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London, Friday, Oct. 10.

YOUNG MEN ORGANIZING.

This evening the Young Conservative Club of this city holds its annual meeting for the election of office-bearers and for the arrangement of the winter programme. It is a good sign when the young men take an interest in the conduct of public affairs, no matter on what side of politics they may, for the time being, ally themselves.

If the young men set honestly to work to investigate the science of government and the best means for promoting the public welfare, there is hope that the country will be benefited by their efforts.

It does not always follow that the earnest investigator will not obtain new light on the principles of government. We all know that Gladstone began life in England as a hard-shell Tory, though for nearly the whole of his mature manhood he has been a Liberal of the Liberals. In Canada we have Sir Richard Cartwright, who experienced a similar change of heart.

What the Dominion needs—what it specially calls for nowadays—is young men of independence, of usefulness, who will work for the advancement of the whole people and not be champions of sectional interests. If the political organization of young men results in the production of that type of manhood it will be well for the country. By their fruits we shall know them. If they simply exist to register the decrees of office-holders and office-seekers, without so much as taking thought of the right or the wrong of any of the great questions of the day, their organization cannot be of real benefit to themselves or to the mass of their fellows.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.
—Has an epidemic of homicidal mania struck the Dominion? Murders are perpetrated these days with a regularity that is shocking and much to be deplored.

—The Dundas Banner man is wrestling with the great tramp question. It must be hard working collecting subscriptions in the back townships these months of mud and neglected toll roads.

—Senator Harris, the distinguished New Yorker, asserts that he will not be a candidate for re-election. When the long-sentence order goes out of public life Congress will lose a politician of marked ability and personality.

—New York State criminal officials will have another opportunity within the next week or two to try electricity as a substitute for hanging. The victim this time is a negro who killed a companion while drinking in a grocery.

—The United States Congress passed a law, in the closing hours of the last session, imposing a fine of \$50 upon any person who shall so prostitute the United States flag as to use the Stars and Stripes for advertising purposes. Will the politician who takes "the old flag and an appropriation" as his campaign motto be liable to the penalty?

—The London Times advises Canada to go in for free trade. When counsel thus this might be adopted, if Canada were to so reduce her tariff on British imports that our merchants could buy to advantage in the old world markets, every border city, town and village would become a depot for the sale of goods to Yankee smugglers. Millions of dollars worth of imports would be thus disposed of, and one of two things would occur: Either the United States Government would have to establish a cordon of customs officials, many thousands of 3,000 odd miles, or it would agree with alacrity to the Liberal proposition in favor of complete reciprocity. Meanwhile the development of the new lands in the Dominion would be promoted at an unprecedentedly rapid rate.

—Even the greatest of musicians have a cranky side to their characters. By a system of fines for alleged petty breaches of discipline the original and only Strauss caused a rebellion in his orchestra which culminated at Milwaukee in a demand that the impositions should be remitted on pain of a breaking up in the organization. The fines were remitted. Besides, Strauss has had to dispense with what is known to the players as the "Hollenzscheit" (sign of heads). The reader may not understand the term. Every time a concert began a canteen-keeper should give two blows so as to appease the audience of his approach. The orchestra did not like it and insisted that he should cease having his appearance on the stage heralded that way. His vanity was greatly offended, but he could do nothing but give in. The Strauss orchestra is thus an inharmonious organization for the purpose of exemplifying harmony. Slightly paradoxical, yet true.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

Come Forth! By Elizabeth Stuart Phelps

and Herbert D. Ward. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.; Toronto: Williamson & Co.)

This is a dramatic narrative of the time of Christ, into which romantic incidents not recorded in the Gospel are woven. The Savior himself figures as one of the principal characters, and his summons at the tomb of his friend, "Lazarus, come forth!" suggested the title of the book. Upon Martha and Mary and their brother Lazarus, the dramatic interest of the story centers. The latter is employed by the High Priest Annas to make repairs to the women's apartment of the palace, and while resting after his labors in the shade of the palace wall the vision of the beautiful Lazarus bursts upon him. To him she is "Music become woman," and his new-born passion for her is speedily returned, though she rails at him for recognizing the pretensions of the despised Nazarene. Later in the story Lazarus goes in a pleasure boat on the Sea of Galilee; a storm arises and not one of the Galilean fishermen dare venture forth. Lazarus in vain essays to reach the boat, but a majestic figure stills the waves, waves on the sea, waves Lazarus to him, lays her at Lazarus' feet, and disappears.

Lazarus is made the honored guest of the High Priest till he explains that not he but Jesus is Nazareth, rescued the girl from the water. The lovers enjoy many stolen interviews in a subterranean passage connecting the temple with the palace until they are discovered by the High Priest. Lazarus is dragged to the palace entrance of the passage, and ignominiously thrown over the wall. He never rallies from the shock, but shortly sinks into that long sleep from which he is awakened only by the voice of Jesus crying, "Lazarus, come forth!" At this restoration of the dead to life Lazarus yields her allegiance to him whom until then she had regarded as a Messianic impostor.

The Trees of Northwestern America,

with illustrations from original sketches by Charles S. Newhall (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York; Toronto: Williamson & Co.)

This is a handsome work, containing 116 illustrations of leaves of our native trees, and the descriptions embrace all the native trees of Canada and the northern United States, east of the Mississippi River. The constant characteristics of each tree are numerous, but for the ordinary observer the leaf alone is sufficient for the identification of the tree to which it belongs. In addition, it describes each tree in simple fashion, so that it can be easily recognized from its foliage, bark and style.

The Story of Scotland from the earliest

times to the present century. By John Mackintosh, LL.D. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; Toronto: Williamson & Co.)

In this volume the author gives an account of the conflicts of the chief tribes with each other, the foundation of the monarchy, the gradual extension of the kingdom, and the development of a distinct nationality. He traces the struggle against external enemies, the Romans, the Danes, the Norwegians; and finally the long and unequal contest with England, in which the Scots finally won their independence. Then follows a narration of the efforts to control the Crown; the religious contests connected with the Reformation; the accession of King James to the English throne, the subsequent events down to the union with England in 1707, with chapters devoted to the religious movement in Scotland, and its modern literature.

Essays of Elia. By Charles Lamb

(London: J. M. Dent & Co.; Toronto: Williamson & Co.)

No apology is needed for another edition of "The Essays of Elia," and there is no need to say anything in praise of what all the world praises. Sufficient to explain that the editor of this edition has given the immortal Essays good type, careful printing, excellent paper, and a form as agreeable to the hand as to the eye.

Tom Brown's School Days. By an Old

Boy. (Toronto: Williamson & Co.)

Another old classic in a new and inviting shape. It is profusely illustrated and is a welcome addition to any boy's library.

Memoirs of the Military Career of John

Shipp. Written by himself. (New York: Macmillan & Co.; Toronto: Williamson & Co.)

This is a new, illustrated edition of the extraordinary career of a late lieutenant in his Majesty's 87th Regiment. The "Memoirs" first appeared in 1829, and have since passed through several editions. It is the history of a "first of its kind," a man, without any educational advantages, "qualified himself to be at once the hero and the author of a remarkable work."

The Nursery "Alice," with text adapted

to nursery readers. By Lewis Carroll. (New York: Macmillan & Co.; Toronto: Williamson & Co.)

"Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," so long favored by youthful readers, is here translated into the simplest and winsomest phraseology for the benefit of children "aged from nought to five." The author's ambition for this book is that it may be thought, read over, dog-eared, rumpled and kissed by the little ones, ungrammatically, dimpled little ones of the nursery. Judging from the quality of the contents this ambition is very likely to be realized. Why cannot "Alice in the Looking Glass" and "Kingdom of Hearts" be translated into child language for the benefit of very little readers?

The Dark Continent and Its Secrets,

compiled and edited by G. Mercer Adam. (Toronto: Ross Publishing Company.)

The object of this compilation of Stanley's great work is to supply in a compendious form, and at a modest price, a popular account of the great explorer's discoveries in Africa. "In these days of big books on small themes," says the author in the preface, "there may be room for a small book on a big theme." The work admirably fulfills the object in view, and should meet with a wide circulation.

MAGAZINES.

Harpers for October (Harper & Bros., New York) contains "Agricultural Chili,"

Theodore Child's second South American article. It is a personal study of the rich

Antiochian province of Chili. "Antioch's

Moose-Yard" is a narrative of hunting ad-

ventures in the great Canadian woods, ac-

companied by twelve spirited illustrations.

The production and marketing of petroleum

is described in "The First Oil Well," There

are five short stories, and other interest-

ing matter. The "Easy Chair" contrib-

utes some pleasant recollections of the

late Mr. J. P. Wills, and Lydia Maria Child, and the "Editor's Study" refers

to certain novel readers in our own coun-

try, who "had better get some sackcloth

and ashes and put them on," because of their defective tastes.

Wide Awake for October (D. Lothrop

Company, Boston) is a capital number,

containing a good football story, a war

story, a quiet story, an Ascanian

old folk lore tale, "A Story of 1812,"

and other more substantial matter for the

entertainment of young people.

The Pansy (D. Lothrop Company, Bos-

ton) is another attractive magazine for

youthful readers. "A Ball," a Doll and

a Man, and "When I Was a Girl," are

among the best of the little stories in the

October number. Both are written by

"Pansy," whose books are so deservedly

well known.

The Century Magazine for October

(Century Company: New York) gives the

conclusion of two notable series of papers,

"The Autobiography of Joseph Jefferson,"

and Mrs. Barr's "Friend Olivia," "Out-

of-the-Way in High Savoy," written

in Edward Eggleston's always bright

and entertaining style, takes a de-

served first place in the number.

"Meteorites and the History of Stellar

Systems" gives an insight from an earth-

point of view into celestial things.

"Women of the French Salons" is con-

tinued, and a very good idea is given

in another article of the progress of

"Women in American Literature." Two

characteristic and well-written short

stories are "How Jerry Bought Malvina,"

and "In Dark New England Days."

There are half a dozen poems in The Co-

sopolitan for October, and a single

rather unusual short story. The twin cities

of the Northwest, St. Paul and Minneapolis

are well and accurately described, St. Paul

as the home of the merchant and the pro-

fessional man, Minneapolis of the lumber king

and miller. Both have an intensely cold,

exhilarating winter climate, free from de-

pressing changes, fog and slush, and both

are within easy distance of Minneapolis

Falls, a name immortal wherever Long-

fellow is read and loved. It is in his poem

of "Hawthorne" where

—The Fall of Minnehaha

Flash and gleam among the oak trees.

Laugh and leap into the valley."

The Dominion Illustrated (the Sabiston

Lithographic and Publishing Company, Montreal) is full as usual of clearly-printed

pictures, and a high grade of contributed

and selected matter.

The Canadian Congregational Year Book.

(Toronto: Congregational Publishing Com-

pany.) All that is of interest in the Con-

gregational churches and societies for the

year is given to the readers of this year

book. There is a good approach to perfec-

tion in the statistics, and a church map

of Canada contained in the book will be found

useful.

SEWERS AND SIDEWALKS.

Number Two Committee Awards Con-

tracts for the Construction of

Several Sewers.

A meeting of No. 2 Committee was held

evening. Those present were: Ald.

James (chairman), Garratt, Dwyer, Thomas, Wyatt and O'Meara, Secretary

Graydon and Engineer Tracy. The matter

of laying a drain on Bruce street, from

Henry street, came up, and it was agreed

to be necessary. It will be advertised and

tenders called for the work. It was also

decided to go on with the work of the

drain on Matilda street, from Kent street to

the Carling Creek.

The communication from Gibbons, Mc-

Nab & Mulken, asking what action the

city would take with reference to the

injury to John Garvey's horse was referred

to the Engineer and member of the ward.

The amount claimed was \$74.

The communication from Love & Dignan

respecting Mrs. Sarah Hulbert's claim for

damages received owing to a stumble over a

gas pipe at the corner of Bathurst and Burwell

streets, was referred to the Engineer and

member of the ward.

Two petitions respecting the construction

of a sewer on Wolfe street were presented.

Five names appeared on the one in favor of

the work and four against it.

Capt. John Williams asked that the drain

be constructed as far as his property

and connected with the proposed drain on

Wellington street. It was decided to ad-

vertise for the construction of a drain on

Wellington street from Princess avenue to

Hyman street and along Hyman street to

Richmond street. The Wolfe street peti-

tioners can, if this is done, run drains under

the boulevard and connect with the Rich-

mond street drain.

Capt. Young and Assessor Buckle urged

that a sidewalk be laid on the west side of

Catherine street between Princess avenue

and Central avenue. It was decided to

recommend the work to the Council.

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