

THEATRE ROYAL.—The Theatre Royal has been reopened under the management of Mr. J. A. Horne, and it would appear from the bill of fare presented to the public that Mr. Horne is intent upon bringing out a series of amusing and attractive pieces. Miss Lucille Western, of whom most of our readers will at least have heard, has been engaged, and now appears nightly, supported by an entirely new company. On Friday night Lucille Western appeared for the last time in her celebrated dual characters of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine, in "East Lynne." On Saturday the "Spy of St. Marc" will be put on the boards, with Lucille Western as La Thibise, and on Monday night she will take the character of Gertrude in the time-honoured "Rip Van Winkle."

Mr. Millar, artist of this city, who went to the Huntingdon border on behalf of the *Canadian Illustrated News* has returned; and we hope next week to reproduce some of his sketches, and give an account of his narrow escape from a perilous position, and his subsequent handsome treatment by Col. Bagot. Our next number will be unusually interesting.

LITERARY NOTICES.

SKETCH OF THE NORTH-WEST OF AMERICA. By Mgr. Taché, Bishop of St. Boniface, 1868. Translated from the French by Captain D. R. Cameron, Royal Artillery. Montreal: John Lovell.

The title of this book is a sufficient indication of its contents. It is a sketch of the history and resources of the great territory, or territories, which have been lately added to the Dominion diadem. Its Right Revd. author is a man of keen observation and much practical good sense, who has lived in the country for many years, and is thoroughly master of his subject. He conveys in a pleasing manner a large amount of information, which must be of the highest use and benefit to the future settler in Manitoba and the almost boundless prairies beyond that new Province. In fact no one who intends living under the benign government of Mr. Archibald, the new Governor, can afford to proceed on his journey to his new home without a copy of this very valuable work. It forms a handsome volume of over two hundred pages, and is well printed. Captain Cameron deserves well of the country for the service he has rendered it in translating this book. His translation is very accurate. We observe there is no index to this book, which is much to be deplored, as without an index such a work can scarcely be called perfect.

THE RED RIVER COUNTRY, HUDSON'S BAY AND THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES, &c., by Alex. J. Russell, C. E.

The second edition of this work having already been exhausted, and copies still being in frequent demand, the publisher, Mr. George F. Desbarats, has again put it to press, and the third edition, ample and beautifully illustrated, and accompanied by a map, will be issued in a short time. Orders from the trade may be forwarded at once, and will be filled according to the date of their receipt. Recent events have made Mr. Russell's book more than ever valuable, and the edition now in press will no doubt command a ready sale.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—From Messrs. Dawson Bros. we have received the following works, which will be noticed more at length in other issues:—"The History of Hortense," by John S. C. Abbott; "Christianity and Greek Philosophy," by B. F. Cocker, D. D.; "The Vicar of Bullhampton," by Anthony Trollope; and "Beneath the Wheels," by the author of Olive Varcoe, &c. The works are all published by Messrs. Harper & Bro., of New York, and may be obtained of Dawson Bros. in this city.

GREAT FIRE AT QUEBEC.

The ancient capital has been the scene of another terrible conflagration, by which upwards of four hundred houses have been burned. The fire broke out about one o'clock on the morning of the 24th May, in a house at the corner of Crown and King Streets in the very centre of St. Roch's suburb. A strong easterly gale blowing at the time carried the flames with great rapidity to the adjoining houses, and it soon became evident that an extensive conflagration must ensue, and a general panic prevailed amongst the people, who anticipated a repetition of the sad disasters which had on former occasions devastated this portion of the city. House after house fell a prey to the devouring element, until a sea of flame swept in every direction, extending to ten or twelve streets. The Jacques Cartier Hall (Market Place), was early enveloped by the fierce and raging fire, but by dint of great efforts of the fire brigade, was extinguished after destroying a portion of the roof. The fire then crept stealthily along the mass of wooden dwellings and out-houses along Ann and Richardson and other streets, towards the extensive ship-yards of Mr. Baldwin, on Prince Edward Streets, where two large ships in course of construction under cover of an immense wooden shed, were speedily consumed, together with the store-houses, work-shops, timber and ship-building material, involving a loss of nearly \$400,000. In the meantime the fire was rapidly extending in other directions, threatening the destruction of the whole suburb. The wind at length abated, and rain began to fall about half-past four o'clock. The firemen, aided by the Artillery and the 69th Regt., under Cols. Chandler and Bagot, at length succeeded in circumscribing the fire, and by six o'clock it was thoroughly got under, after some five thousand people had been rendered houseless. The *Chronicle* states the number of houses destroyed as four hundred and twenty-four. Our illustration, from a sketch by our special artist, represents the conflagration, as it was nearing

Mr. Baldwin's vessels. The following list of remarkable fires in Quebec may be of interest, and ought to warn its citizens of the folly of not taking greater precautions to prevent the recurrence of like disasters:

1682. Aug. 5.—City almost reduced to ashes.
1834. Jan. 23.—Castle of St. Louis burnt.
1845. May 28.—1,500 houses burnt.
" June 28.—1,300 houses burnt.
1847. June 14.—Theatre burnt.
1854. Feb. 1.—Parliament House burnt.
1865. June 23.—Great Fire.
1866. Oct. 14.—2,500 houses destroyed.
1870. May 24.—424 houses burnt.

PLATE OF SUMMER JACKETS.

(From "Le Follet.")

"Laura" *paletot*, slightly fitting to the figure, of black silk, cut up to the waist, so as to form eight equal-sized *basques*, trimmed round with a plaited frill of the same silk: a double row carried up the back to reach the trimming, which is carried round the throat. Between the two *basques* at the back is a very deep double fold, so as to form a *pouff*. Sleeves rather loose, cut up the back of the arm, and trimmed with a plaited frill.

"Fernande." Small *casaque* of black *gros-grain*, composed of six pieces—two in front, two under the arms, and the two back pieces. Two crossway folds, fastened in at the throat, where they are extremely narrow, reach within three inches of the bottom of the *casaque*. These folds gradually widen to the ends, which are cut each in a half scallop, trimmed round with lace, and fastened together up the middle of the back under four small double bows without ends. The lace trimming is carried down each side of the outer edge. The *basque* is made in three deep folds under the arms, and is trimmed with wide black lace all round. This, as well as all the rest of the black lace, has under it a second lace rather wider, and white, which has a very good effect. The lace round the throat is the width of that on the bias folds. The sleeve is rather easy, and plain, reaching half way between the elbow and wrist, at which point it is drawn up in a double plait, and left open at the front seam, so as to hang as a deep frill, the whole being trimmed with the two laces.

"Myosotis." *Casaque* of black *faille*, cut in six pieces, open *en cœur* in front, and trimmed with plaited ribbon, placed so as to resemble *revers*. The same trimming is carried down the front and round the *basques*. Very wide open sleeves, trimmed to match.

"Fernande." Front view of the second figure, already described.

"Wellada." Fitting *casaque* of *taffetas* cut also in six pieces, the two in front resembling those of a *fiche*, drawn together at the waist, and rounded at the ends and trimmed with lace; those at the back, which are also rounded, being trimmed with a plaited frill, as are also the sleeves, which are very wide and long, square at the bottom, and very short in front of the arm. From the *basques* under the arms the frill is continued up the sides of the body and across the shoulders.

"Philiberte." *Veste* of white *cachemire*. The front is quite short, and cut so as to form one short point at each side, open *en cœur* with *revers*. The back is cut just like the front, only longer. The sleeve, which is long and open to the arm-hole in front of the arm, forms a point back and front; under-sleeves of the same; the whole trimmed round with black velvet, above which is a fine embroidery of gold or black silk.

MANITOBA.

Near the middle of one of the large lakes to the north-west of Lake Superior is a small island which the Indians shun as haunted ground. On no condition will they approach it, much less land on it, for it is the home of *Manitoba*—"the speaking God,"—whose voice they hear nightly as they camp by the lake, or guide their fishing boats over its surface. The "voice" is no myth. It assails not the Indian's ear alone, but the white man's as well. Whence comes it? The superstitious Ojibway hears and keeps away, piously pronouncing the name of God. The Englishman hears and examines. Not the inquisitive investigator, but the divinity of the place perishes by the invasion. Touched by the wand of science, the mystery of the place is resolved into a simple natural phenomenon—the beating of the waves on a peculiarly sonorous shingle. Along the northern shore of the islands runs a low cliff of compact, fine grained limestone, which clicks like steel under the stroke of a hammer. When the wind blows from the north, the waves, beating at the foot of the cliff, dash the fragments of stone against each other, causing them to give forth a sound which resembles the ringing of distant church bells. So strong is this resemblance that the explorer Dawson, who spent several days and nights on the island, was more than once awakened with the impression that he was listening to chimes. When the breeze subsides and the waves play gently on the shore, low wailing sounds—spirit voices to the awe-stricken Ojibway—come up from the beach. And as the explorer lay on his bed of moss-covered rock at night, and experienced their "peculiarly impressive" effect, he found it very easy, he says, to understand why the credulous natives should avoid the place. Naturally this home of Manitoba became known to the whites as "Manitoba Island." The island gave its name first to the lake, then to the nearest trading post of the Hudson Bay Company, and now the Canadian Parliament proposes it as the "euphonious appellation" of the combined British settlements immediately south and east of the lake.

WOODEN WATER PIPES.—In Ithaca, New York, they have a new method of manufacturing these. The lumber is, by peculiar hollow augers, of different sizes, cut or bored out in concentric tubes or pipes, only leaving at last a small core, a little less than the bore of the smallest pipe. In this way a piece of timber, originally ten inches in diameter, will turn out several pipes of, say 10, 8, 6, 4, and 3 inches in outer diameter, and about 1½ inches in thickness, or of greater thickness if required, by decreasing the sizes of the inner tubes proportionately. The hollow auger cuts away only from one-half to three-quarters of an inch. This piping is then properly strengthened by iron bands, and subjected to a bath of asphaltum or other cement to make it impervious to gas or water, and to prevent decay.

Mr. Chipman has been elected by acclamation for King's County, Nova Scotia, and thus succeeds to the seat in the House of Commons, vacated by the recent death of his father.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Charles E. Belle, Esq., of the city of Montreal, agent of immigration and colonization. Also, Mr. James Thom, immigration agent for the port of Quebec.

A monument to King Robert the Bruce is to be erected on the Field of Bannockburn. An influential committee has been formed in London and in Scotland. The committee are obtaining a design from the veteran artist, Mr. George Cruikshank.

Viscountess Darnley, widow of the late peer of France, son of the chancellor of that name who signed the ordonances of 1330, has just died at her chateau of Montigny, near Dieppe. With this lady becomes extinct the last remnant of the Anjou branch of the Plantagenets. Her father, Count Deshayes, who was page to Louis XVI., and who was personally known to many now living, bore the arms of England on his escutcheon.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* of the 7th ultimo contains the following item:—

"His Royal Highness Prince Arthur may be expected to arrive home from Canada with the 1st battalion Rifle Brigade, in Her Majesty's ship "Crocodile," early in July.

TEXTILE BLUE.—This is a combination of the blue oxide of tungsten with the double cyanides of iron and tin. It is the invention of M. Tessié du Motay, and is prepared by dissolving successively in water ten parts tungstate of soda, eight of protochloride of tin, five of ferrocyanide of potassium, and one of perchloride of iron—and agitating the mixture. The precipitate is washed, and on being exposed to the sunlight for several days, becomes intensely blue. It will not fade, and resists acids.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

ENQUIRER wishes to know if there ever was a village in Canada called "Coote's Paradise," and if so, where was it situated, and who founded it?

STUDENT is anxious to ascertain if there are any original documents in the possession of private parties in Canada relating to the career in America of Major André.

THE LATE ALFRED BAILEY.

To the Editor of the *Canadian Illustrated News*:

SIR.—If I do not err, Mr. Alfred Bailey, who died in your city the other day, to the great regret of many friends and admirers throughout the country, was the author of the words of the well-known Canadian song, "Tramp, Tramp, the Snow Shoe Tramping." Perhaps you can inform me if I am right. I make the enquiry as a friend has asserted, most positively, that Mrs. Laura Honey Stephenson wrote the song in question. Yours, &c., CANADENSIS.

OTTAWA, 28th May, 1870.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A CONSTANT READER.—Your communication came to hand as we were going to press. Many thanks for your suggestions. We had, however, anticipated their purport, as you will doubtless see in a day or two.

CHESS.

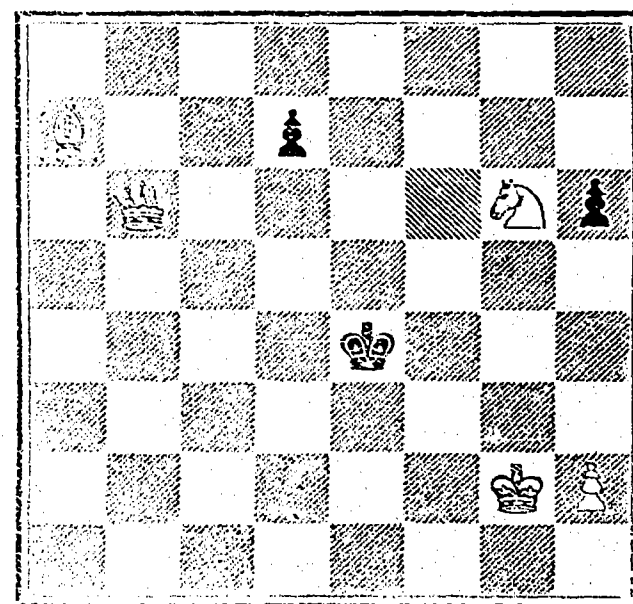
Contributions of original games, problems, and enigmas are invited for this column.

Correspondents will oblige by observing our notation: Problems, in order to prevent errors, should be sent on diagrams, with the names of the pieces legibly written, and solution on the back.

Our Correspondent "A. L." who contributes a chess problem, says:—"Your first enigma was very good indeed. I send you a variation of its solution, in which you will observe that Black's moves are all forced."

<i>White.</i>	<i>Black.</i>
1. Q. takes K. B. P.	P. takes Q. (must).
2. Kt. to Q. B. 8th.	P. moves.
3. B. to K. 7th, mate.	

PROBLEM No. 10.
By A. L., from St. Jacques de L'Achigan.



White to play, and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM No. 9.

<i>White.</i>	<i>Black.</i>
1. B. to Q. 3rd.	K. moves.
2. B. to Q. 4th.	K. takes B.
3. Q. to Q. 6th, mate.	