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# THE SAW

CASTIGAT RIDENDO MORES.

NORMAND & BARBEAU, Proprietors.

## THE SAW?

Persons desiring to subscribe to the Saw can do so by leaving their names at the Printers, and at the same time paying the sum of \$1, price of yearly subscription. Subscriptions for the half years will also be received. The Saw will appear on the Wednesday of each week.

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## THE ADVENTURES

OF A

## MONTREALER

## OR EIGHT DAYS IN QUEBEC.

I am a native of Montreal, and for the first time a visitor to your justly famous City. I came here, partly on business, being the agent of a Mercantile firm, and partly with a strong desire to witness the many and vast improvements which I *heard* had taken place and which *entre nous* struck terror into the hearts of our mercantile community, and Western grain dealers generally. To be brief, I have come; I have seen; I have conquered; that is to say,—I have conquered any former prejudice I might have entertained against your citizens as non-progressive and nothing now remains but astonishment at all I have seen, and in order to give vent to that feeling and as a slight tribute of respect to the energy of your people generally, I furnish you with a brief account of my observations and adventures, humbly beseeching for its, a place in your reform-working journal.

For the benefit of those who have never visited this wonderful City, I must begin by stating that it is surrounded by walls and fortifications of sufficient strength to resist the heaviest Cor-

poration Artillery, the *two guns* on the Terrace included. The gates or tunnels are capable of admitting four horses abreast, of the species driven by the world renowned "Gen. Tom Thumb." A sentry is stationed at each gate, to whom citizens and strangers passing through, are *bound* to stop and give the pass-word, together with the fact, that it has within a few years, been completely *undermined* by the civic authorities, some idea may be formed of the general feeling of security pervading all ranks within it's walls.

Street Railways monopolize almost all the internal traffic of this North American Gibraltar. Deckyards have been built of sufficient size to contain the largest vessel of war belonging to Government, the "Gulnare." Elevators there are innumerable. Ferry steamers of unlimited horse power, speed and accommodation for cattle. A steam dredge of sufficient size to contain the results of the debates of the Board of Trade.

An immense wharf, in which is deposited, the proceeds of the sales of Harbor Debentures, and finally, a Pier sunk in the middle of the river, for the purpose of assisting Jack Frost, in the formation of an ice-bridge, which I understand, holds until the last day of April, having for effect the lengthening of the beautiful season of winter.

After having spent upwards of a week in fruitless attempts to see all the improvements, I have briefly enumerated, (but which nevertheless exist) I was about to take my leave and return home, but by the request of a friend (very unfortunately) delayed my departure for one day longer, that (as he said) I might have an opportunity of witnessing the displays of a celebrated Company, in the Municipal Theatre, or City Hall, who gave free performances,

one night in each week. My curiosity being once more excited, (for in my utter simplicity I fancied I had left nothing unseen, consented and between seven and eight o'clock on Friday evening, set forth from my hotel. Meeting with no more serious accident than an occasional stumble, which I attributed to the unsound state of the planking, and flickering of the gas in the street lamps, (reminding me very much of revolving lights on a dangerous coast) at length discovered the building I was in search of.

I do not here feel myself called upon to give a description of the interior, any further; than that the stage (but this word is hardly applicable, since the actors do not occupy a more *elevated* position, than the public; for whom cross-branches are placed at the front part of the Hall,) is in the shape of a horseshoe at the open part of which is seated the Secretary and at a desk somewhat higher up the Chief-Manager. Within the interior, or hollow part, formed by the horseshoe, a table is placed for the accommodation of the Reporters for the different journals.

The night's proceedings began upon the arrival of a gentleman, somewhat below the common height, with dark whiskers "*à l'Anglais*," sharp face and dark piercing eyes, he was dressed in an elegant suit of white silk, which I understand was presented to him, by a large majority of his troupe, not only as an emblem of his *innocence* but chiefly to denote his impartiality in conducting the proceedings, without favor to any party or *clique*, a person who sat beside me, remarked that "*red*" would have been a more becoming color, but for what reason, I cannot determine. He took his seat amid the most profound silence, and after viewing his horse-shoe, through the bottom of anler empty tumbler, which

he found upon his desk, to see that the requisite number of "nails" were present, in a voice denoting extreme nervousness (for he seemed to have some idea of what would follow) cried out Petitions! *Pétitions!*

(To be concluded on our next.)

QUEBEC, 2ND DEC., 1863.

### THE STADACONA.

The above Club gave their first entertainment of the season, on Friday evening last, and it was one of the most delightful that has been given in Quebec. The beauty of the Stadaconas are that you meet none but your own friends, which we think will be a sufficient excuse for the scrutiny of invitations spoken of by our contemporary the *Dagger*. The music was most charming, and it was only by dint of great persuasion that we could keep Mrs. *Saw* from dancing fast dances. But seriously speaking we think our friend *Dagger* is rather hard on this club. Their object has always been to keep their entertainments select, and if there was anything objectionable except to a disappointed few, the club would undoubtedly have "gone to the dogs." If our friend had been at the Music Hall, the other evening, he would have seen the justice of inspecting the invitations, and would, we feel certain, have recommended a stronger scrutiny. There was, we are sorry to say it, one person there, who came under the influence of liquor, and even went so far as to create a disturbance, now if the Committee were not empowered to object to certain invitations, would not this style of thing be greatly increased? The club has now lived for four years, and the same scrutiny has always been observed, and yet the club flourishes, and the reason is simple, ladies and gentlemen, prefer going because they know that there will be none there, whom they will be ashamed to meet. We will now correct a remark made by the *Dagger* relative to the members and their

invitations. In the first place there is the club proper, who elect the officers and are responsible for its debts, these members ballot for any new ones that may wish to join, so that, you see the Committee are not endowed with so much power as our friend thinks. Then comes the Subscriber, who can be elected by the committee, but if rejected by them he can appeal to the club. This settles the question of membership. Now for the invitations, there may happen to be person subscribing, and he may be asked for an invitation for some person with whom he is an acquainted, and this person may be one who is unfit to associate with ladies and the committee know it, are not the committee when they are authorised by the club to manage their balls and to make them as select and as pleasant as possible, justified in refusing such invitations? We must confess, that it looks arbitrary to those who are unacquainted with these entertainments, but let him attend but one, and we will guarantee that the *Dagger* will be as much in its favor as we are.

### A Cross Cut.

It is a matter of surprise to us that the *Chronicle* should object to the number of "fast" dances on the programme of the S. P. C. C. of Friday last, as we always thought that he of all others would be most able to *fool* (Foote) it.

### Spotting Intelligence.

A friend of Mrs. named J. D. happening to be in Russell's hotel the other night, made a bet with the barber of the hotel that he would swallow him, "Done, said the barber you duit fit," at the same time sterteling himself out on the counter, our friend got the barber's big the into his mouth, and gave it a very severe nip. Oh! roared the barber that "avent swallowing a feller,"

No, you d... d fool, but its preliminary to it, friend won the bet.

### WANTED.

By the Hon'ble. Luther, Holton £250,000 to assist in carrying out the *retrenchement* policy of the present government. A liberal interest will be paid to the lender, and if be closes, a rond of his will be placed on a commission. As a guarantee that the interest on the amount borrowed will be regulary paid, a few more departmental clerks will be dismissed. We have no doubt that Mr. Holton, will meet with a cherfai co-operation, on the part of his colleagues in carrying out the last part of his notice.—Ed.-*Saw*.

### New Publications.

THE INFLUX OF ENGLISH VERMIN AND ITS EFFECTS ON CANADIAN MANNERS by Pascal de Sales Latierrier.

"A DODGE OR TWO" by Hon. J. S. McD.

THE TRIBES OF MANITOULIN ISLAND, to be prefaced with a history of the life and works of Mr. Gibbard by Hon. Mr. McDougall.

"THE BREAK DOWN OR MEMOIRS OF A FINANCE MINISTER," by W. P. Howland.

"KINGSTON OR THE CONTEST," by Hon. Oliver Mowat, this work contains many ludicrous scenes, and is well worth reading.—Ed.-*Saw*.

THE COURT OR THE RAMIFICATIONS OF AN OLD BUILDING, by a victim of misplaced confidence this work is a perfect treat, and illustrates the custom, the manners, and the architecture of the past.

NORMAND & BARBEAU,  
No. 59, Des Fossés Street, St. Roch's.