and industries of the country, which, when collected in a volume, will constitute the most complete pictorial gazetteer ever printed.
- V. Its original and selected matter is varied, spicy, and of that literary quality which is calculated to improve the public taste.
- VI. It studiously eschews all partisanship in politics, and all sectarianism in religion.

The expenditure of an illustrated journal is double that of any ordinary paper, and to meet that we earnestly request the support of all those who believe that Canada should possess such a periodical as ours. The more we are encouraged the better will be our paper, and we promise to spare no effort to make it worthy of universal acceptance. A great step will be made if, with the new volume, all our friends help us to the extent of procuring for us an additional subscriber each.

**OUR NEW STORY.**

In this number we continue the publication of our original serial story, entitled:—

**MY CREOLES:**

A MEMOIR OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, BY JOHN LESPERANCE.

Author of "Rosalba," "The Bastonnais," &c.

This story will run through several months, and we bespeak for it the favour which was accorded to "The Bastonnais," originally published in these columns two years ago. The subject is new and interesting. The book will deal, *inter alia*, with the mysteries of Voudouism, and touch delicately upon several of those social questions which have so thoroughly agitated the North and South since the war. Begin your subscriptions with the opening of this story.

**NOTICE.**

To prevent all confusion in the delivery of papers, our readers and subscribers are requested to give notice at this office, by post-card or otherwise, of their change of residence, giving the new number along with the old number of their houses.

**NOTICE.**

Subscribers removing to the country or the sea-side during the summer months, are respectfully requested to send their new addresses to our offices, 5 and 7 Bleury Street, and the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS will be duly sent to them.

**TEMPERATURE.**

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

THE WEEK ENDING			Corresponding week, 1878				
July 6th, 1879.	Max.	Min.	Mean.	July 6th, 1878.	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Mon..	75°	57°	66°	Mon..	92°	72°	82°
Tues..	78°	65°	71° 5	Tues..	93°	74°	83° 5
Wed..	83°	61°	72°	Wed..	94°	76°	85°
Thur..	86°	68°	77°	Thur..	91°	77°	84°
Frid..	82°	69°	75°	Frid..	87°	70°	78° 5
Sat... 75°	55°	65° 5	Sat... 85°	75°	50°	67° 5	
Sun.. 80°	56°	68°	Sun.. 81°	66°	73° 5		

**CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.**

Montreal, Saturday, July 12, 1879.

**THE ENGLISH FARMING QUESTION.**

About four weeks ago we indicated there were signs of a coming cry in England: and now we learn by the cable telegraph that there has been a great debate in the House of Commons, the result of which has been the appointment of a Royal Commission to take evidence respecting the agricultural depression. There are some signs which seem to point to a bitter class contest, as it may be taken for granted the manufacturing and artisan interests of England will never again consent to a tax on food.

Looking at the question as calm spectators from this distant standpoint, it seems to us that it is scarcely necessary to go through the ceremony of appointing a Royal Commission to find out what is the matter, with the plain fact before our eyes that the English farmer would scarcely be able, if he got his land for nothing, to compete with the supplies from this continent in the two great staples of meat and wheat, when there is nothing between him and the vast producing areas of America, except very low freights from the West to the sea-board and thence East across the Atlantic.

Lord DERBY has made a speech on the question to the farmers of Lancashire; and while he admits that the crisis is one of great severity, he thinks he sees some hopes of recuperation. But, in support of these brave words, he gave some generalities about elasticity of British agriculture. He spoke, moreover, of rumours of great wars and the actuality of little ones—hobbies which he seems to have on the brain—as causing, to some extent, the depression. If that were the cause, it might

be got bravely over. Then he told the farmers that there were too many of them, and many of them had better emigrate to some of the colonies, mentioning particularly Canada, where there is yet plenty of room. This may be true as respects thinning out the farming class and preventing some distress among them; but if these same farmers, as soon as they come to Canada, help to swell the great volume of cheap meat and cheap wheat, already pouring into the markets in England, it is difficult to see how that will assist to improve the price of the produce of those who remain behind, and so enable them to pay their way. Emigration will not lessen the expenses of those left behind. It will, on the contrary, tend to increase them.

It is found by practical experience that an acre of wheat may be cultivated and handled on the Western prairies up to the point of putting on the railway car, for eight dollars, the land on which it is grown not being worth more than from one to five dollars an acre, requiring no manure, it containing the unused deposits of ages, and being of such easy cultivation that one man, with the improved methods now practised in the West, can, by his own labour, manage 100 acres up to the point of putting the sheaves through the threshing mill. It is the same also, in degree, with cattle. Immense herds fatten and attain to large size on the rich pastures of the Western prairies. Wheat can now be taken from Winnipeg to Montreal for about 30 cents a bushel, and a few cents more take it across the ocean. The cost of transporting cattle from Chicago to Montreal is even proportionately cheaper, and in the competition of the open market they have been carried across the ocean at about three pounds sterling per head, although higher prices have been contracted for and paid. The question, therefore, arises, how can the English farmer with his high rents and little fields, and the expensive artificial manures he is obliged to apply to long-cropped soils, enter into competition with production of that sort, either in wheat or meat? He simply cannot do it. It is a sheer impossibility. And in the face of a great plain fact of this nature, it seems to be idle to talk about great wars or little wars or emigration as at all affecting its essential elements. The prospect, moreover, is not one of mitigation, but, on the contrary, of systematized aggravation. And the coming question is: How long can British agriculture stand such an unequal contest? and what will be the end of the class struggle which must necessarily come?

**FRENCH IMPERIALISM.**

The situation created among the Bonapartists by the unforeseen and lamentable death of the Prince Imperial is curious enough to merit a little discussion. The testament of the great Napoleon left the crown to the family of his brother Louis, in default of a male heir of his own. The birth of the King of Rome, later the Duke of REICHSSTADT, supplied the link for several years, and thus a Napoleon II. existed, although his official existence is an amiable legal fiction. On the death of the latter, the sons of Louis again came to the front, and when the elder of these died in Italy, the second pressed the claim and finally succeeded in ascending the throne as Napoleon III. The crown was to remain in his family so long as there was regular male issue, but, failing that, the will of the first Napoleon provided a reversion to the family of JEROME, and then to his eldest son by the Princess of Wurtemberg. This last clause effectually bars out the Patterson-Bonapartes and sets aside the sensational stories of the American papers. The eldest son of JEROME by the Wurtemberg Princess is the present Prince JEROME NAPOLEON, and he is therefore heir apparent to the Imperial throne without any doubt or controversy. The very fact that there is no disputing his claim is precisely what makes the situation so embarrassing for loyal Bonapartists. If

he could in any way be ignored or put by, the relief would be immense. There is, indeed, a will left by the late young Prince, appointing Prince VICTOR, JEROME's eldest son, his successor in case of death, and calling on his mother, the Empress EUGENIE, to co-operate in carrying out these dispositions. But manifestly this document is null and void, especially from the circumstance that its author had not himself reigned. Neither the Empress EUGENIE nor the late Prince Imperial could abide JEROME, and after the scission caused by the German war, the animosity between the two branches of the family was quite pronounced.

No wonder, therefore, that this feeling should have been protracted after death. M. ROUHER, the real head of the Imperial party, and the best adviser of the late Prince, has recognized the inevitable, and bowed to it. Not finding it in his heart to co-operate with JEROME, he has announced his withdrawal from public life. The fiery DE CASSAGNAC, on the other hand, has unfurled the banner of VICTOR at the head of his columns, but this championship of the son, to the exclusion of the father, is only a bit of fanfaronnade, worthy of its author. The master of the situation is, therefore, JEROME, and a great responsibility rests upon him. That he is a worthless man, both publicly and privately, is unquestionable, but he is a very able man and quite competent to take care of himself. With a little time wherein to take his bearings, we may look out for a manifesto from him which may yet bring order out of the present confusion into which the Imperial party has fallen.

THE Empress EUGENIE learnt the news of her son's death by accident. Some friend of M. PIETRI hearing of the disaster which had befallen the Prince, wrote him a letter, which he sent by rail, warning her to prepare for sad, and, indeed, painful intelligence. Somehow or other the Empress opened this letter, and although unable exactly to comprehend its import, feared unhappy tidings. She knew her son had been ill, and she naturally dreaded to hear that he was worse. However, no more intelligence came till the next day, when Lord SYDNEY, who had received a message from Lady FRERE, and also the command of the Queen, came round to communicate the terrible news to the Empress, together with the expression of Her Majesty's sympathy. The Duc de Bassano thus describes the unhappy scene: "I received him, and upon me the duty devolved of breaking the fearful news. I asked permission to see the Empress, who noticing probably from the expression of my countenance that I was greatly troubled, begged to know at once all I had to tell her. I said, 'Madame, the Prince is very ill, more dangerously ill than he was when we last heard.' Immediately Her Majesty exclaimed, 'I will go to him; I must go,' to which I replied nothing, and retired. A quarter of an hour elapsed, and then I returned to her. I told her that further news had come, which made the aspect of affairs still graver. She cried out, 'I will go at once; where is he?' To which I replied, 'It is too late, Madame,' on hearing which Her Majesty burst into a flood of tears, exclaiming, 'Mon fils, mon pauvre fils,' and I left her."

We learn from our correspondent at Ottawa that the state of Sir JOHN MACDONALD's health quite put out of question his going to England by the steamer of the 5th, as it was rumoured that he intended to do. We understand that he is threatened with that old painful illness from which he suffered in 1870, and which then caused great anxiety among his friends. It is sincerely to be hoped, however, that the threatened attack may be warded off. But we understand that Dr. GRANT prescribes absolute rest and freedom, for a time, from even the ordinary cares of State.