

(For the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.)

A DIALOGUE.

Dame Britannia is here supposed to be surrounded by her numerous Colonial family and kindly inquiring after their welfare. And while so engaged, she observes Terra Nova putting in a corner and gently calls to her.

Brit. Come hither, child, you seem to be displeased : Tell me the reason of your discontent.

T. N. The fisheries, ma'more, the causes are Of my vexation. The encroaching French Are everywhere around me, drawing Much fishy treasure from my teeming seas. And, not content with hauling on my Banks, They buy or take my bait to intercept And catch the coming schools of largest fish. They claim, in spite of plainest treaty-law, The undivided right to net and cure Along my shores for quite six hundred miles. On all that line of coast no point of mine Dares loiter your honoured flag, which heavily floats In all the harbours of my loyal land.

Brit. Hush, my child, (aside) "No point dares loiter my banner!" My anger rises; but I must be calm. (Aloud) Firmly grasps the trident. Proceed, and tell me nothing but the truth.

T. N. These many miles of coast they claim as theirs; The very landwash is no longer mine : My salmon streams have not escaped their grasp; And logs are cut and carried off to France. My rocks contain much ore; my western shore Is rich in timber, oil, and coal; And sculpin's finest marble may be dug Out of the bowels of the Gallic claim. But all these pools of wealth are kept from me, Because La France is jealous of your away.

Brit. Greatly I pity you, my oldest born. And will consult my Chief on your behalf. He's able; but my gallant neighbours o'er The Channel are annoyed and wary, since He caught them napping by Loosap's canal. Au revoir, ma Fille. (Exit Britannia.)

A. B.

Montreal

THE GLEANER.

THE French goods for the Exhibition will be sent to Philadelphia direct in four large steamers.

The oldest peer in Great Britain is the Earl of Leven Melville, aged 90, and the youngest the Marquis of Camden, aged 4.

A new evening dress is made to button on the shoulders. It is without sleeves, and has armholes open to the waist. This is the latest.

FIFTY thousand dollars have been offered for the privilege of sweeping and keeping in good order the floors of the different Centennial buildings.

A FIRM in Treves, Germany, manufactures fire blocks of refuse tan, just as it is taken from the pits. They are said to equal in flame-heating power the best stone coal.

A colossal mechanical bird has been constructed by Nadar which is heavier than the air and flies about by means of its internal mechanism. It is going to be exhibited.

MR. RUSKIN, in a recent lecture on "Precious Stones," advised the ladies to have their gems set neat, and said that the ruby in the British crown was the most beautiful uncut precious stone in the world.

PALESTINE ladies who do their own needlework have adapted thimbles with a pebble inserted as a top. The agate, carnelian, onyx, and crystal are the most popular, as they look very pretty in their setting of silver.

A grand winter garden is being erected by the King of the Belgians close by his palace at Laeken. It will have a roof 120 feet high, so constructed as to need no support in the centre, and permit the tallest trees to branch out freely.

DR. ZUKERTORT played twelve games of chess, blindfolded and without any board or help, against twelve picked chess players of the West End Chess Club, London. The Doctor won eleven, and one was a drawn game. Time, eight hours.

FIVE o'clock tea has become quite an institution in Paris, only it is called "lunch." Colored cloths are spread on the table, such as rose, blue and buff, and many of these are daintily embroidered. Some are white damask, with a crimson cluster of fruits in the centre, and crimson bordering.

A Hungarian chemist, Dr. Von Sawiczewsky, has found that the best way to preserve fresh meat is to subject it to a temperature of thirty-two degrees below freezing, and then seal it in air tight cans. Meat thus treated appears, when unsealed, as fresh in taste and colour as when first killed.

As soon as the official Gazette, of Vienna, published the authentic text of the Andrassy Note, the Khedive requested that it might be telegraphed to him. The despatch sent to Cairo *via* Malta, giving the Note *in extenso*, consisted of 3,818 words—the cost of the whole, at 77 kreutzers a word, being 4,808 florins, or about £490.

THE color of a soldier's uniform is shown to be not so much a matter of taste as of vital importance. Experience proves that men are hit in battle according to the color of their dress. Red is the most fatal; the least fatal Austrian gray. The proportions are: Red, twelve; rifle green, seven; brown, six; Austrian bluish gray, five.

THE old anti-slavery party can, according to an article in the *St. James' Magazine*, claim Napoleon I. as an Abolitionist. It is there recorded that he was so shocked to find slaves in St. Helena that he offered £10,000 toward their emancipation, if the East India Company would supply the remaining £60,000 required to purchase freedom.

A monster building, to be called the Atlas Hotel, containing 1,500 rooms, and intended to accommodate 3,000 persons a day, is to be erected in Philadelphia for the school teachers and societies of the different States, who will be entertained there at an expense of not more than \$1.50 a day. Those who want cheap board are advised to turn school-teachers.

THE Irish papers are jubilant over the prospect of a new line of steamers to run from Galway to America. A meeting of prominent Irishmen was held in the Bilton in Dublin, and a programme suggested. The line to run monthly and then weekly; four vessels and three crews—a capital of £500,000 to be raised in 5000 shares of £100 each. The first vessel of the company to run in May. Time of crossing, five days.

Successful experiments have been recently made in France with a view of determining whether lines could be sent ashore from a stranded vessel by the aid of pigeons. The pigeon from the wrecked vessel, when set free and naturally flying to land, is able to convey a thread four hundred feet long and two-thousandths of an inch in diameter. People on the shore, by pulling the string, obtain a cord, and at length a strong rope, by which communication is had with the ship.

CARD players who are continually bewailing their ill luck of always receiving the same poor cards will, perhaps, be assured by knowing that the fifty-two cards, with thirteen to each of the four players, can be distributed, 53, 64, 736, 756, 488, 792, 839, 237, 440,000 different ways, so that there would still be a good stock of combinations to draw from, even if a man from Adam's time had devoted himself to no other occupation than that of playing cards.

THE *British Medical Journal* gives some notes of the impressions which patients occasionally derive from the use of the clinical thermometer. A young woman who was convalescent, and whose temperature had long remained normal, had a slight relapse, which she attributed to having had "no glass under her arm for a week."

A man suffering from acute rheumatism obstinately refused to have his temperature taken any more, saying, "It took too much out of him; it was drawing all his strength away." A sister in one of the women's wards says that many of the patients think the thermometers are used to detect breaches of the rule against having unauthorised edibles brought in by friends.

THE collection of military costumes in the Artillery Museum, Paris, formed by M. Leclerc, is complete. It will soon be opened to the public. These costumes, thirty-two in all, are mounted on life-size lay figures. They comprise the French military dresses from Charlemagne to Louis the Thirteenth. M. Leclerc proposes to search further back into the history of military costumes, and to unite the different forms of armor which has been successfully in use in France during remote times; afterward to take up again the history of military costume at the reign of Louis the Thirteenth, where he has now left it, and to continue it to the present time. Such a museum will be of great service to artists, who will find materials for study of a perfectly authentic kind.

THE following which is known as Mother Shipton's prophecy, was published in 1448, and republished in 1541. It will be noticed that all the events predicted in it, except that mentioned in the last two lines, already came to pass:—Carriages without horses shall go, and accidents fill the world with woe; around the world thoughts shall fly, in the twinkling of an eye. Water shall yet more wonders do, and that now strange shall yet be true. The world upside down shall be, and gold be found at root of tree. Through hills a man shall ride, and no horse or ass be at his side; under water men shall walk, shall ride, shall sleep, shall talk; in the air men shall be seen, in white, in black, in green. Iron in the water shall float, as easy as a wooden boat. Gold shall be found, and found in a land that's not now known. Fire and water shall wonders do, England shall at last admit a Jew, and lastly, the world to an end shall come in eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

Few ladies can be aware of the wanton and cruel destruction which is going on upon the earth as a means of providing them with articles of dress and personal decorations which really do nothing to enhance their attractions. It is, we believe, a fact that, for a certain material now no longer in fashion, the skins of animals unborn used, a few years ago, to be obtained by the slaughter of the mother; and within the last few days Mr. A. Newton, of Cambridge, has made public some startling statements in relation to feathers. In a "first supplement" to a feather sale catalogue of last month, he finds "evidence of the death of 9,700 herons or egrets," and 15,574 humming-birds, besides parrots, kingfishers, and other bright-coloured birds by the thousand. To diffuse knowledge on matters of this kind, discuss the limitations under which man (and woman) should exercise sovereignty over the brute creation, and inform, if not awaken, the consciences of... it would be a line of work for a dress reform association, to which, perhaps, the object of repressing the *outré* taste of female domestic might, at least for a while, be postponed.

DR. PONZA, director of the lunatic asylum at Alessandria (Piedmont), having conceived the idea that the solar rays might have some curative power in diseases of the brain, communicated his views to Father Secchi, of Rome, who replied: "The idea of studying the disturbed state of lunatics in connection with magnetic

perturbations, and, with the colored, especially violet light of the sun, is of remarkable importance." Such light is easily obtained by filtering the solar rays through a glass of that color. "Violet," adds Father Secchi, "has something melancholy and depressive about it, which, physiologically, causes low spirits; hence, no doubt, poets have draped melancholy in violet garments. Perhaps violet light may calm the nervous excitement of unfortunate maniacs." He then, in his letter, advises Dr. Ponza to perform his experiments in rooms the walls of which are painted of the same colour as the glass panes of the windows, which should be as numerous as possible, in order to favor the action of the solar light, so that it may be admissible at any hour of the day. The patients should pass the night in rooms oriented to the east and the south, and painted and glazed as above. Dr. Ponza, following the instructions of the learned Jesuit, prepared several rooms in the manner described, and kept several patients there under observation. One of them, affected with morbid taciturnity, became gay and affable after three hours' stay in a red chamber; another, a maniac who refused all food, asked for some breakfast after having stayed twenty-four hours in the same red chamber. In a blue one, a highly excited madman with a straight waistcoat on was kept all day; an hour after, he appeared much calmer. The action of the light is very intense on the optic nerve, and seems to cause a sort of oppression. A patient was made to pass the night in a violet chamber; on the following day, he begged Dr. Ponza to send him home, because he felt himself cured; and indeed he has been well ever since. Dr. Ponza's conclusions from his experiments are these: "The violet rays are, of all others, those that possess the most intense electro-chemical power; the red light is also very rich in calorific rays; blue light, on the contrary, is quite devoid of them as well as of chemical and electric ones. Its beneficent influence is hard to explain, as it is the absolute negation of all excitement. It succeeds admirably in calming the furious excitement of maniacs."

HEARTH AND HOME.

DRINK.—No man and no woman is safe who has once formed the fatal habit of looking to drink for solace, or cheerfulness, or comfort. While the world goes well they will likely be temperate; but the habit is built, the railroad to destruction is cut, ready for use, the rails are laid down, the station-house erected, and the train is on the line waiting only for the locomotive; it comes to us, grapples us, and away we go in a minute, down the line we have been for years constructing, like a flash of lightning, to the dence.

BOOKS.—Books are shields to the young. Temptations are blunted on them which otherwise would pierce to the quick. A man who draws sufficient pleasure from books is independent of the world for his pleasure. Friends may die. Books never are sick, and they do not grow old. Riches melt away. Books are in danger of no bankruptcy. Our companions have their own errands to execute and their own burdens to bear, and cannot, therefore, be always at hand when we need company. But books need never go out from us. They are not sensitive to our neglect; they are never busy; they do not scold us, and they welcome us with uniform and genial delight.

HEALTH AND TALENT.—It is no exaggeration to say that health is a large ingredient in what the world calls talent. A man without it may be a giant in intellect, but his deeds will be the deeds of a dwarf. On the contrary, let him have a quick circulation, a good digestion, the bulk, the strength, and sinews of a man, and he will set failure at defiance. A man has good reason to think himself well off in the lottery of life if he draws the prize of a healthy stomach without a mind, or the prize of a fine intellect with a crazy stomach. But, of the two, a weak mind in a herculean frame is better than a giant mind with a crazy constitution. A pound of energy with an ounce of talent will achieve greater results than a pound of talent with an ounce of energy.

THE FORCE OF EXAMPLE.—Of the many auxiliaries to woman's progression in the paths of knowledge and of virtue, none can be more efficacious than the stimulating power of example. The records of the good, the wise, the virtuous, the heroic, being presented to the contemplative eye; their actions and motives, deeds and principles, being rigidly portrayed, and the consequent results as faithfully delineated, must, doubtless, have a most salutary effect. At the same time, the recorded vices of the wicked, being accompanied by an exposition of their inducing dispositions and modes of conduct, as well as by the details of their final results, must equally tend to warn, to instruct, and to preserve from similar crime. A laudable ambition to imitate the virtues of the excellent of the world, and a constant and concurrent abhorrence and careful avoidance of the actions of the depraved, resistently engendered, cannot be otherwise than highly beneficial to every well-disposed mind, and especially desirable in that sex which so influentially attempts society in general, and proves by its example how potent is its precepts when sustained and illustrated in its actions.

A HOME-MADE CARPET.—An Eastern lady says: Have any of you a bed-chamber seldom used, which you would like to carpet at little expense? Go to the paper-hanger's store and select a paper looking as much like carpet as you can find. Having taken it home, fast paper the

floor of your bedroom with brown paper or newspaper. Then over this or these put down your wall-paper. A good way to do this will be to put a good coat of paste upon the width of the roll of paper and the length of the room, and then lay the paper down, unrolling and smoothing at the same time. When the floor is all covered, then size and varnish, only dark glue and common furniture varnish may be used, and the floor will look all the better for the darkening these will give it. When it is dry, put down a few rugs by the bedside and before the toilet-table, and you have as pretty a carpet as you could wish. A carpet, too, that will last for years—if not subject to too constant wear—and at a trifling expense. I myself used a room one entire summer prepared in this way—used it constantly; and when the house was sold in the fall, the purchaser asked me to take up the oil-cloth, as he wished to make some alterations which would be sure to injure it.

LITTLE CHILDREN.—People who habitually put little children out of their hearts, and close their doors upon them, have no idea how much comfort they set aside—what pleasure, what amusement. Of course, the little creatures meddle with things, and leave the traces of their fingers on the wall, and cry, and "bother" a little; but when one gets in the way of it, as mothers and other loving relatives do, those things become of minor importance. They say such pretty things, and do such funny things; the touch of their little hands is so soft; the sound of their little voices so sweet; their faces are so pretty; their movements so graceful and so comical. The whole family goes baby-mad—and it is no wonder. No book was ever written that was half so interesting as a little child that is learning to talk and to think, that is developing from a tiny animal into a being with a conscience and a heart.

Parents who cram their children into an upstairs nursery, while they "go into society," old bachelor uncles who always call some one to take away that troublesome boy if he scrambles into the study; or aunts who detest children because they climb upon one's lap, and rumple flounces and tear laces, are all losing more than the smiles and bows of people who care nothing for them. The most important business affairs, or the most immaculate toilets, can never repay them; for the sweetest thing is a little child when it has learnt to know and love one.

GENERAL BELKNAP.

General Belknap was born in Newburgh, in the State of New York, in 1829. In 1851 he removed to the then new State of Iowa, and entered upon the practice of law. On the breaking out of the war he went into the field as Major of the Fifteenth Iowa Infantry, and served with gallantry and distinction to the close of the hostilities. He was with General Sherman in the Georgia campaign, distinguished himself in front of Atlanta, and on the day General McPherson fell, acted so bravely that he was promoted to be Brigadier-General. Subsequently he marched with Sherman to the sea, and when the army reached Savannah, was brevetted Major-General. When the war was ended, General Belknap was offered a field-officer's commission in the regular army, but declined it, and in 1866 was made Collector of Internal Revenue for the First Iowa District. While holding this office he earned great credit for the faithful, honest, and fearless manner in which he performed his duty. The reforms he instituted in his district gained for him the highest commendations of the department. It was while occupying this position that he was selected by President Grant to fill the cabinet seat vacated by the death of General Rawlins in 1869.

PERSONAL.

JUDGE AMBROSE, of Hamilton, is dead. Rev. Dr. Talmage, of New York, lectured in Montreal last week.

MAYOR FELLOWES, of Ottawa, died on the 15th inst., after a few days' illness.

THE wife of U. S. ex-Senator Carl Schurz died in New York on the 15th inst.

JUDGE McKEAGHNEY, of Manitoba, has been sworn in as Administrator during the absence of Governor Morris, who is now at Ottawa.

MR. JUSTICE PATTERSON has been appointed a member of the Senate of Toronto University in place of Professor Goldwin Smith, resigned.

THE Government nominees of the Quebec Harbor Commission are:—Hon. J. P. O. Chauveau, Shepley, M. P. P., Thibaudeau, M. P., A. Wood, E. Sewell.

DURING the three years naval command of Captain the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duchess will reside a considerable portion of each year in Russia.

MR. ROBERT MACDONALD, for many years a resident of Collingwood, died lately at the ripe old age of 111 years. He was hale and active until within two days of his death.

It is currently reported that Col. Duchesnay is to be appointed Commissioner of the Provincial Police instead of the present Commissioner, Judge Doucet, and is also to perform the duties appertaining to the office of the late Major Voyer, also, that the Force is to be armed with carbines, and formed into sort of constabulary.

It is announced that Viscount Mandeville, the eldest son and heir of the Duke of Manchester, is engaged to be married to Miss Yznaga, one of the belles of New York. Viscount Mandeville is a young man of twenty-two or three, and has for some time been well known in New York fashionable society. Miss Yznaga is a young lady of marked beauty and accomplishments. It is understood that the wedding will take place soon after Easter, and that the Viscount and his bride will for some time thereafter take up their residence in New York.