

THE PORTRAIT OF LADY MAHON.

BY B. DISRAELI, M.P.

Fair lady! these pencil of Vandyke
Might well have painted, thine the English air,
Graceful yet earnest, that his portraits bear
In that far troubled time, when sword and pike
Gleaned round the ancient halls and castles fair
That shrouded Albion's beauty; though, when need,
They too, tho' soft withal, could boldly dare,
Defend the leagured breach, or charging steel
Mount in their trampled parks. Far different scene
The bowers present before thee: yet serene
Though now our days, if coming time impart
Our ancient troubles, well I ween thy life
Would not reproach thy lot, and what thou art:
A warrior's daughter, and a statesman's wife!

THE GREAT CONSERVATIVE
BANQUET AT OTTAWA.

This memorable event, which took place on Thursday the 27th ult. was held at the Skating Rink, magnificently transformed for the occasion. The decorations were admirably designed, and when the hall was lit up with a thousand gas jets, the effect was extremely good.

The rink has a row of circular windows on either side, about twenty feet from the floor. These windows not being required for the banquet were made use of to display shields bearing the coat of arms of Halifax, Fredericton, London, Quebec, Ottawa, Charlottetown, Montreal, St. Catharines and Toronto. These shields were supported by a beautiful scroll work of evergreens, extending the entire length of the room. Bright coloured bannerets floated from the pillars at intervals, giving it a very pleasing effect. Beneath the scroll work the wall was panelled off in alcove style, with union jacks and tri-colours, each alcove containing such mottoes as "The great Nor'-West, the future granary of the world;" "Sir E. P. Taché's patriotic remark respecting the loyalty of his fellow-countrymen:—"The last shot in defence of British supremacy on this continent will be fired by a French Canadian;" "Canada our home," etc.

The decorations on the west side of the hall were a counterpart of those on the east, so far as the general arrangement was concerned, but the shields in the windows bore different devices, such as the coat of arms of the Provinces of Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and British Columbia and the Dominion of Canada. The mottoes were "George E. Cartier, patriot, statesman, friend;" "the Pacific Railway, the iron band that binds together our great confederation;" "the Lesser Britain will afford happy homes to the toiling millions of the Greater Britain." The newly painted ceiling looked gray with streamers of red, white and blue, radiating from two centres, and heightening the effect of the decorations below. The wall decorations culminated at the south end in the rear of the dais, the ornamentation of which is richly coloured and profuse. The lower portion of the wall is shrouded in British flags interspersed with the French tricolor, festoons relieving the bareness of the entrance on each side of the platform. The centre piece of decoration was a gilt crown surrounded with flags, surmounting the arms of the Provinces with V. R. on each side. Immediately below the motto, "By the Party, with the Party, but for the country," stood out in bold letters on the face of an extemporized bracket, which supported a statue of the First Minister. The greeting "Welcome" was conveyed to the guests by a gas jet decoration in a central position. Above the whole of this central piece were mottoes inscribed in bold red letters, "British Connection," "National Policy." To the right were shields bearing the Dominion arms and those of Ottawa, and the motto, "Milk for babes, meat for strong men." On the left side were heraldic shields bearing the royal arms and the arms of Sir John Macdonald. The truism, "And now the hum is heard again in the land," found a place on the scrolls. The gallery was neatly trimmed and looked gay with a brilliant throng. Accommodation was there provided for two hundred and fifty ladies, while along the sides of the hall were grouped Ottawa's youth and beauty. The face of the gallery was inscribed with the words picked out in bright colours, "Encouragement to home industry," and the French phrase "Avant tout soyons Canadiens," and "Protection à nos industries." Five tables, each eighty feet in length, occupied the floor, while at the south end an elevated platform was erected, where the distinguished guests were seated. This principal table, which faced the gallery, was profusely decorated with silver and flowers.

Amongst the many persons who are well known as public men, there were present: Sir A. T. Galt, M. H. Gault, M.P., M. P. Ryan, M.P., Thos. White, M.P., Hon. T. N. Gibbs, J. McLennan, M.P., Hon. A. Morris, J. J. Baker, M.P.P., Metcalfe, M.P.P., and W. Lees, M.P.P., Perth, Dr. Ferguson, M.P., Kemptville, Hon. J. J. Fraser, Hon. P. A. Landry, and Hon. Wm. Wedderburn, New Brunswick; Alonzo Wright, M.P., A. P. Caron, M.P., Quebec; Hon. L. O. Loranger, Quebec; P. White, M.P., Pamlroke; Hon. Mr. Trutch, British Columbia; D. D. Calvin, M.P.P. Kingston; Thomas Deason, ex-M.P.P., F. J. French, M.P.P., Mr. Girouard, M.P., Montreal; George Taylor, Warden of Grenville and Leeds; B. Rosamond, Almonte; S. S. Blodget, U. S. Consul, Prescott; F. Houde, M.P., Col. A. A. Stevenson, A. W. Ogilvie, and Andrew

Robertson, Montreal; E. H. Smyth, Kingston; Bishop Lewis, Archdeacon Lauder, Rev. Father Dawson, Rev. D. M. Gordon, Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Rev. Mr. Huntington, Hon. Mr. Sullivan, Premier of P.E.I.; Hon. Mr. De Brasse, Dr. Schultz, M.P., Dr. Beatty, Warden of Ottawa county; Hon. R. L. Church, J. G. Haggart, M.P., James Denville, M.P., W. Hesson, M.P., Dr. Bergin, M.P., Rufus Stevenson, M.P., Mr. Bulmer, Montreal; W. W. Ogilvie, D. McMaster, M.P.P., Samuel Jeffery, J. J. Hawkins, and Henry Lemon, Brantford; J. G. H. Bergeron, M.P., Dr. Grant, Hon. Peter Mitchell, Dr. Whiteford, Rev. A. A. Cameron, G. W. Monk, M.P.P., Col. Tisdale, W. D. Lesueur, Sheriff Powell, C. McGee, F. Clemow, etc. The following were vice chairmen:—J. M. Currier, M.P., J. Tassé, M.P., P. Baskerville, M.P.P., Alonzo Wright, M.P., John Rochester, M.P. The Workingmen's Liberal-Conservative Union was represented by Mr. J. Ick Evans, delegate of the Grand Lodge, Toronto; Ottawa Central Lodge, No. 19, was represented by F. R. Byshe, President; W. A. Gibson, Vice-President; C. Burgess, Secretary; J. Burrill, Treasurer; J. Currie, Tyler; G. J. O'Doherty, Solicitor; Wm. Coulther, Chairman of Committee; B. S. Beswick, J. C. Winters, and H. J. Guppy; J. S. Ross, M.P., Dundas; Andrew Broder, M.P.P.; S. J. Dawson, M.P.

The guests of the evening arrived at 7.30, and were escorted to the head of the banquet hall by a piper and trumpeter Lambkin, of the Dragoon Guards. At the head table there were Senator Skeam, Chairman of the Ottawa Liberal-Conservative Association who presided, Sir John Macdonald, Bishop Lewis, Sir A. T. Galt, Hon. Mr. Aikens, Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Leonard Tilley, Hon. John O'Connor, Hon. Mr. Baby, Hon. Mr. Bowell, Hon. Jas. Macdonald, Hon. Attorney-General Loranger of Quebec, Hon. T. N. Gibbs, Hon. Mr. Morris, Hon. Wm. McDougall, M.P., Ex-Governor, Trutch, of British Columbia; Hon. Mr. Sullivan, Prince Edward Island; Hon. Mr. Landry, New Brunswick; Hon. Mr. Fraser, New Brunswick; and Hon. Mr. McLeod, Prince Edward Island. Hon. Mr. Langevin, who entered the room somewhat late, received a perfect ovation when he walked up the hall, escorted by Mr. Currier, M.P. The band of the Governor-General's Foot Guards played during the dinner. The portrait in oils of Mr. Langevin was presented to that gentleman during the dinner, amid enthusiastic applause. The banquet, in all its appointments, was one of the most magnificent ever seen in Canada, reflecting the highest credit on the Committee, and on Mr. Gouin, of the Russell House, who had charge of all the details of the table. Mr. Gouin, by his affability, energy and enterprise, is known all over the country not only for the excellent manner in which he conducts his Hotel, but also by the attention which he bestows upon all his guests.

OUR WESTERN HOME.

Miss Rye writes to us, a few days ago:—"You have always been a friend of mine, perhaps you may like the enclosed view I had taken this autumn. It is 10 years almost to a day since I came here with my first 60 children. Misses Billborough, McPherson and W. Midmore have followed in the path I showed, and now over 4,000 children are in Canada as the result of our joint, if disjointed efforts, and as far as I can see, we may place another 4,000, and people and children be all the better for the transplanting."

Yours faithfully,
MARIA I. RYE.

MAPLESON OPERA COMPANY.

The question is can Her Majesty's Colonel be induced to visit Montreal with his magnificent Opera Company. We almost fear not as we know of no manager brave enough to assume so heavy a responsibility. The scheme is prepared, however, to open subscription lists at the Windsor, the St. James Club and at DeZouche Music Store. If the public respond heartily it can be done but not otherwise.

MISNAMED ARTICLES.

An exchange says: Why should trade not have a Johnson or a Webster to classify and correct the mass of inconsistencies that go to make up its nomenclature? We not only tax our brains to invent "fantastic" names for every new fabric, varied perhaps only by a thread or a shade from what our grandparents wore a century ago, but there are in use positive misnomers for many staple articles of merchandise. The following imperfect list, culled from sources readily at hand, will give a faint idea of them:

Acid (sour), applied in chemistry to a class of bodies to which sourness is only accidental, and by no means a universal characteristic. Thus rock, crystal, quartz, flint, etc., are chemical acids, though no particle of acidity belongs to them.

Black lead does not contain a single particle of lead, being composed of carbon and iron. Brazilian grass does not come from Brazil, or even grow there; nor is it grass at all. It consists of strips of palm leaf (*Chamerops argentea*) and is imported chiefly from Cuba.

Burgundy pitch is not pitch, nor is it manufactured in or exported from Burgundy. The best is a resinous substance prepared from common frankincense and brought from Hamburg;

but by far the greater quantity is a mixture of resin and palm oil.

China, as a name for porcelain, gives rise to the contradictory expressions, British china, Dutch china, Chelsea china, etc., like wooden milestones, iron milestones, brass shoe-horns, iron pens, steel pens.

Cuttle bone is not bone at all, but a structure of pure chalk, once embodied loosely in the substance of certain extinct species of cuttlefish. It is inclosed in a membranous sac, within the body of the fish, and drops out when the sac is opened, but it has no connection whatever with the sac or the cuttlefish.

Galvanized iron is not galvanized. It is simply iron coated with zinc; and this is done by dipping it in a zinc bath containing muriatic acid.

German silver is not silver at all, nor was the metallic alloy called by that name invented by a German, but has been in use in China time out of mind.

Honey soap contains no honey, nor is honey any way employed in its manufacture. It is a mixture of palm-oil soap and olive-oil soap, each one part, with three parts of curd soap or yellow soap scented.

Japan lacquer contains no lac at all, but is made from a kind of nut tree called *anacardiaceae*.

Kid gloves are not made from kid skin, but of lamb or sheep skins. At present many of them are made of rat skins.

Meerschaum is not petrified "sea foam," as its name implies, but is a composition of silica, magnesia and water.

Mosaic gold has no connection with Moses or the metal gold. It is an alloy of copper and zinc, used in the ancient musivum or tessalated work.

Mother of pearl is the inner layer of several coats of shells. It is not the mother of pearl, as the name indicates, but in some cases the matrix of pearl.

Pen means a feather (Latin penna, a-wing). A steel pen is not a very choice expression.

Salad oil is not oil for salad, but oil for cleaning saddles, i.e., helmets.

Whalebone is not bone at all, nor does it possess any of the properties of bone. It is a substance attached to the upper jaw of the whale, and serves to strain the water which the creature takes up in large mouthfuls.

HEARTH AND HOME.

MARRIAGE PLEDGES.—A girl should hesitate to give her promise to any man for whom she is constantly making mental apologies. The manners which annoy her will not be altered by marriage; and, if she is ashamed of them, be the poor fellow ever so good, ever so rich, ever so commendable as an honest man, she will not be able to fulfil her vow of honouring him; and in the end she will not love him—for shame kills love, while pride in any one awakens it.

PURPOSES.—Purposes, however wise, without plans, cannot be relied on for good results. Random or spasmodic efforts, like aimless shots, are usually no better than wasted time and strength. The purposes of shrewd men in the business of life are always followed with carefully-formed plans. Whether the object is learning, honour, or wealth, the ways and means are all laid out according to the best methods. The mariner has his chart, the architect his plans, and the sculptor his model—and all as a means and condition of success.

NECESSITY.—Necessity is the great master, and it operates on all classes of society—it gives the power of concentration to the lawyer, teaches the physician to be self-contained and studious, gives efficiency to the pen of the writer, drills the book-keeper and the clerk, and trains the hand of the artisan. It is an ever-present and most exacting schoolmaster; and, as, with an immense majority, this schoolmaster begins his lessons in youth by means of the struggles and burdens of life, and continues them without relaxation to the end, the discipline within certain limits is complete—the self-control being general, but the proficiency lying in each case solely along the line of experience.

THE WORST FORM OF SELFISHNESS.—One is often inclined to think that selfishness, not money, is the root of all evil. We are each endowed from birth with an instinct of individuality which makes every soul seem and be the centre of its own universe, from which all other influences radiate, and to which they all converge. This is a natural and proper feeling when not allowed to "get beyond itself," and by means of it much of the work of the world and the progress of humanity has been achieved. So strong is this instinct that it is always liable to abuse; but the moment that abuse begins the instinct ceases to be honourable, and becomes a huge and monstrous selfishness of the baser sort; and from such selfishness spring most of the crimes that we know—murder, theft, envy, malice, and all uncharitableness.

CONVERSATION.—He alone can become a truly accomplished conversationalist who is gifted with a kind heart; and such a person will always take pleasure in conquering the painful diffidence of others, and in breaking through the limits which separate them from "life." Many persons suffer most unjustly under the imputation of having nothing to say, when the truth is that few comparative strangers have ever conversed much with them. It will be found that in most cases these silent persons are far better worth knowing than the majority of chatteringers of commonplace trifles. If you are

so unfortunate as to feel a tremor at the thought of encountering strangers in society, remember that they form a collection of persons with whom you have no difficulty in conversing singly. If you are conscious of possessing general information equal to that of those whom you expect to meet, venture confidently and calmly on the ordeal. You will soon find it is like learning to swim—that there is no difficulty which is not imaginary.

REST.—There are moments of deep and mental repose, and intellectual quiet, in which the vivacity of intellect seems to droop, her sensibility to grow supine; and this is falsely deemed exhaustion, when it is not even lethargy. The giant is never so much to be feared as when refreshed by the coolness of the shade; the eagle never more ready for flight than when she has trimmed her sinewy wing. Like the vernal showers, these seasons of mental quiescence nourish the germs of future fruit. At such moments it is that Reason, the empress, holds her grand council in the palace of the soul, gives audience to her ministers, and receives the reports. Conscience investigates and condemns or ratifies the mental returns. What though at this time, as in the stillness of the night, the camp of the heart appears silent in slumber; yet, the senses and faculties, like watchful sentinels, are at their posts, preparatory to the dawn of active life, which is to summon the whole host to deeds of prowess. Reason, then, in such moments, is tacit, but not dumb; she conceals her outward beams, to condense their lory with vividness within. Like a mighty vessel becalmed, she still possesses innate capacity of motion; and though the sail flaps idly, and the hull raises no ripple, yet so soon as the breath of circumstances, or the reaction of inherent energy arise, she once more proudly bends her prow to the power she uses, yet appears to obey, and careers in majesty and strength through the shoals of error, bearing the virtues to the haven of truth.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

CAROL uses falsetto notes to excess in his singing.

MME. MODJESKA has just translated Ruskin's *Modern Painters* into Polish.

M. CHABRILLAT has accepted a drama from the pen of MM. Ercmann-Chatrian, the scene being laid in Alsace.

THE desire to see the "Merchant of Venice" at the Lyceum is incredible. Every night hundreds are turned away from the doors.

M. TAILLADE, a well-known French actor, is going to London to represent Shakespearean characters in English.

BARTLEY CAMPBELL says they used to have sensational plays in Shakespeare's time. Now they call them legitimate.

MR. TENNYSON has found time to write a little comedy in one act; it is said to be full of the most delicate humour and pathos.

THERE has been discovered in the French army a tenor singer such as has never before been heard. His voice is said to be more wonderful than any voice yet known in France.

EMMA ABBOTT does not think that getting married spoils good singers. Neither does Max Strakosch, who even goes so far as to say that married prima donnas are the best singers.

A DRAMATIC version of Mrs. Burnett's new and strong novel, "Haworth's," made by Mr. Joseph Hutton and Mr. Arthur Mathison, has been produced in Manchester. It is called "Loved and Lost."

GILBERT never goes in front to see his own plays. All he knows of them is what he catches from the wings. Sullivan, too, is never present at a production of one of his works, unless he conducts.

A CINCINNATI paper remarks that when a new dramatic company "take the road" they should see that the road is kept in good repair, for the chances are they will need it to walk home on.

M. SARDOU read his new piece, "Daniel Rochat," to the Comédie Française on Friday week, and it will shortly be produced. The plot is understood to turn on the conflicting feelings of a Protestant young lady for a lover who is an Atheist.

MADAME PATTI, after appearing for the second time at the Paris Opera as "Lucia," has gone to Breslau, whence she intends proceeding to Dresden, returning to Paris on the 22nd inst. to give her third and final performance.

THE rehearsals of *La Noce Juive*, a one-act comic opera, the poem by M. A. Silvestre, the music by M. Serpette, have begun at the Salle Favart, where its first representation will be given in the course of this month.

SAYS the *Parisian*:—"Mr. Saint-Saens has declared war against the Italian School of Music; he has demolished Verdi, not only as a composer but as a politician. 'Aida' is unworthy of the name of opera—for particulars, see Mr. Saint-Saens' article."

VERDI is setting to music Dante's "Padre Nostro" and "Ave Maria." The first will be a chorus of five voices, without accompaniment, the second a melody for one mezzo-soprano, with an accompaniment of six stringed instruments.

MME. ARDINI, the wife of one of Mapleson's tenors and a member of the Colonel's company, is said to be very handsome, and nearly six feet, or thereabouts:

"A daughter of the gods, divinely tall
And most divinely fair."

ARTHUR SULLIVAN will conduct the orchestra on the opening night of his opera at the Fifth Avenue, December 1, and possibly one or two nights following, as a little sensation; but he does not go elsewhere with the party, and is in no way interested or identified with them.

MR. JOHN MCCULLOUGH is reported by the *Cleveland Leader* as saying that he has been trying to forget what he has seen in other actors, and is learning to draw his inspiration from the book of nature. "I believe," he says:—"I am beginning to understand better than ever before the humanity and the many sides of Shakespeare. It is my intention to devote my time assiduously to the study of this great master, and, if I am spared ten years longer, I hope to make greater progress than I have made in the last twenty years."