

ST. JOHN. N. B., SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1894.

## FRENCH AND ENGLISH.

### THE TWO NATIONALITIES IN THE CITY OF MONTREAL.

Both are Prosperous and Control Important Interests—Some of Their Respective Organizations and Institutions—A New Brunswick Idea of Them.

MONTREAL, Jan. 8.—“How do you like living among the French of Montreal?” is a question that has been frequently put to me, and a question that English speaking residents of Montreal have frequently to answer for the enlightenment of English speaking Canadians from this part of the Dominion. It is supposed by many that English residents of Montreal must have a hard time of it where the population is so largely French, and to a certain extent we English are sympathized with. I do not know that there is any occasion for special sympathy with our lot: for, on the whole, we are doing fairly well. In fact, I have heard it alleged—and I believe it to be true—that there is no body of English speaking Canadians, of the same number, who are as well “fixed” in point of wealth and comfort as the English of Montreal,—and by “English” are meant Scotch and Irish as well.

An analysis of the enterprising and commercial undertakings of this city shows that nearly all the banking capital, the insurance companies, the warehouses, the wholesale trade, the steam railways, the steamship lines, the street railways, the huge cotton factories which employ so much labor; the breweries, the refineries, the foundries, the rolling mills, are under English control and run by English capital. The export cattle trade is exclusively English. The most widely circulated and most prosperous newspapers are English. It is the advertising of the English merchants that support both the English and the French journals. The telephone and telegraph companies are English. The militia regiments, with one exception are English. Nine-tenths of the members of the athletic clubs are English speaking. The stock exchange, the board of trade the produce exchange are mainly sustained by English membership. The great bulk of the commercial corporations are English.

Take the English population of Montreal and you will search this continent and Europe in vain to find a better dressed, better educated or more comfortable population anywhere.

You ask, “And what of the French?” and it gives me pleasure to reply that they are quite as prosperous, and live quite as comfortably. They are as a whole most industrious and very economical and very saving. They save a larger proportion of their income than the English. It costs them much less to live, and they eschew many things which they regard as luxuries, but which the English consider necessities. Nevertheless, they live a jolly life in most cases, take in most of the amusements that are going, and enjoy themselves quite as rationally on the whole as the English. While the majority of the wholesale merchants of Montreal are English, there are quite a number of Al French houses that would do credit to any commercial community in the world. Necessarily, there is an enormous number of French retail merchants, doing an immense business in the aggregate; and many of them making good profits while selling much cheaper than the English retailers. It costs them much less for plate glass fronts, they pay out less for outside help, and they do more of their work within themselves, than is customary among the English. The French members have their own Chamber of Commerce, whose members have very advanced ideas and the French commercial journal, *Moniteur de Commerce*, has a large circulation, is ably conducted and is prospering. The public markets are very extensive, and they are largely run by the French and supplied mainly by the French farmers of the country around Montreal. The public carriages are mainly French and Irish and they give the best and cheapest cab service on the continent. The lunatic and infirm asylums are managed by the nuns and the Belgian brothers (Roman catholic) with the exception of the Verdun institution, which is English and Protestant. (Longue Pointe asylum alone has about 1,100 inmates.)

In great hospitals and convents, the French excel, the wealth of the church and the affiliated religious orders enabling them to conduct these institutions on a vast scale and with remarkable success. There are many other benevolent and industrial institutions under exclusively French control. No French hospitals or other public institutions, however, have received such benefactions from private institutions as the Royal Victoria hospital received from Lord Mount-Stephen and Sir Donald Smith; nor has any French college been remembered by private friends as McGill college has been by Sir Donald Smith, W. C. Macdonald, and the Redpaths, Molsons, and other wealthy English speaking Montrealers.

Nevertheless, the Montreal college, founded and controlled by the Sulpicians, is one of the great universities of America hand as turned out its thousands of graduates, among whom have been many Frenchmen who have distinguished themselves in politics, letters and arts. In the law, there are many very able French judges and advocates, although the largest and most prosperous law firms are probably English.

In the government offices—Dominion, Provincial and Municipal—the overwhelming majority of the employees are French; and the disproportion between the two races will continue as long as the English youth disdain (as too many of them do) to learn the French language, while nearly every young Frenchman, with anything of an education, can speak English fluently and therefore stands a good chance for employment as a clerk or public official in a city with a mixed population.

In the city council the ablest aldermen are French, prominent lawyers of this nationality not disdaining to ask election at the hands of the electors in the French wards. An excellent certificate to the ability and integrity of a French alderman was given not long ago when the English ward, St. Antoine, called a French merchant, Mr. Rolland, to represent it, the electors giving him a unanimous election. The postmaster of Montreal is the former dexterous conservative politician Mr. Dansereau, the bosom friend of Chapleau; and with him as postmaster and Mr. Palmer as assistant postmaster Montreal is now better served than at any previous date in the city's history. As for the civil code which rules in Montreal and all of Quebec, even we English are free to say that in some respects it is to be preferred to English or Canadian civil law and especially in regard to the rights of women.

As regards the general sense of security felt by the English in Montreal and the Province generally, it need only be mentioned that the agitation for abolishing the legislative council draws its strongest support from the English which is apparently well content to trust itself entirely to the legislation of a House of Assembly of which four-fifths are usually drawn from the French majority.

In conclusion let me say that the combination of English capital and French labor has given a powerful impulse to manufactures in Montreal. Many workshops in the Maritime Provinces have felt the effect of it. The French artisan and operative, male and female, work cheaply and are quick to perfect themselves in their several lines of industry. And then the church to which they belong is prompt to discourage secret societies and resolutely sets its face against strikes, at least in Montreal. Moreover, the church, through one or other of its many organizations, is a large owner of real estate in Montreal and its suburbs, and necessarily greets with satisfaction those works for developing the wealth of the city by which English energy and enterprises increase the value of real estate throughout the community.

Personally, I greatly enjoy “living among the French of Montreal.” I find them courteous, obliging and generous. My relations with them, while not so close and intimate as with my English friends, have been exceedingly pleasant. The existence of the two races, and the necessary intermingling that results, adds a piquancy to life, social and political, in this city which those who have enjoyed it would not be without. This, I believe, is the feeling among all of the English population who are not moved by racial or religious prejudice and who are impressed with the importance of the two races continuing to live in harmony—which means prosperity for both.

#### A NEW BRUNSWICKER.

He Looked Like the Czar. Everyone in Copenhagen has heard of the Czar's double, a banker of the name of Carlsen. He so strongly resembles the Czar as to have been frequently taken for him. This flattered his vanity, and he endeavored to counterfeit his illustrious model in all respects. When it was announced that Alexander was on his way to Copenhagen, Carlsen would appear at the head of the procession in a launch exactly like the Czar's, and later on would drive his four-in-hand through the crowded streets, bowing right and left to the cheering populace. Being rich, he scattered money freely, which fact added to his popularity. But the adulation he received was too much for the poor man; his reason tottered; he imagined that he really was the Czar and that the Nihilists were plotting against him. He finally became insane and was sent to a madhouse, where he will remain while life lasts.

#### It is a Royal Sport.

It may not be generally known that yacht racing was started as a sport for royalty—indeed in the early days of yachting only the heads of royal houses possessed a yacht. In an old dictionary, dated 1755, devoted to the explanation of everyday words and expressions, the term “yacht” is defined to be “a small ship or pleasure boat, seldom more than 100 tons, for the king's use.”

## THE TALE OF TWO DOGS.

### HOW THEY FOUGHT THEIR WAY TO THE FRONT IN HALIFAX.

Police Court Proceedings Which Are of Interest in Social Circles—The Greyhound of Mr. Michaels Was Chewed and Both Parties Appeal to the Law.

HALIFAX, Jan. 11.—A dog fight on one of our streets is not generally regarded worthy of more than passing comment, and not even of that. But there was a test of endurance and strength between two canines on Hollis street a few days ago that at the time hardly assumed the proportions of an ordinary “dog-fight,” but which has since had far-reaching consequences, and has caused a little ripple on society's glassy surface in this city. Perhaps, most important of all, the display of canine teeth has brought out an array of legal talent, which tomorrow will again engage the police magistrate and the lawyers.

Guy C. Hart, one of the best known of society's favorites in Halifax, is the owner of a bull terrier. A. L. Michaels, a Hebrew, of the firm of Levy & Michaels, is the possessor of one of those skinny little specimens of greyhounds which go shivering along the sidewalks on a cold day. The terrier has an abiding and deep-seated hatred of the greyhound. His terrierness cannot endure the sight of the thin dog. He is too “common” probably. The dogs have met before; ere this they have measured teeth, and Michaels has more than once threatened legal proceedings. After the last attack and fight, the “dog fight” on the street was promptly changed into a legal contest in the police court, which was far more interesting.

At the time the dogs met, the bull terrier was in the company of the wife of Mr. Hart, while Mr. Michaels and his son were the escort of the greyhound. No sooner did the terrier see the greyhound than he made an onslaught upon his enemy, so the story goes, and howls were heard for a block away. Mrs. Hart grabbed her dog by the nape of the neck, but the terrier would not relinquish his hold on the greyhound's throat. Mr. Michaels seems to have lost his presence of mind for a time, for he talked of shooting—the dog not the owner. When someone handed him a stout stick, he recovered himself, and showered blows upon the contestants, the bulk of them, doubtless, falling upon the Hart dog. Mrs. Hart avers that one stroke came upon her hand. Mrs. Hart's tugging, Michaels' shouting, arm-swinging and pounding, went not for nothing, and the dog-fight was over, the greyhound minus part of his neck. The dog-fight, sure enough was over, but the legal-fight was just about to begin.

Michaels summoned Guy C. Hart to appear in the police court and show cause why he should not be fined for having such a dog in his possession and further why the dog should not be relegated to an untimely grave at the hands of a policeman. But Michaels was not to have all the law to himself for Hart promptly procured a summons for Michaels to answer a charge of assault, inasmuch as he had struck Mrs. Hart's hand with his stick.

In due time W. A. Henry appeared on behalf of Hart and Michaels had as his legal luminary W. A. Lyons. A whole afternoon was spent in wrangling between the lawyers, and in taking the evidence of those who saw the combat, while every movement of the dogs' tails or jaws was duplicated by some legal manoeuvre of the exponents of the law.

When night had come only was the Michaels action against Hart and his terrier finished. The magistrate was so worked up that he found himself unable to give judgment. And more than all, there loomed up another day of the same kind of thing, for it was agreed that the counter action of assault should be tried tomorrow.

#### DOES NOT COURT POPULARITY.

A Halifax Official Who Makes Some of the Merchants Mad.

HALIFAX, January 9.—John Eckersley is by all odds the most unpopular among the customs officials of Halifax.

Mr. Eckersley is warehouse clerk. He is a man about fifty-five years of age and has been quite a long time in the employ of the Dominion government. During his service he has succeeded in making nearly all the merchants of Halifax and about the entire customs staff his enemies.

While there has been any amount of grumbling on the part of business men against Mr. Eckersley, there had been no formal complaint laid with the department until within a week or two.

A firm doing a very large trade and having much business to transact at the custom house, having stood Mr. Eckersley just as long as was possible, wrote to the comptroller of customs, setting forth their grievances.

The firm alleges that for years past they have had to come in contact with Mr. Eckersley and for some unexplained reasons, the official has treated the members of the firm and their clerks with the

greatest incivility and has placed every possible hindrance in their way while transacting business with his department. They charge Mr. Eckersley with refusing to give information which it is his duty to give. He has, so they allege, kept permits from them when he had no right to do so; and maliciously seized goods for an alleged shortage in stock, said shortage never existing.

In their complaint the following specific case is presented: One of the members of the firm presented papers to pay out on a consignment of goods. Eckersley passed part of them back, keeping the permit. He was immediately asked for the permit, but stated repeatedly that he had given it back. The collector of customs was then called out, and he requested Eckersley to give up the permit, whereupon Eckersley again stated that he had given it back. He repeated this statement a number of times. Finally the collector informed him that unless he gave up the permit at once, he would report him to the department. Then Mr. Eckersley went to his desk, unlocked a drawer, took out the permit and handed it back.

The firm states in the complaint that Mr. Eckersley does everything in his power to annoy and detain them, and at various times has caused them serious loss and inconvenience.

This firm pays in the vicinity of \$35,000 per annum in duties. It has asked for an investigation which the department has ordered.

#### NOT SO HOSPITABLE.

The Valise was Troublesome Because it was Drunk.

A passenger on an incoming train over the Pennsylvania railroad the other day caused considerable amusement by his efforts to make his satchel stay in the rack. Every time he put it up, down it came, generally, on his head, exciting him to wrathful remonstrances in a very thick and muddled tongue.

“Washer matter wi' yer?” he demanded, at length. “Runk? Can't yer shay wher I put yer?” and he tossed it carelessly into the rack once more only to be visited again.

“Grip-s'k must be Drunk?” he said, in an explanatory way to the other passengers, after gazing unsteadily at the dissipated valise a minute. “It it ain't 'runk, then washer matter with it?”

Not receiving any satisfactory reply, he tossed it back again and down it came smashing his hat and rolling out into the aisle.

“Jes' so!” he exclaimed, eyeing it with an idiotic grin. “Now I tumble. That grip-s'k wan's me ter take er 'runk! All the time I thought it was foolin' with me! it was only it's doggoned hospitality! Come 'ere! Take er 'runk? Yer bet yer lie!”

He opened the satchel and contemplated the contents with small disdain. In the frequency of its tumbles, his whisky bottle had been broken and everything in the bag was saturated with alcohol.

“Wronggergam!” he muttered. “Right in the first place! It wasn't hospitality! The doggoned thing was 'runk after all! Jes' smell his breath!”

#### Was a Preferred Credit or?

Moses Pumpnickel fails and offers his creditors 30 cents on the dollar, payable in six months' bills.

Jacob Leberwurst declines to accept but insists on double the amount.

“Well,” says Moses, “you gonsent, an' I make you a prefaired creditor.”

“All ride,” agrees Jacob. The other creditors come together and accept the notes.

When they have taken them, Jacob says Moses: “Vare do I come in? Ain't I prefaired?”

“Sure,” replied Moses, “I don't intend to pay you of dem notes. Dey von't know it for six months; you know it now, cos you vos prefaired.”

#### Delicate Ivory Carving.

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries various sculptors in ivory were engaged in carving portions of tusks with classical and other subjects, which were afterward mounted in silver or silver-gilt by some of the finest Augsburg and Nuremberg workers, and formed vases and tankards. In the eighteenth century various carvings of ivory were made, chiefly of statuettes and small plaques, but none attain to the excellence of the earlier carvings. In modern times the ivory carvings of India have become noted for their minute and delicate work.

## GIGANTIC SALE.

MANCHESTER, ROBERTSON & ALLISON

are now making preparations for the most gigantic sale of

## COTTONS AND LINENS

ever held in this part of the Dominion.

Immense purchases have been made from the principal mills throughout

Canada, Great Britain and the United States.

The goods are now arriving by Rail and Steamships, and will be opened and prepared for the sale with as little delay as possible, considering the immense proportions of this purchase.

The sale will begin early next week, of which due notice will be given.

MANCHESTER, ROBERTSON & ALLISON, St. John.

Children's suits have been marked down, the best, the next best and the worst.

You'll save from 50cts. to a dollar, buying a two-piece suit this month.

The prices now are: \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5.

“Can we spare the money now?”

It would be a good time to buy the spring suit if you can.

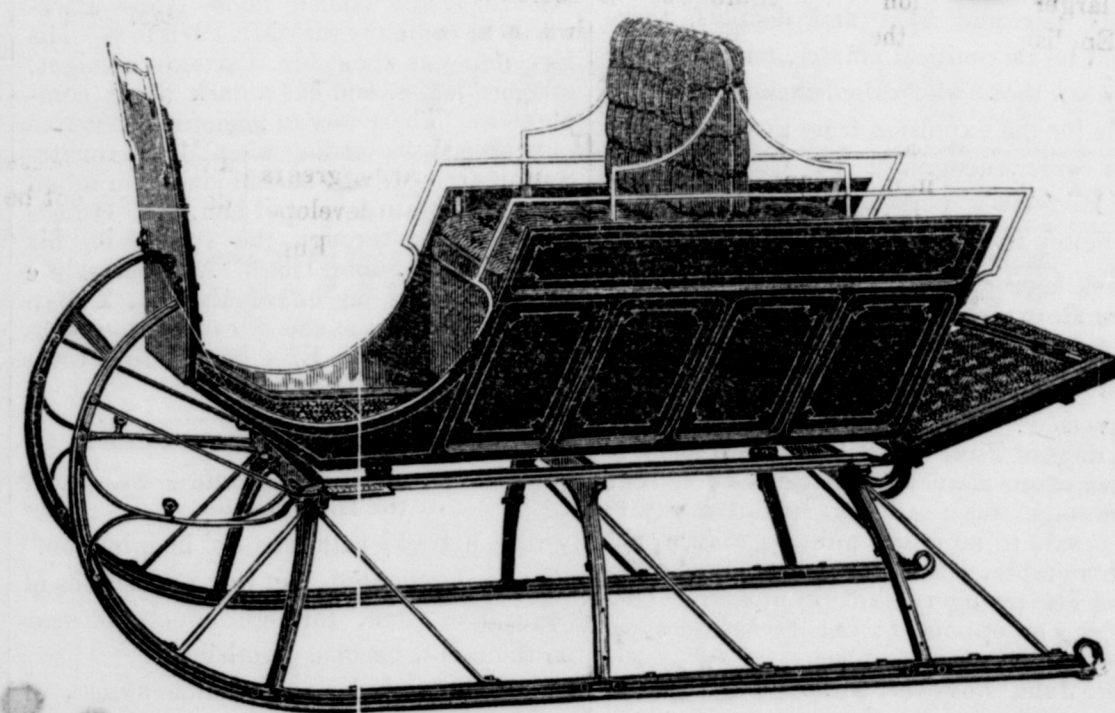
OAK HALL,

King St., The Corner Big German, Shop.

SCOVIL, FRASER & CO.,

St. John.

## The Gladstone Sleigh.



If You Want a Nice Comfortable and Stylish Family Sleigh this Winter do not get any other than a Gladstone. For prices and particulars write to

JOHN EDGEcombe & SONS, Fredericton.

## BARCAINS IN HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

Messrs. Edgecombe & Sons, of Fredericton, announce that they have the following horses and carriages for sale.

3 Shetland ponies with carriages, harness, etc., complete; one Sir Charles's coat, 4 years old, bay, kind and good; a set of 78 brand new carriages to be sold at 25 per cent less than usual prices, phaetons, Gladstones, Concordes, Piano boxes, Cor.ing top buggies. A full rent's style of open and closed carriages at 25 per cent less than usual prices.

Men and Boys now is your time to buy cheap clothing.

Our entire stock has been greatly reduced in price, irrespective of size quality or anything else, in as much we have completed our object, viz., made sweeping reductions for the benefit of buyers.

All Irish Frieze Ulsters, down at wholesale price—profit entirely knocked off them.

Union Block,

Cor. Mill & Union Streets;

Central Clothing Store.