

Our old host of Key Pond, Isidore Gendron, celebrated his golden wedding on the 3rd inst. Isidore has been a resident there for over 30 years and we imagine he has found the waters of Key Pond more productive than farming. The pond has yielded some good harvests of lake trout and is very conveniently situated for residents of this locality as it is within two hours drive of Sherbrooke.

Our remarks in last issue anent Mr. Smith's nocturnal visits to the Elmwood Cemetery, have developed the fact that there are several Mr. Smith's resident in this city or several individuals who display similar peculiarities. We have material enough on the half shell already, with which to open a school for scandal, and by accident we have tripped over one article which contains in itself all that is necessary for a second Beecher-Tilton sensation. It is strange the amount of *ex parte* evidence supplied to us which tends to prove that the same cap fits a good many heads, but we think it stranger still that some of the sisterhood who court the cool breezes and the shades of evening in the direction of North Melbourne Street, should require not only angels, but *ministers of grace* to defend them. The days of chivalry are past but we shouldn't be surprised to see a *tilt-on* the street some of these fine evenings.

BOOK REVIEW.

"Anecdotal Life of Sir John Macdonald," is a book of 332 pages, written by E. B. Biggar, Montreal, illustrative of the humorous side of Sir John's life and his quick wit and ready *repartee*, and is a most amusing and interesting volume. The old chieftain heartily appreciated a joke whether the point was scored for or against him. It is generally known that Sir John's geniality and ready wit made him a most agreeable companion and that he was one of the *ardent spirits* that enlivened the convivial circle wherever his presence could be secured. Some of the other *ardent spirits* occasionally obtained a temporary advantage over him. We copy some of Mr. Biggar's anecdotes.

"At one time complaints were very numerous among prominent Conservative members of the drinking habits of Thomas D'Arcy McGee. A member came to John A., and said, 'You must speak to him. This sort of things is a disgrace.' After putting them off for some time, John A. went to McGee and said, 'Look here, McGee, this Government can't afford two drunkards, and you've got to stop.'"

"Though the fact may not be creditable to human nature, Sir John's very weakness was a secret of his popularity with a certain class of men, and he did not hesitate to take advantage of the weakness when the occasion served his purpose. Once he caused great applause in his audience when he said, 'I know enough of the feeling of this meeting to know that you would rather have John A. drunk than George Brown sober.'"

"Going home one night, while he lived at Toronto, he met Mr. L—, the tea merchant, who, though one of his many personal friends, was a life-long Reformer. Sir John was a little unsteady, and wishing company home, said, 'L—, I have known you for twenty-five years, and you've never given me a vote yet; but,' he added, as he took his friend's arm, 'you've got to support me this time.'"

"When Prince Arthur visited Canada, a reception was given him at the Capital, and it was arranged that the members of the Cabinet should meet privately in their Windsor uniforms, just before the reception. One of the ministers, Mr. V—, who was not himself an example of temperance principles, tried on his cocked hat, and one of the company observed that it was not a fit. 'No,' said Sir John, looking at the subject of remark, 'you look as if a cock-tail would suit you better than a cocked hat.'"

"One evening Lady Macdonald and Sir John were entertaining Sir Hugh Allen, when Lady Macdonald solicited from Sir Hugh a contribution in aid of some church work she had in hand. Sir Hugh hedged and pleaded inability to give what she asked, but she good-naturedly laughed off the plea, and told him he could not take all his money with him when he died. 'No,'

remarked Sir John playfully, 'it would soon melt if he did.'"

"Haunts of the Ouananiche" is a handsomely illustrated little volume in pamphlet form, published by S. L. Swett, Temple Building, Montreal, and intended as a guide to Lake St. John and its tributary waters. It describes all the places where this famous game fish is found, with information descriptive of the country lying between Lake St. John and Lake Mistassini, with views of scenery along the line of the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway, and contains appropriate extracts from the meetings of such gifted authors as "Adirondack" Murray, Kit Clarke, J. G. A. Creighton, and others, who have made Ouananiche fishing a pastime and study. Those enthusiastic anglers who have never fished for Ouananiche have an untold pleasure *in perspective*. It is generally conceded by those who know, that there is as much sport in landing a 5 lb. Ouananiche as there is in a 10 lb. salmon.

"Quebec, Ancient and Modern, being a collection of Notes for Tourists," is the title of a neat and beautifully illustrated little volume, by E. T. D. Chambers, Esq., Quebec, which furnishes the most comprehensive description of Quebec and its *environs* and attractions, of any work on the subject ever published. Mr. Chambers is an easy writer, possessing vivid powers of description, and the incidents which illustrate the pen portion of his sketches are happily chosen. Two or three hours study of this little work will familiarize one with a great deal of the scenery in and about Quebec and some of its ancient landmarks, that could only be obtained by months of labor and study in the ordinary way. 25 cents enclosed to the publisher, E. L. Swett, Temple Building, Montreal, will secure a copy.

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