

THE ATHLETIC TOURNAMENT OF THE POLICE.

Our civic protectors are general favorites amongst those who have no reason to fear them, and as they have so far imbibed the spirit of the age as to seek to render life as enjoyable as circumstances permit, they did well to devise an athletic tournament, and reduce it to practice. As they may be said to be professional athletes, there is something peculiarly suitable in the idea of such a tournament. We have no doubt that it has so thoroughly commended itself to all concerned as to become an annual recreation. The heartiness with which the citizens endorsed the proposal in the important matter of prizes, testifies to their sympathy with the force, and to their consciousness that the daily and nightly routine of a policeman's life are not of so lively a character but that a festival of this nature occurring once in fifty-two weeks will constitute a highly agreeable variation from the claims of duty.

We were present during a portion of the afternoon of the 20th ult., and learned what probably others learned likewise—that it would be preferable in future to hold the tournament earlier in the year, both as a matter of safety and enjoyment for all concerned. The hearty good humor which characterized the play of these upgrown boys was refreshing to witness, and one cannot conclude this brief notice without observing that the comparative freedom from blunders in the inditing of the programme which announces this tournament, has led to the conclusion that the Sergeant-Secretary will be an eligible conductor of our proposed *Evening School for M. A's*.

BUTTONS.

A young gentleman whose vocation it is to transfer buttons from the eastern hemisphere to the western, has shot his card at that anomalous institution styled Government House, and finds the dizzy social eminence to which he has attained in Toronto, somewhat too much for the weak head which governs the button business. He has imported the shoddy notions of Brummigam together with his buttons, and is desperately uneasy lest it should transpire that a sister of his, who is mistress of seven languages (and has been instrumental in communicating her knowledge to members of the Imperial family of Russia) is in so degraded a position as to maintain herself by tuition. Better instructed people than he of the buttons consider that the person to whom they entrust the training of their children is worthy of all regard, and they take care to reduce their sentiments in that respect to practice.

PROMISING.

A certain young gentleman whose name by right should have been *Flint*, and who when he ordered a coat and vest in Yonge Street, was on the eve of attaining a majority, concluded that the afore-named togs would contribute to render him a swell; he therefore ordered them, and was so dilatory in the matter of payment, as to receive a command from Her Majesty, with reference thereto; when at length he found himself at court, he set up the noble plea that he was a *minor*. The young gentleman might probably find an eligible partner by seeking the fair hand which (for amusement) altered the figures on the dinner-tickets of the Coffee House Association some time ago. The "smartness" of the brood that might come of such an union would afford a bright prospect for the Dominion.

The Evening News will probably in future sustain the relation to *The Mail*, of first cousin—once removed.

CONTRITION—THE FRUIT OF WILD'S ELOQUENCE.

The distinguished divine above-named takes so lively an interest in the financial results of his pantomime, as to have observed that "the gallery" produces less than the boxes; he therefore, by way of redressing the balance between the two portions of his theatre, has suggested that any luckless wight who might be deficient in "stamps" might borrow of a neighbour; compunction seized the conscience of one of his hearers lately, and he forthwith delved into his pocket, found a tobacco-plug therein, tore off the tag, and dropped it in the plate. It would be interesting to learn the proportion of tobacco-tags and buttons to contributions of greater value in the Bond Street Conventicle.

THIRTEEN.

Thirteen is reported to be so unlucky a number that many a fine lady will decline to sit down to dinner with that number. We incline to regard thirteen as more unlucky when it represents the number of children born to a married employer of labor, by those in his employ; such a circle of satellites becomes increasingly lamentable when they surround a star (stated to be) of the first (ornatorical) magnitude, who allows a crazy cripple, in published stories, to compare him to the Holy One.

SENTIMENTS OF "A SUCCESSFUL MERCHANT."

A Toronto merchant, who has not been remarkable for his liberality to those in his employ, although he is remarkable for the regularity with which he attends the daily mass, has stated that in his opinion, \$2.50 per week is ample payment for a girl's daily labor; and he considerably added (possibly as a result of his own experience) that "*a girl could earn more than that after six o'clock at night.*"

As we have been frequently compelled to be censorious in commenting on the pulpit productions, and (exceptionally) on the proceedings of the ministers of this city, we are the more glad to refer to one of them whose practice we understand it is to deny himself to a considerable extent, in order that he may assist needy students with his means. This gentleman keeps an account (so to speak) at a bank which recently honored a draft of his under the following circumstances:—he greatly needed fifty dollars; he had been watching some sparrows, and meditating on what is said of them in Scripture; he proceeded to ask Him whose is the gold and silver, for the fifty dollars, and it came by the next mail without the instrumental source of its transmission transpiring.

Although the Editor does not admit advertisements, as such, in his letterpress, he deems himself entitled and even obligated to express his indebtedness for a benefit conferred on himself by medicinal means. To judge from his own limited experience, he believes that many an overtaxed frame will derive great help from the medicine styled "Phosphatine," which among other recommendations, is as palatable as the expressed juice of the grape.

A WIDOWER'S LAMENT.—On the occasion of the undertaker presenting his bill in relation to the interment of a certain lady, late of Sherbourne Street, the bereaved husband remarked that \$482 was "a h—ll of a lot for putting a woman underground."

The assumed difference between twelve loaves at 14 cents per loaf, and fourteen loaves at 12 cents, will be an interesting problem for many families to solve, it is a problem which has long been solved by many a baker.