

THE Maine comedy, according to the Lowell *Courier*, was in three acts: First, fusion; second, con-fusion; third, dif-fusion.

THE following lines from a recent number of *Punch*, referring to the establishing of a Dramatic School in London, with a very slight change seem applicable to our much-vexed question of an Academy of Art:—

"Start an Academy? 'Tis well;  
We've waited for it a long spell—  
*Feros mollire mores!*  
Then, Artists, think not we are rude  
If one grave question we intrude—  
*Docbit quis Doctores?*"

#### EPIGRAM.

To suspend relations with his friend the Turk,  
Has been Sir Henry Layard's latest work.  
We wish, in common with the Western nations,  
He could suspend the Turk with his relations.

—English Paper.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

It is distinctly to be borne in mind that we do not by inserting letters convey any opinion favourable to their contents. We open our columns to all without leaning to any; and thus supply a channel for the publication of opinions of all shades, to be found in no other journal in Canada.

All communications to contain the name and address of the sender.

No notice whatever will be taken of anonymous letters, nor can we undertake to return letters that are rejected.

Letters should be brief, and written on one side of the paper only. Those intended for insertion should be addressed to the Editor, 162 St. James Street, Montreal; those on matters of business to the Manager, at the same address.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR:

SIR,—I would solicit a short space in which to say a few words to Mr. Gray. I am truly sorry to see that he takes this matter so seriously, and considers himself attacked as to his professional capacity. So far as I am concerned nothing could be further from my thoughts. I certainly have never said or intended to say one word in disparagement of his artistic abilities. I considered, and do still consider that the letter of "J. W. G." was unjustifiably personal and ill-natured, and I merely answered showing how easily one could be paid back in their own coin. He has shown that he does not like "a little ridicule" when applied to himself, or rather to his letter, for I said nothing personal—and I think we may all learn a little lesson from our silly squabble, since it plainly proves that what measure we mete will be measured to us again even in this world. If we use ridicule, ridicule returns to us, while if we treat people politely, politeness will be our portion. I trust Mr. Gray will pardon me if I presume to prove that it is no term of reproach to be called a teacher. Have not the greatest men the world has known been teachers? Men so high in music and art that it is a distinction to be called their pupils. Are not all our great preachers and professors teachers, and can there be a more noble profession than that which gives to others a heritage of knowledge to make the world better, or more beautiful? We might go even further and speak of the great Teacher of mankind, but, to descend from the sublime to the ridiculous, is not our good Princess, herself, a teacher of etiquette, since she proclaims that we cannot attend her receptions except in low-necked dresses? It is all very well for "Oday" and others to tell us that such high folk have a right to say how much dressed, or undressed those whom they receive must be; but I am an ugly old woman who would dearly love to see our sweet Princess, yet dare not display my scraggy shoulders.

Pray pardon this digression, Mr. Editor. In conclusion I must say that so far from doing Mr. Gray any harm, he will surely find that this discussion has been a benefit to him, since it has given us an opportunity of knowing what he has done and can do, and how highly he is held in the estimation of others. I truly trust that he may meet in Canada the success and appreciation which he doubtless deserves, and which no one can wish him more heartily than

Yours respectfully, *Euphrosyne.*

WE direct the attention of our readers to a pamphlet of 50 pages just published, entitled "Canada, Past, Present and Future," as it can scarcely be read without profit. The writer, Mr. Hans W. Müller, reviews our national position in a sharp incisive manner, and in no party political spirit gives his views of public men and things amongst us. His exposure of our system of immigration is probably the most valuable part of the work, showing its utter uselessness; the writer's long experience in this department, and his connection for several years with the Immigrant's Home in this city, entitle him to speak with authority on this subject, and if a change in our present system (which appears to be grossly mismanaged, and singularly unfitted for its object) should be brought about, Mr. Müller will not have written in vain. Without endorsing the writer's views in all the details, we regard it as a work which should be extensively read, and the peculiar language, terse, forcible and vigorous, may furnish food for reflection. The author's English is of unmistakably Saxon origin, and is rendered occasionally in a ludicrously-humorous style, but the man's heart is in the entire work, and it contains thoughts that lie too deep for laughter.

## TRADE—FINANCE—STATISTICS.

### RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

COMPANY.	Period.	1880.			1879.	Week's Traffic.		Aggregate.		
		Pass.	Freight	Total.		Incr'se	Decr'se	Period.	Incr'se	Decr'se
	Week	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	6 w'ks	\$	\$
*Grand Trunk.....	Feb. 7	40,340	134,101	174,441	171,797	2,644	....	5	44,703	....
Great Western.....	Jan. 30	27,681	51,778	79,459	89,023	....	9,564	5	68,468	....
Northern & H. & N.W.	" 31	8,631	11,665	20,296	20,094	202	....	4	3,785	....
Toronto & Nipissing..	" 31	1,752	2,992	4,744	4,343	401	....	4	8,267	....
Midland.....	" 31	2,289	2,701	4,990	4,230	760	....	4	2,599	....
St. Lawrence & Ottawa	" 31	933	1,118	2,051	2,027	24	....	4	2,050	....
Whitby, Pt. Perry & L.	Feb. 7	474	945	1,419	1,735	....	316	4	1,647	....
Canada Central.....	" 31	2,836	3,566	6,402	5,888	514	....	4 w'ks	3,463	....
Toronto Grey & Bruce	" 24	2,245	2,108	4,353	6,134	....	1,781	4	4,157	....
Gd. Jc. & B'tville & NH	Feb. 7	334	612	946	....	....	....	18	116,243	....
Q. M. O. & O.....	Jan. 23	2,589	2,572	5,161	5,137	24	....	3	596	....
Intercolonial.....	Month	46,571	74,052	120,623	121,413	....	790	5 m'ths	....	53,964

\*The River du Loup receipts are included in 1879, not in 1880; omitting them the week's increase is \$6,844; aggregate increase \$69,923 for 6 weeks.  
†Total receipts from Oct. 1, 1879; no corresponding figures for last year.

### BANKS.

BANK.	Shares par value.	Capital Subscribed.	Capital Paid up	Rest.	Price per \$100 Feb. 11, 1880.	Price per \$100 Feb. 11, 1879.	Two last 1/2 yearly Dividends.	Equivalent of Dividend, based on price of Stock.
Montreal.....	\$200	\$12,000,000	\$11,999,200	\$5,000,000	\$137	\$134	10	7 1/2
Ontario.....	40	3,000,000	2,996,000	100,000	70	62 1/4	6	8 1/2
Molson's.....	50	2,000,000	1,999,095	100,905	75	82	6	8
Toronto.....	100	2,000,000	2,000,000	....	122	114	7	5 1/4
Jacques Cartier.....	25	5,000,000	5,000,000	55,000	58	26 1/2	5 1/2	9 1/2
Merchants.....	100	5,798,267	5,506,166	475,000	88 1/2	78 1/4	6	6 1/4
Eastern Townships.....	50	1,469,600	1,381,989	200,000	....	....	7	....
Quebec.....	100	2,500,000	2,500,000	425,000	....	....	6	....
Commerce.....	50	6,000,000	6,000,000	1,400,000	115 1/2	100	8	7
Exchange.....	100	1,000,000	1,000,000	....	....	....	....	....
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Montreal Telegraph Co.....	40	2,000,000	2,000,000	171,432	90 3/4	104 3/4	7	7 1/4
R. & O. N. Co.....	100	1,565,000	1,565,000	....	37 3/4	45 3/4	4 1/2	12
City Passenger Railway.....	50	....	600,000	163,000	80	70 1/4	5	6 1/4
New City Gas Co.....	40	2,000,000	1,880,000	....	117	117	10	8 1/2

\*Contingent Fund. †Reconstruction Reserve Fund.

The New York *Tribune* says the annual report of the Delaware & Hudson Company shows a net deficit of \$630,000, of which \$316,000 was on leased lines. The deficit in 1878 was only \$57,000.

From April 1st to the 17th January the Exchequer receipts of Great Britain were £58,341,673, as compared with £59,011,012 in the corresponding period of the previous twelve months. The expenditure has been £67,575,055.

\*THE FARMERS' DELIVERIES of home-grown Grain in the 150 towns in England and Wales for the week ended January 17th, 1880, and for the corresponding weeks of the previous nine years and the weekly average prices:—

	WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.	
	Qrs.	Price.	Qrs.	Price.	Qrs.	Price.
1880.....	37,871	45 1/2 11d	66,497	37s 2d	4,616	21s 1d
1879.....	52,141	38s 11d	66,095	36s 11d	4,422	19s 8d
1878.....	39,425	52s 1d	77,849	44s 8d	4,887	23s 9d
1877.....	40,796	51s 11d	67,444	39s 7d	5,436	24s 11d
1876.....	46,536	44s 9d	71,084	34s 2d	4,246	23s 10d
1875.....	62,785	43s 9d	66,227	45s 3d	4,065	29s 8d
1874.....	60,882	63s 3d	65,947	46s 5d	5,075	27s 10d
1873.....	51,186	55s 9d	57,836	40s 5d	5,191	22s 8d
1872.....	56,892	55s 5d	67,448	37s 2d	5,608	22s 6d
1871.....	71,132	52s 9d	75,130	35s 8d	6,285	22s 9d
Average 10 years.....	51,459	50s 5d	68,156	39s 9d	4,983	23s 11d

\*The receipts of Live Stock at New York for the last four weeks have been as follows:—

	Beeves.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Swine.
February 2.....	12,462	169	1,138	36,580	32,715
January 26.....	12,774	169	910	25,343	32,451
January 19.....	14,192	228	1,000	38,587	34,849
January 12.....	9,110	243	1,016	26,826	38,418
Total 4 weeks.....	48,538	809	4,064	127,336	138,433
Corresponding 4 weeks 1879.....	40,205	324	2,925	86,667	246,433
Corresponding week 1879.....	10,377	74	741	23,642	30,349
Weekly average, 1879.....	10,933	142	2,998	29,005	33,089
Corresponding week 1878.....	9,135	89	722	22,689	34,317

\*Summary of exports for week ending January 31st, 1880:—

From—	Flour, brls.	Wheat, bush.	Corn, bush.	Oats, bush.	Rye, bush.	Pease, bush.
New York.....	75,824	74,858	413,268	10,219	107,911	6,659
Boston.....	12,788	59,572	112,122	....	....	....
Portland.....	925	9,800	....	....	....	11,547
Montreal.....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Philadelphia.....	2,250	79,640	171,281	....	....	....
Baltimore.....	3,335	435,505	153,128	....	....	....
Total per week.....	95,132	1,369,376	249,799	1,219	107,911	1,236
Corresponding week of '79.....	99,907	1,623,669	1,548,604	4,203	21,683	1,776

\*10,034 bushels Barley. †59,269 bushels Barley.

\*From New York Produce Exchange.