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LONDON, ONT.

Capital Subscribed.....\$3,000,000
Capital Paid-up.....1,337,000
Reserve Fund.....670,000

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President. Manager.

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Manager, A. E. PLUMMER.

The Corporation is authorized to act as EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, COMMITTEE, &c. Moneys invested. Estates managed. Deposit Safes to rent. Parcels received for safe custody.

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Some years ago in a very select Browning circle—select from a member's view-point—there was a short discussion about a word. Was it obsolete or not? A member ventured the remark that Browning had used the word merely to rhyme, adding, "Any fool could do that; I could do it myself." "Miss Smith, the inference is plain," solemnly rejoined the wag of the Browningsites."

Here is a specimen of latent philosophy lurking somewhere in the brain of the aboriginal American Indian—or is it humour? Away on the prairies of the Canadian North-West, at a Government Indian School, under the charge of the Presbyterian Church, a new pupil of twelve years, fresh from the Reserve, had begun the study of the Shorter Catechism. In reply to the first question, "What is the chief end of man?" said the young Hedonist, "Man's chief end is to glorify God, and enjoy himself."

Down in a Bluenose village, where the hungry youth open intellectual mouths for that kind of food which fattens them for the Provincial University, which in turn diets them for the post graduate course, scholarship, or fellowship at Cornell, Johns Hopkins, etc., a petite maiden of twelve years was wrestling despairingly with an essay on gold. "I must not use the words in my notes," she said desperately, "it will seem like copying; 'one quality of gold is its indestructibility.' Mother, shall I say, 'on account of its inability to be destructed'?"

Here is an epitaph worthy of Burns himself. Its author is now dead and its subject living—a distinguished statesman. They, the author and subject, were at one time political friends, but fell out, by the way, else the witty epitaph had not been written:

"Here a great liar easy lies in death,
A greater liar ne'er drew human breath;
Though thousands lie within this sacred ground,
Chief liar he, of all who lie around;
To others false in life, he lied at will,
True to himself, in death he lieth still."

It was in a Bluenose town of some pretensions, and it was a Presbyterian choir of some pretensions too. Only one of the bass singers materialized at the weekly practice night, and the leader was irritated. They were practising one of those crooked old tunes of the catch variety, set to the forty-second psalm, and had rested at the third line, "So pants my longing soul," for the bass solo. Now, the bass was a diffident, nervous, pink-and-white youth, and in making a frantic effort to do his best, sang stentoriously, "So long my pants," whereupon the girls of the choir giggled. The leader, in serious tones, reproved them for such levity over solemn music and beautiful poetic words (he had not noticed the blunder), and they began again. The bass, blushing furiously, made another dashing effort, and sang boldly, "So my long pants." Another simultaneous and more audible giggle. The leader, waxing wrathful, commanded another beginning, and they managed to sing to the third line again, when the following solo, "My pants so long," followed by a shout of laughter from the tenors, altos and sopranos, the utter confusion of the bass, and the fury of the leader. The practice adjourned.

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