

already, the columns of the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED have been open to the accounts of the late celebration of the day of Lundy's Lane, and the doings of the Historical Society bearing that distinguished name. We were among the first to publish the names of the promoters of the movement, and the project by which such similar societies should be established elsewhere, in the different military grounds of Ontario.

To-day, passing from the west to the east, we have the pleasure of announcing the formation of a new body called the Chateauguay Literary and Historical Society, whose aim is to promote patriotism by perpetuating in particular the memory of the brave men who won the victory of Chateauguay, and by encouraging in general the study of Canadian history and Canadian literature. At the representative and influential meeting held at Ormstown, on the 26th of last month, it was resolved to have a great yearly celebration on the anniversary of the battle, the 26th October, and, by way of due preparation, to have as well a series of meetings during the winter season. For the furtherance of that object, while the local talent may very properly be secured, it is intended also to invite the services of public-spirited men from other parts. It is pleasant to learn that the movement is quite popular throughout the country, which emboldens us to suggest that the site of the old stone house, which could be seen, only three years ago, from the bridge at Bryson's, may be preserved, were it only by a memorial stone, with a suitable inscription thereon. There is no better place in the province for an historical monument than this battlefield, on both banks of the beautiful river, winding through a beautiful valley.

Thus the good work goes on. The value of historic research has at length begun to be appreciated. The people are awakening to the glory of Canadian history, than which there is nothing more likely to foster the national spirit and make our young people worthy of their fathers. The future of this country is in the hands of its youth—male and female—and there is no more powerful incentive to work for it than the example of those who did and died in its defence.

### CANADIAN COPYRIGHT.

On several occasions already we have spoken of this important question, in our editorial paragraphs and literary notes, keeping our readers posted on the progress which it was making. To-day we have something much more important, because practical, to lay before them. On the 18th of October a general meeting of the Copyright Association of Canada was held at Toronto, with the object of endeavouring to secure such Canadian legislation in the Copyright, as shall best maintain all interests connected with the book-printing and publishing business of the country. On opening the matter in hand the President went over the situation, showing that what is called the Berne bill—from having been adopted at the late international conference in that town—which was laid before Parliament at the last session, would result in dire injury to the book-printing and publishing interests of Canada. If it became law, every British copyright book would be copyrighted in Canada, without requiring to be manufactured in Canada, as is made imperative by our actual legislation to secure Canadian copyright. The bill furthermore excludes all foreign (that is, American), reprints of British copyright

books, thus throwing our markets wholly into the hands of British publishers and printers, whose first editions are always high, and who never, in any case, issue their so-called "cheap editions" at less than six shillings, while we can get the same in the twenty-five cents American editions.

The draught of a new bill was then submitted to the meeting, the chief clauses of which are here set down:—

I. The condition for obtaining the Canadian copyright shall be that the work shall be printed and published in Canada within two months after the first publication elsewhere.

II. Any work intended to be copyrighted in Canada shall, before publication elsewhere, or simultaneously with its first publication elsewhere, be registered in the office of the Minister of Agriculture by the author of his legal representatives, which registration shall secure the exclusive Canadian copyright to the author or his legal representatives.

III. Should the person entitled to copyright under this Act fail to take advantage of its provisions, any person domiciled in Canada may print and publish the work in question, provided registration of intention to do so has been duly made with the Minister of Agriculture, and the necessary license obtained; but in no case is the said license to convey exclusive rights to print and publish the work in question. This license is to be granted to all applicants agreeing to pay the author or his legal representatives a royalty of 10 per cent. on the retail price of each copy licensed to be sold.

IV. From and after the passing of this Act the importation into Canada of foreign reprints of works of which the copyright is subsisting in Great Britain and which have been registered under sections three or four of the act for republication in Canada, shall be prohibited, provided the provisions of the section enforcing the printing and publishing in Canada have been complied with.

A few days after the meeting, and in pursuance of the will of the meeting, the president of the Association, Mr. J. Ross Robertson, and Mr. Bunting, of the *Mail*, went to Ottawa and held a preliminary meeting with the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, to whose department the question belongs. This will soon be followed by a representative deputation going to the capital and settling the main features of an equitable Copyright Act. To enable the reader to appreciate still further this interesting matter, we shall publish, in our next issue, a paper descriptive of the historical and legal features of Copyright.

### WHAT DO THE SMASHERS PROPOSE?

The *Globe* puts forward this common sense view of a point out of which some people are trying to manufacture a bugbear:—The *Stratford Beacon* observes that the smasher organ's political charge against French Canadians is that "their early marriages, which result in large families, more than offset the natural increase of the English population and its gain from immigration from the United Kingdom. This happens to be untrue. In 1871 there were in Ontario 292,221 families, including 1,060,234 "children and unmarried," or 3.63 of these to each family. In Quebec there were 213,503 families, including 779,923 "children and unmarried," or 3.55 of these to each family. In 1851 there were in Upper Canada 448 children under 15 and 108.8 unmarried persons between 15 and 20 in each 1,000 of population. In the same year there were in Lower Canada 446.2 under 15 and 20 to each 1,000 of population.

In 1861 there were in Upper Canada 427.7 under 15 and 111.2 unmarried between 15 and 20 to each 1,000. In Lower Canada there were 427.3 under 15 and 113.8 unmarried between 15 and 20 to each 1,000.

In 1871 there were in Ontario 443.9 under 15

and 102.5 unmarried between 15 and 20 to each 1,000. In Quebec there were 442.2 under 15 and 101.7 unmarried between 15 and 20 to each 1,000 of population.

In 1881 there were in Ontario 366,444 families, including 1,232,866 "children and unmarried," or 3.37 per family. In 1881 there were in Quebec 254,842 families, including 873,727 "children and unmarried," or 3.42 per family.

Of persons "15 and under" Ontario in 1881 had 379 to each 1,000, and Quebec 402 to each 1,000. But the infant mortality in Quebec is so great that Ontario had 24.7 children of the age of 15 to each 1,008 of population, whereas Quebec had only 23.4 to each 1,000. Of persons "from 15 to 20" Ontario 116 to each 1,000 of population, and Quebec only 108 to each 1,000 in 1881. These figures prove that Ontario people raise more children per family than Quebec people, though the birth rate in Quebec is a little higher. What becomes of the Smasher allegation that "the French" are ousting the English Canadians by mere force of fecundity? It is as senseless as the greater part of the Smasher rant.

But suppose the Smashers were correct. What would they do about it? That is what the *Stratford Beacon* wants to know. If the fecundity of "the French" were a danger to English Canada, how would the alarmed Smashers proceed to avert that danger? Would they make a rule that English speaking married couples should produce more children or come under a penalty duly made and provided? Would they rule that each "French" pair should have only so many children, and that those in excess of the regulation number shouldn't count? Would they employ the method by which the Hounhymms thought of ridding themselves of too-fecund neighbours? Or would they resort to something like the Australian device for keeping down rabbits and spread among the French some swift plague? We have already shown that annexation would be no preventive of French Canadian increase, but rather the contrary. What do the Smashers propose?

### LITERARY NOTES.

Alexander Dumas is the richest writer in the world.

Lava's fine quarterly *Le Canada Français* has just completed its first year by an able number.

Alphonse Daudet is going to London to make arrangements for a satisfactory English translation of his novels.

Charles Mackay, the English song writer, is sick with old age and financial distress. Lord Tennyson is getting up a fund for him.

M. Dulau, of the British Museum, has written to the manager of *La Revue Canadienne* to send the full files of that periodical.

"Seranus," or Mrs. Harrison, has opened a couple of Culture Classes in Toronto. Her Montreal friends wish her every success.

Mr. Clarke, M.P.P., and mayor of Toronto, was largely instrumental in securing the endowment for two new chairs in Toronto University.

Dudley Warner is giving his views to Canadian reporters in advance of his written impressions to be published in Harper's publications.

"B. C. 1887" is the odd title of a volume of travels in British Columbia, by the authors of "Three in Norway," Messrs. Lees & Chatterbreck.

Mr. Evans McColl, the Gaelic bard, sold some three hundred copies of his last edition in Montreal. At 80 odd, the bard is still full of bodily and mental strength.

Mr. J. Hunter Duvar, of Hernewood, near Charlottetown, the distinguished poet, and contributor to the columns of the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, is Inspector of Fisheries for P. E. Island.

The Kingston *News* rather tartly takes Sir Daniel Wilson, president of the Toronto University, to task for calling that institution the "national university." The editor holds that it is no more national than Queen's.

Now that the very important copyright question is coming up before the country and Parliament, it may be well to state that perhaps the best source of information on that subject is in a lecture delivered before the Law School of Bishop's College, in 1882, by Mr. S. E. Dawson, the well-known publisher and author.

Mary Hartwell Catherwood, of Hoopeston, Ill., will begin a serial story, entitled "The Romance of Dollard," in the November *Century*, founded upon this remarkable incident, in Canadian history. The historian, Parkman, has written a preface for Mrs. Catherwood's novel, and Mr. Sandham, lately of Canada and now of Boston, has made illustrations for it.