

point Sir Charles Tupper gave full and satisfactory explanation at the special meeting of the Council, which met on the 18th ult., for the very purpose of considering how his suggestion might be carried out. He then declared that his proposal was due to the conviction that, unless some practical steps were adopted, the League would be open to the reproach of having no definite object. The *Edinburgh Review* had, indeed, charged it with persistent *faineantise*, with having nothing whatever to show after its five years of existence. "We all admit," said Sir Charles Tupper, "that this question of Imperial Federation—it has been practically admitted by its warmest advocates from the very outset—is a measure of great importance, but attended with great difficulties; and I know of no better means of arriving at a solution of the question, and making some practical step in advance, than by mutual consultation on the part of leading gentlemen in this country who have taken so forward and active a part in the movement, and such delegates as, I am satisfied, would be cheerfully sent by the various colonies who have any measure of self-government, taking up and considering this very important question." Then, after emphasizing the entirely unpartisan character of the League and its aims, Sir Charles took care to add that, in making the suggestion, which he had ventured to throw out, he did not in any way represent the Government of Canada, but simply expressed his own views and opinions with regard to the question.

After the President, Lord Rosebury, and other members of the Council, had spoken on the subject, it was resolved that a deputation from the League should ask the Government to consider the advisability of issuing invitations to the Governments of the self-governing colonies to send delegates to London to confer on the possibility of establishing closer and more substantial relations between the Mother Country and the Colonies. It was also resolved that the resolution should be communicated to the Prime Minister and the Colonial Secretary. The refusal of Lord Salisbury to entertain the proposition comprised in the resolution made it necessary to hold another special meeting of the Council. On that occasion, also, Sir Charles Tupper took pains to clear his action in the matter of any possible misunderstanding. The Premier had, in his opinion, misapprehended very seriously the position of the question. When His Lordship had spoken of the colonies desiring to consult together, and of their being free to select representatives to that end without any summons or assistance from the Home authorities, he evidently seemed to be under the impression that the suggestion of a conference had emanated from the colonies. Such was clearly not the case. "On the contrary," Sir Charles Tupper explained, "I drew attention to the fact at the outset—that Canada was eminently satisfied with the Constitution that she possessed now; that there was probably less necessity for action in this direction on the part of Canada than in almost any other portion of Her Majesty's dominions. I spoke, in making the suggestion, as an Imperialist. In that spirit and in that spirit alone I made the suggestion. This question of Imperial Federation did not emanate from the colonies."

In fact, not only did Sir Charles Tupper not claim, on any of the several occasions to which we refer, to speak for the Dominion, but, moreover, we believe we are justified in saying that, though he prided himself on being an Imperialist and ex-

pressed his readiness to give his influence to whatever policy or plan would tend to perpetuate and guarantee the integrity of the Empire, and to that extent sympathized with the League movement, he never declared himself in favour of the federal scheme as the only alternative to disintegration. Partaking last December in the discussion that followed Mr. W. Gisborne's paper on Colonization, Sir Charles took exception very explicitly to the view that, without Imperial Federation, the Empire's integrity is at stake. "Having," he said, "had over thirty years' experience in Colonial Parliaments, and having given great thought to the relations of the Colonies to the Mother Country, I am glad to say I am not prepared to endorse the statement that we must either radically change the existing system or this Empire must go to pieces." And, having affirmed his strong belief in the necessity of the colonies to England's greatness and deprecated any sundering of the traditional tie, he continued: "But when I look at what the colonies were fifty years ago—either Australia or British North America—and their position of commanding importance to-day, how, in the face of such testimony of what the existing system has been able to achieve, can I commit myself to the proposition that we must either go to pieces or change all that, and change it for something which, with all their energy and ability, the best statesmen have not yet been able to devise. How can I commit myself to the statement that you are going to pieces unless this undiscovered panacea is found?" In his later utterances Sir Charles Tupper, while expressing his desire that some definite and practical steps might be taken to bring the Mother Country and the Colonies more closely together, deprecated the mistake of considering the federal scheme essential to the endurance and integral life of the Empire. And throughout he was careful to insist that he alone was responsible for the opinions that he expressed.

### JOURS DE NAISSANCE.

A sweet dark face and raven hair, large darker, dreamy eyes—  
Soft lights within those soulful eyes, like lights of summer skies;  
A glow on dainty cheeks, like blush of rosy morn—  
A sunny smile, and crimson lips, like poppies in the corn.  
Oh, sweet first love is born to-day!

A slender form—a winsome voice, low-trilling all the day—  
Cool, gentle hands, with touch so blest pain from them flies away—  
Kind words when sorrow come, that put an edge to life,  
And make the life in living feel 'twere better for the strife.  
Ah! sweet first love, wilt thou not stay?

A summer night—a foot-worn bridge—a babbling rill below—  
A harvest moon—a harvest love—a hillside wrapt in snow—  
A hand clasped over hand—a sob heard brokenly—  
A verdant height—a last embrace—a white sail out at sea.  
Yes, sweet first love will live away!

Montreal, August 18, 1889.

M. B. A.

### THE POET'S WINE.

Nature unto her votary distils  
A draught more sweet than ever the wine-god sipped;  
Blessed be he who in it deep hath dipped,  
Fountain of golden light on sunny hills—  
Balm of fine flowers; perfume of spicy trees;  
The brawl of brook, the voice of blithesome bird;  
The cricket's cheery song in sunshine heard,  
The wind's low wail, the booming of the bees.

O! happy he who in her temple kneels,  
Who worships at her many-fountain'd shrine!  
His be the sunlight and the golden wine;  
To him her fairest fountains she unscals—  
All the sweet essences of earth are his,  
Heir of the gods the living poet is!

Prescott, Ont.

HELEN M. MERRILL.



Messrs. Macmillan & Co., of London and New York, will shortly bring out a sequel to Sir Charles Dilke's "Greater Britain," under the title of "Problems of Greater Britain."

The latest addition to Lovell's Canadian Copyright Series is "That Other Woman," by Annie Thomas. It is not the author's best production, but it is a readable story and has a moral for those who choose to profit by it.

Mrs. H. R. Haweis, whose visit to Canada some of our readers will remember, is about to publish a book on "The Art of Housekeeping." The favoured ones who have enjoyed Mrs. Haweis's receptions will understand that clever and hospitable lady's fitness for the task.

The latest instalment of Mr. John Ruskin's autobiography, "Præterita," is entitled "Joanna's Care," and is largely devoted to an account of his intercourse with Miss Joan Agnew, subsequently Mrs. Arthur Severn. It also contains some personal reminiscences of Carlyle.

We are promised a remarkably cheap re-issue of Morley's Universal Library (George Routledge and Sons), the price of each volume being only sixpence. The series will be begun by the publication of a new edition of "The Plays of Richard Brinsley Sheridan," as to the critical value of which it is enough to say that Professor Henry Morley is the editor.

One of the most recent of the Canterbury Poets Series, published by Walter Scott, of London, is "The Poems of Walter Savage Landor. Selected and edited by Ernest Radford." The volumes of the series, which is as excellent as it is cheap, may be obtained from Messrs. W. J. Gage & Co., Toronto, and from Messrs. W. Drysdale & Co. and E. Picken, of Montreal.

"The Colonist at Home Again; or Emigration not Expatriation" is a sequel to a work published some years ago entitled "A Year in Manitoba." The Retired Officer, who gave his early experience of the North-West in the latter book, found it pleasant and advantageous to extend his stay to seven years. It is to be hoped that the "Sequel" will be as effective as its forerunner in inducing the better class of immigrants to avail themselves of the bounties of our great prairie country. The book is published by Messrs. Wm. Dawson & Sons, of London, and W. Drysdale & Co., of Montreal.

"Picked up on the Streets"—a romance from the German of H. Schobert—translated into English by Mrs. A. L. Wister, has been brought out by Mr. J. Theo. Robinson, of Montreal, as one of his Popular Series. "Ferra," the heroine, is a study somewhat out of the beaten path both of character and life. Mr. Robinson has also issued a cheap edition of Col. Hay's "Pike Country Ballads," "The Monk's Wedding," by Conrad Ferdinand Meyer, a romance of mediæval Italy, is another of his series. Mr. Robinson's books are clearly printed on good paper, and have attractive covers. A discount of 40 per cent. is allowed to the trade.

Under the heading of "Publisher Found," the *Literary World*, of August 9, contains the following piece of information: "Charles Bianconi: A Biography" was published by Chapman and Hall, 1873, and reviewed in the *Literary World* of February 15 of that year; W. Kirkham, Scarborough." In a note to the chapter on "Charles Bianconi" in his "Men of Invention and Industry" (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1885), Mr. Samuel Smiles writes: "This article originally appeared in *Good Words*. A biography of Charles Bianconi, by his daughter, Mrs. Morgan John O'Connell, has since been published; but the above article is thought worthy of republication, as its contents were for the most part taken principally from Mr. Bianconi's own lips." The son of Bianconi, whose name is not likely to be forgotten in Ireland, married the granddaughter of Daniel O'Connell, and the latter's nephew, Morgan John, married Miss Bianconi.

The July number of the *Hertfordshire Constitutional Magazine* contains interesting papers on "The Origin of Tradesmen's Signs"; "Elizabeth at Hatfield," by W. F. Andrews; "Hertfordshire Regiment and the China War of 1841," by Joshua Jolliffe; "Hertfordshire's Relation to the Wars of the Roses," by Percy Cross Standing; "St. Alban's Abbey and its Restoration," by "A Parishioner," and other contributions of antiquarian, historical and economic interest. The paper on Queen Elizabeth's sojourn at Hatfield House (the seat of the Marquis of Salisbury) sheds some fresh light on the great Queen's early life and studies, and enhances the interest of the many associations that cluster around one of the most noteworthy of English country houses. Mrs. Quincy Lane, the able and enterprising editor of this fine monthly, has placed the English public under fresh obligations by starting a like publication for Middlesex. It is her intention to endow every county (if practicable) with its own organ for the expression of opinion on constitutional, religious and social questions, and the success which has hitherto attended her praiseworthy efforts, gives reason to hope that she will also succeed in the larger scheme. Her chosen motto "Honeste audax," gives the key to her principles and aims. (59 and 60 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.)