

THE ROBIN.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

My old Welch neighbour over the way
Crept slowly out in the sun of Spring,
Pushed from her ears the locks of grey,
And listened to hear the robin sing.

Her grandson, playing at marbles, stopped,
And cruel in sport as boys will be,
Tossed a stone at the bird, who hopped
From bough to bough in the apple-tree.

"Nay!" said the grandmother: "have you not heard,
My poor, bad boy, of the fiery pit,
And how, drop by drop, this merciful bird
Carries the water that quenches it?"

"He brings cool dew in his little bill,
And lets it fall on the souls of sin;
You can see the mark on his red breast still,
Of fires that scorch as he drops it in.

"My poor Bron thudlyn! my breast-burned bird,
Singing so sweetly from limb to limb,
Very dear to the heart of our Lord
Is he who pities the lost like Him!"

"Amen!" I said to this beautiful myth:
"Sing, bird of God, in my heart as well;
Each good thought is a drop wherewith
To cool and lessen the fires of hell.

"Prayers of love like rain-drops fall,
Tears of pity are cooling dew,
And dear to the heart of our Lord are all
Who suffer like Him in the good they do!"

-Atlantic Monthly.

TEMPERATURE in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending Saturday, June 10, 1871, observed by JOHN UNDERHILL, assistant to the Medical Faculty of McGill University, 229 Notre Dame Street.

Table with columns for Day, Time (9 A.M., 11 P.M., 5 P.M., MAX., MIN., MEAN), and Barometer (9 A.M., 11 P.M., 5 P.M.). Rows include Sun., Mon., Tue., Wed., Thu., Fri., Sat.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1871.

- SUNDAY, June 18.—Second Sunday after Trinity. Battle of Waterloo, 1815. Earl Dalhousie, Governor, 1820.
MONDAY, " 19.—Magna Charta signed, 1215. Suffocation of British prisoners in the Blackhole at Calcutta, 1757.
TUESDAY, " 20.—Accession of Queen Victoria, 1837.
WEDNESDAY, " 21.—Longest Day. Proclamation, Quebec Gazette, the first Canadian newspaper, published, 1764.
THURSDAY, " 22.—Turkish Monarchy founded, 553. Machiavelli died, 1527.
FRIDAY, " 23.—Lord Campbell died, 1861. Great Fire in Quebec, 1805.
SATURDAY, " 24.—St. John Baptist. Mid-summer Day. Newfoundland discovered by Cabot, 1497. Battle of Castagna, 1863.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1871.

The action of Parliament at its last session in relation to the Union of British Columbia with Canada, and the recent proceedings of the Government in instituting an immediate survey of the Canadian Pacific Railway, may be said to have put that great undertaking already in the market. The stipulation to complete it within ten years expresses the spirit in which the agreement was made rather than the binding letter of the compact, a breach of which would involve a penalty. It is not at all remarkable that both parties to the agreement should have disavowed the absolute nature of this part of it, seeing that they were mutually interested in its fulfilment and would both suffer through its failure. The present indications are that the work can be done within the time specified. The recent war in Europe will doubtless give a fresh stimulus to emigration from the Old World to the New. Industries have been paralysed that cannot readily be restored: confidence has been shaken; taxes have been greatly increased, and the governments of the recently contending countries have become borrowers in the money market to an extent heretofore almost unheard of. Nor is the guarantee for continued peace in Europe of the most reliable kind. The seeds of future complications are already planted and may soon bear fruit. The growing depression among the working classes in England, not to speak of the spread of political discontent, is another element calculated to disturb what ought to be the normal relations between capital and labour by which both find profitable employment.

These considerations suggest the probability of an exodus from Europe to America such as has not been seen for nearly twenty years, and the rapid expansion of Canada with her great public works projected, and the establishment of law and order over a vast area of cultivable land, give her substantial attractions in the eyes of the newcomer that she never before possessed. A couple of years will, doubtless, witness the commencement, at several points, of work on the Pacific railway. Within the same time many of the Provincial railways and other important undertakings now under consideration will have been begun, and, as a consequence of these, the demand for labour will have very greatly increased. Large contractors are among the best of immigration agents, and we should not be surprised were we to hear

that within a comparatively short period placards were found posted up in the principle cities of the United Kingdom, stating how many hundreds or thousands of labourers were wanted for the Canada Pacific Railway, offering the candidates a free passage, rations, a certain proportion of pay in cash, and a land grant at the end of their term of service. By such a policy, under judicious management, and with the selection of men of good, industrious habits, settlement along the whole line of railway from Ontario to British Columbia would be almost contemporaneous with the building of the road. As already remarked, recent events in Europe have tended to depress the material condition of the working classes. But other agencies have been at work to advance their intelligence; and these two influences operate in the same direction—to induce the people to seek new fields in which their industry may be better rewarded. Now, with Canada's newly acquired territorial greatness, its liberal and impartially administered laws, its freedom from mob rule, and its numerous public works to be constructed, it stands on a far better footing than ever before, in competing with the United States for the surplus labour of Europe.

To reap the full advantages of the present condition of affairs, to be reasonably assured of cheap labour, and money at a moderate rate of interest, it is urgently desirable that no time should be lost in pushing forward the work. Though definite action cannot be taken except upon those portions of the road previously surveyed, yet there are certain points at which there cannot be much doubt as to the route, and at these work might be prepared for without much delay. It is certain that the road must touch, or go very near Fort Garry, and between that point and the point of connection with the existing lines of railway, the labour of the surveyors should be first expended in determining the most direct and economical route. Much good might be effected in placing this section of the road under contract, even though the western portion were not then surveyed. It may be deemed desirable that one company should undertake the construction and management of the whole line; but if all action is delayed until the whole of the route is finally located by the Engineers and approved by the Government, it is exceedingly doubtful if the road can be put in the market within two years. Much valuable time would therefore be lost, labour and settlers attracted to American competing lines and Canadian progress correspondingly retarded. A condition in the terms with any Company undertaking a portion or a whole of the work ought to be that a certain proportion of their lands ought to be settled within a given time, because otherwise the proprietors might see it to their advantage to allow the government reserve to be settled first in order to increase the value of their own. But mere questions of detail sink into insignificance in the presence of the fact that we have an immense territory to govern which we ought to colonize, and that a great public work like the Pacific Railway will prove a most powerful attraction to immigrants who, when they have completed their engagements on the railway, will settle upon the lands on its borders. There are townships in Ontario forty and fifty miles from the line of the Grand Trunk Railway which are indebted, in great part, to that road for the settlers who now cultivate them. The Pacific line will have the same effect, though for obvious reasons on a much larger scale.

The following announcement, copied from the telegraphic reports of the Gazette, will show that there is little appearance of danger that the fisheries clauses of the Washington Treaty will come into force, unless Canada shall receive some more substantial equivalent for the surrender of her rights than that which the Treaty promises:—

"The Times announces semi-officially that the Dominion Government, as soon as the provisions of the Treaty of Washington with regard to the fisheries were announced, protested against them by cable telegraph to the Imperial Government, and that Sir John A. Macdonald, as a member of the High Commission, did the same. Instructions were then sent out from Downing street, directing the Commission to sign the Treaty subject to the approval of the Canadian Parliament, so far as those questions which affected Canadian interests were concerned. It is now understood that the Government are and always have been united in their opposition to that part of the Treaty which refers to the fisheries, unless the Imperial Government can give some good reason for their being acquiesced in, and a sufficient quid pro quo given to Canada."

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. Owens closed his engagement on Monday evening by again appearing in "The Victims" as Joshua Butterby, in which character he is inimitable. Mr. Albaugh made an admirable Mr. Merryweather, while Mrs. Vandeerin and Miss Kate Quinton ably sustained their respective roles. The last-named lady "brought down the house" several times in the after-piece, and showed herself a most effective actress. Mr. Davis and others deserve honourable mention, but, indeed, the whole company is exceedingly well

up. Mr. Frank Drew, the well-known Irish comedian, is the present "star." He has just returned from a professional tour in Great Britain and Ireland, where he was most heartily received.

IN MEMORIAM.

(From the Gazette, June 9.)

Yesterday afternoon a meeting of a number of gentlemen connected with the city press, and other friends of the deceased, was held in the city office of the Canadian Illustrated News, to consider the best means of procuring the erection of a memorial stone over the graves of the late George Spaight and Charles E. F. Lodge, who were drowned in the Lachine Rapids on the evening of the 24th of May.

Mr. Thomas White, of the Gazette, was called to the chair, and Mr. Thom, of the Witness, requested to act as Secretary.

The following resolutions were adopted: Moved by Mr. C. Kirby, late of the Herald, seconded by Mr. A. Robertson, of the Illustrated News, and

Resolved.—That the members of the press of Montreal desire to express their deep sense of the loss which Canadian journalism has sustained in the sudden deaths of George Spaight and Charles E. F. Lodge.

Moved by Mr. A. Somerville, seconded by Dr. Keatinge, of the Hearshstone, and

Resolved.—That the members of the Canadian press, and other friends, be invited to contribute towards the erection of a suitable memorial to the deceased.

Moved by W. Stephens, of the Daily News, seconded by Mr. Tett, of the Gazette, and

Resolved.—That a circular be at once issued by the Chairman and Secretary, addressed to members of the Canadian press, soliciting subscriptions towards carrying out the preceding resolution; and that Mr. A. Robertson be requested to act as Secretary, and Mr. Salter, of the Quebec Observer, as Treasurer of the Memorial Fund.

Moved by Mr. K. White, of the Gazette, seconded by Mr. Barry, and

Resolved.—That a further meeting of members of the press and other friends of the deceased be convened by the Secretary, at Montreal, so soon as sufficient time has elapsed to permit of a return to the circular, at which the precise character of the memorial may be determined.

Moved by Mr. Tett, seconded by Mr. Barnum, and

Resolved.—That we tender our thanks to C. L. Bossé, Esq., the business manager of the Canadian Illustrated News, for his kindness in placing at our disposal a room in which to hold our meeting to concert measures for appropriately perpetuating the memory of our departed friends.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Chairman, and the meeting adjourned.

[A circular has already been issued and addressed to several members of the press and others, known to have been personally acquainted with the deceased, but other parties who desire to assist the movement may send their subscriptions to Mr. Salter, or communicate with the Chairman or Secretary named above.—Ed. C. I. N.]

LADIES' EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE.

A meeting was held at the hall of the Natural History Society on Saturday afternoon last for the purpose of considering a scheme for the establishment of a Ladies' Educational Institute, and submitting it to the public. There was a large and fashionable attendance. Principal Dawson occupied the chair, and his opening address, explaining the object of the meeting, is thus reported in the Gazette.

"He had the honour to represent there the lady president of an association which is to be, but which to a certain extent had an existence already. They (the gentlemen on the platform) were the humble representatives of the ladies, and, for his part, he felt proud to take a leading part in a movement which he believed to be one of the most important steps in the education, not only of women, but of men, which had ever taken place in this country. The ladies who had had this work in charge had worked privately, sending out a circular. They would understand, too, that the proceedings heretofore had been merely preliminary, and this meeting was held in order to ascertain the feelings of the public towards the scheme, with a view to making a decisive movement. It would, of course, have been absurd to have come before the meeting without something definite, and a report had therefore been prepared, but a great share of the details had been left to the future. It was desired to be able to engage lecturers during the ensuing winter, and to arrange a course of lectures. The object of the movement was not to do anything in the way of school education, or in the way of popular lectures, but was merely to arrange what might be called a college course for women. In an humble and small way it was true, but still it was a commencement. There were two essentials of a college course. They must have not only school teachers, or amateur lecturers, if they wanted a college course, but they must have professional specialists, who had made studies with that view, and being perfect in their own speciality, they must have an aptitude for teaching, and one of the great difficulties in a new country like this in the way of a college course, was the difficulty of obtaining those specialists. The second essential to a college course was, that the learners should be not merely school girls and school boys, but that they should be students. That they should be prepared to go through a course of mental gymnastics. The object which this association had in view was the securing of professional specialists to do the work of teaching. In the second place they must have young women for students, and it was his experience that young women could do just as much as young men in the way of hard study. It might be said that this association would die, or its members fall off, when the first gloss had worn off. But he would say that whether they had large classes or small classes, it would be worth while to do the work, even if they trained but a very few. The report, which would be read to them, was not the working out of a thing which had never been done before; the ladies had the experience of classes in England, Scotland, and in Toronto, too, to guide them. They had for the most part based their calculations on the experience of the Ladies' Educational Association of Edinburgh."

The Rev. Mr. Gibson read the report of the Provisional Committee, from which the following is an extract:

"The Committee has arranged, as far as it is possible to do so at an early date, for four courses of lectures to be given during the ensuing winter, two courses before Christmas and two after. A letter just received from Professor Goldwin Smith leads us to hope that he will deliver a course of lectures