

gainst great odds to make a living by the brush. Compared with American prices the sums for which good pictures can be obtained here are very low. In the matter of picture buying and interest in art generally, Toronto is far behind Montreal, where they not only have a good public gallery but a class of people who take a deep and genuine interest in the productions of local painters.

Among the women who are doing really good work in Toronto, Miss Wills, who teaches the "Truant School," in Elizabeth street, may be supposed to take a high rank among those who regard the doings of this world "with larger other eyes than ours." In the records of heaven there are many names that are not found in the "personal" columns in the society papers. In her school in Elizabeth street, which may be visited any Wednesday at 2 o'clock, Miss Wills may be seen engaged in the herculean task of training the worst boys of the city or those who are supposed to be the worst and most unmanageable, in habits of self-restraint and goodness. There are few who have the patience and skill necessary for such a task, the value of which to the public can scarcely be appraised at too high a value.

I received not long ago from an enterprising American publication, a request for my portrait, as the editor wished to publish it with a biographical notice. The editor, in a somewhat effusive letter, remarked that he had frequently read my productions in the public press, and had been struck by their literary beauty, their force, pungency, etc. He felt sure that I would like to appear in his magazine side by side with some of the most noted writers of the world, who were going to appear in his next number. I could, no doubt, he said, get some friend to write a biographical notice, but if not, provided I supplied him with the particulars, he would gladly do it himself. All this would be done gladly in consideration of the high opinion he had of my talents, my general ability and my character. But stay. There was "a nominal charge of \$50 for the reproduction of photograph, etc." Of course I am too old a bird to be caught with chaff of that particular sort.

The most outrageous piece of audaciousness of this kind I ever met with was exemplified in a circular I once got from Philadelphia telling me that a certain society there were so impressed with my gifts and graces, and my services to the public, that they had conferred upon me their best aluminium medal and had enrolled me on their "list of distinguished persons" at a recent meeting. The medal, which was in the highest style of art, was already engraved with my name. The printed diploma of membership was forwarded to me with the circular. In order to get the medal, all I had to do was to forward \$25 for express charges, packing, and insurance of package to Canada as, in a work of art of the kind, great care was necessary. I retain the printed diploma whereby I am constituted a full member of the immortal forty of the Society of Philadelphia. I have not yet sent for that medal, nor do I think I shall at present.

The *Church Evangelist*, which is the successor of the *Church Guardian*, of Montreal, has my best wishes for its future success, which should be great, judging not only from the earnest spirit and excellence displayed in the initial issue, but because it is managed by Mr. T. R. Clougher, who showed, during his former connection with *THE WEEK*, that he possessed energy and ability of no common order. The *Evangelist* should commend itself to Anglicans in all parts of the Dominion as a journal which may be relied upon to give not only Church news but instructive counsel on Church work. It shows its appreciation of the rising generation by a useful column, entitled "Home Teaching for the Children," a feature which will be appreciated by many parents.

The insufficient police protection in the western part of Toronto is a matter which should be remedied at once. The house of a friend of mine was broken into by a couple of burglars between three and four o'clock the other morning and though he chased them with a stout oaken stick he did not succeed in getting in that crashing blow on the cranium which one wishes every burglar to get. The outrageous im-

pudence of burglary is enough to rouse any man of spirit to do all he can towards not merely putting these miscreants *hors de combat*, but dismissing them finally from this mortal scene. I would have no more compunction in killing a burglar than in slaying a marauding wild beast. The town in which a burglar was despatched twice a week for three weeks in succession would be a safe town to live in for some time afterwards.

When all that is necessary to ensure a continuous and thoroughly perfect water supply for Toronto is to place an auxiliary pumping plant on the Island, and where a substantial manufacturer has offered to do this for \$30,000 and stand the loss of the money if the thing does not answer, I wonder that the city engineer still hangs out against it. This is no wildcat scheme. Let the aldermen look into it.

DIAGENES.

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Montreal Affairs.

MONTREAL for the past ten days has been sweltering in the hottest early June weather felt for years; and the exodus which yearly takes from the city a very large proportion of its people who are in comfortable circumstances, has been increased in volume thereby. It is doubtful whether there is on the continent a city which sends a larger percentage of its people out of its limits during the hot season; and for this the city's unrivalled situation on a river which is dotted from its source in Lake Ontario to its estuary with beautiful villages, is to be thanked. Yet it is only within the past 12 or 15 years that the public has learned to fully avail itself of these natural advantages. Before that time, leaving out the small class, wealthy enough to pass July and August on the Maine coasts or at Lower Laurentian resorts, Montrealers stayed at home in the dog days and got what satisfaction they could from berating the weather. Then Lake St. Louis was discovered anew. This magnificent sheet of water, which for boating and yachting is almost unrivalled, stretches from Lachine to Ste. Anne's, a distance of over fifteen miles, the Island of Montreal being on the right and the Chateauguay shore on the left. Two railways run parallel to the river on the Montreal side, and little villages of summer residences have been springing up between the railways and the lake until now the lake front is the home during the summer months of hundreds of Montreal families. There are, in these fifteen miles, no fewer than eleven watering places, Lachine, Dixie, Dorval, Strathmore, Valois, Lakeside, Pointe Claire, Beaconsfield, Beaurepaire, Bay View, and St. Annes, the latter being the prettiest and the most popular. Most well-to-do Montrealers have summer-houses on the lake front, and they move their families out at the end of May or the beginning of June, and stay there until the frost comes. There are boarding-houses and well-kept hotels for single men. The train service is excellent, the last local express leaving the city as late as half past eleven at night, while the first one comes into the city at 8.30 in the morning. Half the business men of Montreal and a large proportion of the clerks spend the summer at the lake, going out after the day's work and coming in in the morning.

Some of these summer residences are very handsome houses, occupying beautiful sites on the lake front, with green stretches of lawn around; but there are all kinds down to the unpretentious cottage with wide and comfortable verandas. The summer residents along the lake front, in the days when the lake was only beginning to be known, used to "picnic" in their houses; and the rules of the camp as to attire and customs were the only ones recognized. But these happy days of Bohemianism and red flannel shirts are gone; and now society is mistress along the shores, and her conventions are obeyed. No gayer place can be found than the lake front during the summer. Dances come off weekly in the boathouses; and these are always attended by residents of the other resorts who come in canoes, boats, yachts, and batteaux, filling the moonlight stretches with music and laughter. Nightly there are smaller card parties, dances and sailing parties; in addition to unprompted races, which are to be seen every evening, there are regular regattas on Saturdays at which crews from the various boating clubs struggle for the lake championships. The strongest sporting organization on the lake is the St. Lawrence Yachting Club, whose race meetings are also notable social events. The whole