

MADELEINE DE VERCHERES.

VERCHERES, ST. LAWRENCE RIVER, OCT. 22, 1692.

Beside the glorious river.
She heard the workman cry.
"The Iroquois are on us!
Fly to the fort-gate, fly!"

The Seigneur's little daughter
Turned at the word of woe,
And saw her people in the field
Shot down before the foe.

Then, to the open fort-gate,
She like an arrow sped,
And swift those savage shadows
Chased after as she fled.

She gained the fort before them,
The gate shut in their face,
"O Holy Mother, help me!"
She prayed, "to save the place!"

And what had this French maiden,
But fourteen summers old,
To hold the fort and keep at bay
The red wolves by the fold?

She had two younger brothers,
One old man near the grave,
The workman that had warned her,
And two stout soldiers brave.

She ran to the block outhouse,
Reached through a covered way,
And there were her two soldiers
Where the store of powder lay.

And one stood by the powder
And held a burning brand,
"What are you doing, madman!"
She asked, and caught his hand.

"Better this than fagot!"
He gasped, "Stand back!" she cried,
"Stand back, and use the powder
For honour and for pride!"

She spoke to her two brothers:
"Our father is away;
But you and I have courage
To take his place to-day."

"Our father and our mother,
Both of you well know,
Have taught us always to uphold
This holy cause below."

"A gentleman's true glory
Is to die for God and King,
Hold ye our father's spirit,
Nor fall in anything!"

And the blood of old French warriors
In the maiden's veins did bound,
And she took her gun and stationed
Her little band around.

Four mounted the four bastions,
Two at the loop-holes—fire!
And six as well as a hundred
Saved them from Indian ire.

But in the forest border
Low lurk the tiger eyes,
And death to panting soldier
That forward pathway tries!

As Madeleine looked onward
On the river at her feet,
She saw a settler rowing
To gain the fort's retreat.

She said to her two soldiers,
"Go down and bring them quick,
The Iroquois will not come out—
They'll think it a French trick."

But her bold soldiers trembled,
Nor further would be sent,
Then from the gate the maiden
Down to the river went.

And she brought back the settler
And his pale wife with her,
Nor did the tremor of her heart
Upon her features stir.

She spoke: "With my young brothers
These two and I will stay,
And man the bastions through the night,
And keep the foe away."

"You, soldiers, take your station
In the block-house, to-night,
With the women and the children,
Nor sleep you in our plight!"

To the dark level forest
Sank the wan autumn sun,
And from the cloudy northern sky
A keen wind had begun.

And, as the chilling darkness
Spread o'er the river strand,
A whistling storm of hail and snow
Rushed on the ghostly land.

And on her darkened bastion
The young Canadian stood,
And heard the tempest shrieking
On river and in wood.

The deep night all around her
Was pale with clinging snow,
"All's well!" she cried, and loudly
The words rang to and fro.

And as she hugged her musket
And stamped the frozen stone,
The wind upon the river
Seemed a derisive tone.

"O, my beloved river!"
The maiden captain cried,
"Why dost thou flow beneath me
With such a mocking tide?"

"Have I not played beside thee,
And fondled thee, and sent
My laughter on thy ripples
In past days of content?"

"And on the azure currents
Have I not lived with thee,
Until our spirits were as one,
Serene, and bright and free?"

"And how dost thou repay me
For all the love I gave?
Or is't my fear that chills me,
And not thy speaking wave?"

"No! thy voice is full of valor,
O, grand Canadian stream!
Thou biddest me to rally
From every timid dream."

"Thy voice is all heroic—
This is the charge, to-night—
To fight, to die, for Christ and King,
And wear the crown of light!"

And through that night and many—
A week—it seemed a score—
That band stood on the bastions
And watched the stream and shore.

At last, upon the river, one night,
Was a low plash:
"Who is it?" questioned Madeleine,
While hope and doubt did flash.

"Frenchmen," came the quick answer,
"Come up to bring you aid!"
She ran down to the river,
And her salute she made.

"Right welcome here, Lieutenant!
I give you my command!"
"My brave girl!" cried the officer,
And he best and kissed her hand.

Known to, P.Q. C. L. CLEVELAND.

UNIVERSITY LIFE IN FRANCE,
ENGLAND AND GERMANY.By HUGO VON RADOWITZ. Translated from the
German for the "Canadian Illustrated
News."

II. ENGLAND.

Student life in England has been essentially different from that in France. The universities there are far more exclusive and scholastic institutions, and the student youth has had far less opportunity, than in France, of taking part in public life, into which they enter only after having completely finished their studies. The only two English Universities that from their scientific importance deserve the name, are the institutions at Cambridge and at Oxford. The University of Cambridge is the elder, that of Oxford in some measure the most distinguished. The first beginnings of the University of Cambridge are referred to Siegfried, king of the East-angles, who is said to have founded a school of *strenu* there. The oldest document relating to the founding of the University bears the date 1229, and is given in the reign of King Henry III.—so this King is, if not really the founder, at all events, the thorough reformer of the University of Cambridge. This University was also, after the manner of the Paris University, divided into the same four faculties, that of arts, however, falling into two subdivisions, of the Trivium, embracing Grammar, Rhetoric and Logic, and the Quadrivium to which Arithmetic, Astronomy, Geometry and Music belonged.—and in each faculty there was the degree of Bachelor (Baccalaureus) and Master (Magister). Already in early times, colleges came prominently to the front: these were large boarding institutions founded partly by the church and partly by modest private donations, and provided with special teachers and superintendents; in these the students dwelt, had their meals, and worked—the inner affairs of the University being carried on by a College of Magisteri at whose head was the Rector. Queen Elizabeth gave the University its present organization, she united the separate colleges into one, which formed a magnificent large institution. Each of these single colleges, which since the time of Queen Elizabeth, has been decorated in various ways, contains dwellings for the teachers of the University and for the students, has its own library, chapel, dining-hall and garden, and each of them has its own statutes and its own visitor, who is either the Lord Chancellor, the Bishop of Ely, or a commissioner appointed directly by the King. The Professors or Fellows elect their own masters, and these masters again collectively form the government of the whole University; they choose from their midst the Chancellor, who remains in office two years. The Senatus Academicus is formed by all the Masters and Doctors of the University, and is divided into an Upper and Lower House. To the Upper House belong all those Masters and Doctors who have been such for five years, and are distinguished from the rest by wearing caps of white silk, while the Masters of the Under House wear black. Among the Professors and Students there exists a very strict gradation, and the conditions of promotion are very severe; one needs, for example, four years and two examinations to become Baccalaureus; for Master seven years are necessary; for a Doctor of Law and Medicine eight years; for a Doctor of Theology twelve years. The University has the right of sending two members to Parliament, and has thus, as a corporation, considerable political significance. The students themselves, however, lead in their colleges, often under pedantic surveillance, the life of school boys, and have little freedom, and no opportunity of mixing in public life. The Cambridge University is mostly frequented by the sons of rich men, who for a good fee find welcome reception in the Colleges; or by poorer young men who as a reward for their diligence in the preparatory institutions, often also, through patronage, receive free places (stipendiatenplätze).

The University of Oxford rests essentially on the same principles. It lays claim, however, unjustly, to a greater antiquity than Cambridge—to be sure there was a school here as early as the time of Alfred the Great, but its proper importance and its formation as a University, first dates from the time when under the Queen Blanche of Castile in the year 1226 numerous teachers and scholars of the Paris University

emigrated and settled in Oxford. In the year 1249 University College, the first of these Colleges, was founded, and then a great number of others richly endowed soon followed. They are all, outside and inside, gorgeous, and architecturally noteworthy buildings, each forms a corporation by itself, possesses a complete supply of Professors and all the necessary scientific apparatus; for instance Christ Church College which was founded by Cardinal Wolsey and enlarged and richly endowed by Henry VIII., has eight Canons, one hundred and one Fellows, eight Chaplains and eight Clerks. Oxford was from the beginning the University of the higher nobility, and as a consequence the whole arrangement is infinitely finer than that of the University of Cambridge. There is room in the Colleges for a numerous retinue of servants for the students, and the buildings are surrounded by beautiful gardens, upon the two rivers Isis and Cherwell, which flow around the town and unite to form the Thames, there are a large number of elegant rowing and sailing boats for the amusement of the students, among whom there are numerous boating clubs with all sorts of badges. The interior of the Colleges, the separate dwelling, dining and society rooms, are everywhere gorgeously arranged and adorned with the portraits of almost all the pupils of the High School who have in later years become famous, and the gardens are laid out in noble walks, riding-paths and lawns for croquet and cricket. Young men enter the Colleges at from fourteen to eighteen years of age, after they have undergone an entrance examination which, however, is omitted in the case of scholars of the schools immediately under the inspection of the University of Oxford. Instruction is imparted by the fellows, who are at the same time superintendents (Aufseher) of the students in matters affecting discipline. The instruction is given in classes in the Colleges, and there are very few so-called professional lectures (Kathedervorträge) in which students from all the Colleges of the whole University take part. Especially diligent students are rewarded by honours (Ehrenpreise), poorer ones by money (Geldstipendium). The time of study lasts three or four years, then follows an examination before a special commission, by which the degree of B. A. is obtained; then three years later, they receive the degree of M. A., without needing to pass a new examination; in the same way the dignity of Doctor of Theology, of Law and Medicine is obtained not by examination, but after a longer term of years of study. The greater part of the students content themselves with the dignity of B. A., which by a somewhat stricter examination receives the special designation "cum honore." Only those who have obtained all their degrees can become Fellows, that is almost the same as Professors of the University.

One may see even from this short sketch that the life of the English student is essentially the same as that of Seminary scholars (Seminarschuelern), and that their education has very much the character of Seminary instruction. They live shut up in their Colleges, and come into no contact with the outer world. Of course their life is a highly aristocratic one. In addition to the sciences these young fellows are brought up for all the amusements and all the sports which later form a large part of the business and interest of the best English society, but, although they commit follies and extravagancies enough (Tollheiten und Ausschweifungen), yet they are completely wanting in the freedom, as well of daily life as in the pursuits of knowledge, and there can be absolutely no talk of any influence exerted by the students on public life in England—their study is a task (Zwang) and they are in many respects under an almost cloister discipline. For some time past there has been a party in England that desires the reform of the Universities, and above all endeavours to lighten the way to professorships and at the same time to facilitate the access to University education for young men outside of the Colleges. These attempts fail, however, on account of the persistence with which they adhere in England to old customs, manners and institutions, and the opponents of reform say, and perhaps not without reason, that by this present arrangement, although a high scientific training is to be sure less universal, yet it preserves in the more exclusive circles greater solidity and thoroughness than would otherwise be the case.

The consequence of this is, that the worth of knowledge and culture is more respected in society, than elsewhere; as when for example the Doctors have the privilege of presentation at court, for themselves and their wives, and have also the right to appear at the drawing-rooms of the Queen among the highest aristocracy.

This sketch though in some respects not as accurate as could be desired, is nevertheless interesting as the opinion of an intelligent and educated foreigner, and will in some measure form an introduction to the next article on "University Life in Germany."

Translated from "Über Land und Meer" of Jan. 11th, 1880, for the "Canadian Illustrated News," by James W. Bell.

Leipzig, Germany, Jan. 17th, 1880.

WHEN a peer is created a Knight of the Garter the insignia are lent to him for his life, and the robes are paid for out of the public money. They cost about £100, and at the death of each knight his robes are claimed as a "perquisite" by the Dean of Windsor. An investiture of the Thistle or St. Patrick comes to about half the expense of that of the more important order.

THE BIRTH OF LOVE.

(From Alfred de Musset.)

Go, bend above a limpid stream,
And straightway thou shalt see,
A torn reflection that doth seem
With smiles to welcome thee:

So, too, within the human heart
Love summons love to rise,
And love to life will coyly start
At meeting of the eyes.

Montreal.

GEO. MURRAY.

VARIETIES.

BEACONSFIELD.—Lord Beaconsfield "at home" is greatly beloved by his intimates and his retainers, for few men are so little given to finding fault as those who despise human nature too much ever to quarrel with it. As a host, he is amiable, but not companionable. He seldom joins in conversation, but sits nursing his own thoughts, and if addressed, replies with some mystic truism. At the recent royal visit he condescended to whist—a game which he plays execrably. The original name of Lord Beaconsfield's family was Lara, which was changed to D'Israeli on the migration of his ancestors to Venice.

DE MILLE.—James De Mille, the novelist, whose death was recently announced, was a native of the United States and a graduate of Princeton College. Among his works are "Eleanor's Household," "The Dodge Club," "Cord and Creese," "The Lady of the Ice," "The Cryptogram," "The American Baron," "The Living Link," and a text book entitled "The Elements of Rhetoric." Harper & Brothers have now in preparation a new novel by Mr. De Mille, entitled a "Castle in Spain," a story of the adventures of an Irishman among the Spaniards. Mr. De Mille was forty-eight years of age; his death was caused by congestion of the lungs.

OLE BULL.—Ole Bull celebrated his seventieth birthday, last Thursday evening, at his residence in Cambridge, Mass. Many offerings of flowers were received, among them a floral violin, the body being composed of white pinks, with scroll of red pinks on each side of the bridge, a band of violets beneath the strings and with roses for screws, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Houghton. Among the guests were: Professors H. W. Longfellow and Horsford, Mr. and Mrs. James T. Fields, Thomas and Nathan Appleton, Dr. O. W. Holmes; Dr. Doremus, of Bellevue Hospital, New York; ex-United States Minister Stoughton, Madame Lynde-Kyon, wife of the Danish Minister, and E. F. Waters of the Boston *Advertiser*. Letters were read from Mr. Whittier, Mr. Louis Agassiz and others.

THE ADAMS.—Charles Francis Adams is a late hour man. He likes to sit up half the night, reading or writing, as he feels inclined. He has three sons, Charles Francis, Jr., a well-known writer on railroad topics; John Quincy, popularly known as "Jack" Adams, and who possesses more of the Adams look than the other sons; last of all comes Brooks Adams, a red hot democrat, who wanted Mr. Tilden sworn in at New York, and then to march on to Washington. He is a handsome fellow, bright, positive and with a liberal dose of what the Springfield Republican calls "that choleric old pepper-pot, John Adams." All the Adamses look as if they enjoyed their morning tub as keenly as did their presidential grandfather his winter morning's plunge into the Potomac. They have a ruddy, well-groomed look, and all earn their own living, a matter upon which their father is "con-iderable set," to use the rural New England phrase. "Millions to inherit, and not a cent for subsistence," is the Adams' motto. It is a good stock that of the Adamses, and the fourth generation is as keenly intellectual, and as full of vigor as the first.

LORD DUFFERIN.—In an account of a Paris studio, the following appears:—a noted Englishman drops in and out again before we know what angel we have entertained, or rather, what angel has entertained us, for, have we not all drank of his punch! Some two months since an elderly gentleman appeared who signed the Monday list as Mr. Temple. He was tall, and had a little lisp and a little eye-glass, a well-trained moustache and a gold-headed cane. He called the young ladies "my dear" in the most fatherly manner. One of them, in her reading, having mixed the Bourbons, he kindly disentangled the branches during the posing of the model one Monday, and was graciously complimented by her upon his astonishing memory. No one paid much attention to Mr. Temple, for he did not draw very well, and that is the only distinction in our democracy; but he was voted a gentleman, for he paid an extra punch on departing. We now know that he who passed for Mr. Temple was no other than Lord Dufferin, late Governor-General of Canada, and that he was called away as Minister from the Court of St. James to St. Petersburg. Lord Dufferin told a gentleman who was in the secret of his *incognito* that he had enjoyed hugely going down in the early morning and "roughing it" with the rest.

Answer this.

Did you ever know any person to be ill without inaction of the Stomach, Liver or Kidneys, or did you ever know one who was well when either was obstructed or inactive; and did you ever know or hear of any case of the kind that Eop Bitters would not cure?—Ask your neighbor the same question.