

DEATH OF THE CANADIAN POET
OCTAVE CREMAZIE.

At a meeting of the *Club National* held a few evenings ago, after routine business, Mr. H. Fagnant, seconded by Mr. A. J. Chartrand, proposed the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

"That the members of the *Club National* have learned with the most profound sorrow of the death of the distinguished poet, Octave Crémazie, which took place at Havre, France, on the 17th of January last."

Mr. Fagnant supported his resolution by an eloquent eulogy of the deceased poet. He was followed by Mr. Alphonse Christin, who proposed, seconded by Mr. H. Beaugrand, a resolution to the effect that the members of the *Club* considered the works of Crémazie equal in merit to those of the great poetical writers of his day, and that it was to be regretted that Canada has allowed to die so far from his native land, the first singer of her national glories. Mr. Christin effectively recited some extracts from Crémazie's *Emigration* and *Les Morts*, two of his best pieces, the meeting greeting their delivery with reiterated applause. Mr. Beaugrand also expressed his appreciation of the poet's productions. Mr. J. N. Bienvenu then proposed, seconded by Mr. Arthur Globensky, the following resolution:

"That, whatever opinion may be entertained as to Crémazie's real or supposed faults, the expiation having exceeded the proportions of the offence, we ought to forget the ill which he may have done as a man, and only recall the merits of the poet, and that it is the duty of French Canadians to set afoot a national movement to restore to his own land the ashes of the illustrious dead."

Mr. Globensky repeated a sonnet, which he had improvised in honor of the poet.

Messrs. Charles Ouimet and J. C. Robillard then spoke with emotion of the poet's life and work.

After some formal resolutions, the meeting then adjourned.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

CENTRAL CANADA MACHINE WORKS.—These works, situated on the line of the Canada Central Railway, at Carleton Place, Ont., are among the most complete of their kind in the Dominion. The proprietors, Messrs. Gillies & Beyer, have aimed at superiority in all details, and a walk through the establishment is calculated to convince even an ordinary observer that a large measure of success has been attained. Instead of a motley collection of buildings, erected with no settled purpose, we find the various "shops" designed and located in accordance with a well-thought-out plan, each being admirably adapted for the work to which it is devoted. The buildings are of handsome stone, procured from the basement excavations; the Machine-shop is 104 feet x 44 feet, and the Foundry 53 feet x 33 feet. Messrs. Gillies & Beyer are builders of steam engines, water-wheels, grist and saw mills (circular, upright and shingle), and keep on hand saws, belting, boiler and gas tubing, engine fittings, rubber packing, &c., &c. They undertake the construction of mills from the foundation, furnishing plans and estimates. During the past summer they erected eight grist mills in various parts of the Dominion. To some it may seem strange for a Montreal manufacturer to order machinery outside the metropolis, yet it is a fact that Messrs. Gillies & Beyer, not a great while ago, built a large steam engine for one of the leading Montreal saw mills. At this rate, the metropolitan machinists must look sharp after their laurels, for the proprietors of the Central Canada Machine Works are go-ahead people, and believe in following up every advantage gained. They are manufacturing a water-wheel which is claimed to combine the most valuable modern improvements, with lowness in price. An improvement in the mode of conducting the water to the wheel (introduced by Mr. Beyer) is said to considerably economize the power brought to bear. With respect to the capacity of the works, it may be mentioned that the firm are prepared to build engines up to 120 horse-power, and even larger if required; that they possess first-class facilities for turning out both iron and brass castings, the former up to five tons; they have lathes capable of turning a 24-ft. shaft, or a pulley seven feet in diameter and three feet wide. Among the machinery in the wood-working department is a Daniel planer, which will plane timber three feet wide and forty feet long. Their stock of patterns is very fine, and, indeed, as stated above, the standard of excellence observable in every department is very high. According as trade develops it is intended to enlarge the establishment, and add new features—all provided for in the original plan. It is contemplated to employ from 100 to 150 hands. The facilities for shipping machinery are excellent, the C. C. R. track passing the doors.

A WAIF IN THE SNOW.—During a raging snowstorm, on Saturday week last, a Mrs. Latour, of this city, found a bundle of rags lying in the street. On stooping down she found, to her horror and astonishment, a female child, apparently about four months old, wrapped in part of an old dress. The child was partly covered with snow, and must have been placed there a few minutes previously. She carried her bundle of animate rags home, and attended to the child. She announces her intention of sending the little one to the Grey Nunnery. She seems to have

luck in this way, or a special Providence to direct her footsteps where infant waifs are plentiful. She is said to have been the finder of four foundlings in past years, all of which she has come upon accidentally, and all of which have been provided for in the Nunnery. She said that, had she not happened along just as she did, the little innocent would have been frozen to death.

DEATH OF "OLD JIM."—"Jim," the oldest horse in the service of the C. P. R. Co., Montreal, died on Thursday last, aged 35 years. "Jim" had seen good service. He assisted in drawing the first car for the Company, seventeen years ago, and helped to draw the Fenian prisoners from the St. Bonaventure station to the gaol, in 1866. It is alleged, by one authentic bostler, that "Jim" had never been a day off duty by illness up to two days before his death.

A FLORAL EXHIBITION.—The fine greenhouses of Mrs. Donald Ross, so kindly thrown open to the members of the Horticultural Society for several Saturdays past, present a charming picture. The Camellias are loaded with bloom of various colours, and, being backed up by the rich glossy foliage, look truly magnificent. There are a few truly splendid blooms of the rose "Rebrens," also fine Abutilous, Tropeolums, Cinerarias and other plants. The Azaleas are just breaking into bloom, and will be in fine order about the 15th instant, when it is to be hoped Mrs. Ross will again kindly throw open the greenhouses. There are some fine ferns, including a very handsome hanging basket, of the staghorn species.

COLLISION ON THE CANADA SOUTHERN.—On the morning of Feb. 2nd, freight train No. 13 on the Canada Southern Railway, mostly empties, bound West, was left standing on the Lyon's Creek bridge, about one mile and a half east of Welland, when the engine ran to the tank near Welland station for water. While there No. 119, special, also mostly empty cars, ran into the car at the end of the former train, causing great destruction of property and serious if not fatal injury to Geo. Tyler, brakeman on No. 13. Eighteen cars were entirely destroyed; the locomotive of the rear train ran into the caboose of the other, and both were burned so as to be entirely useless, nothing being left of the caboose except the trucks. The fire occurred about the middle of the bridge, which was also considerably burned, being saved only by the exertions of the farmers living in the immediate vicinity of the collision. One car of clocks were so smashed up as to be a total loss, and one car of dry goods was badly damaged. The escape of the engineer and fireman of No. 119 was almost miraculous, as they knew nothing of their danger until the engine was stopped, having been almost entirely telescoped in the caboose. The usual signals were seen. By 8 o'clock a.m. Supt. Skinner was on the ground, and a telegraph office established in an inverted car; timber, rails and other material were brought; the debris was removed by 5 p.m. The brakeman Tyler was attended by Dr. Cook, of Welland. His leg was badly broken near the ankle, and it is feared amputation will be necessary.

ECHOES FROM PARIS.

A SOCIETY has been formed for the purpose of finding situations for returned Communists.

Father Hyacinthe is about to open a "Gallican Catholic church" in the Rue Rochecouart.

Chapeaux in the style of the First Empire are beginning to make their way in the fashionable world.

THE Pays celebrated the sixth anniversary of the death of Napoleon III. last week by appearing in mourning.

THE city of Bucharest has ordered a diadem in Paris as a New Year's present to Princess Elizabeth of Roumania.

A GREAT effort is being made to revive camellias for evening wear, but white roses are preferred because of their more graceful appearance. The camellia suits only a stately lady, and is not becoming to small people.

THE space in the Place du Carrousel, rented to the proprietors of the Ballon Captif, which attracted so much attention during the Exhibition months, will not be used by them again in the spring, the City Administration having refused their application to that effect.

AN "Owl Costume" is the latest Parisian eccentricity, worn by a foreigner at a recent ball. The dress was of dark blue satin, trimmed with feathers like those of the little grey owl, the front being covered with fringes of the same feathers; an owl's head in diamonds sparkled in front of the bodice, and another owl adorned the lady's head.

Cham says: "If one of the principals in a duel be thinner than his adversary, it is his duty as a man of honour to button up his first second in his great coat with him to give him the volume necessary." Another caricature by Cham represents a blind beggar on one of the bridges yell-

ing, "Oh, the heartless knave! I thought he had given me two sous. He has given me his bronze medal as an exhibitor. Heartless! heartless! heartless knave!"

The first of the Bals Masqués, at the Grand Opera, to judge from the number of boxes and tickets disposed of, will be a brilliant affair. The masquerades are no longer so entertaining or amusing as was the case years since, when it was *la mode* to frequent such places. Still, in the superb foyer of the Opera House, a *bal masqué* is a wonderful sight, and though only the common folk indulge in dancing, the *coup-d'œil* in the *Salle de Spectacle* is singularly attractive. Parisians enter heartily into the fun and frolic of these balls.

VARIETIES.

A TOUCHING SCENE.—A touching scene was witnessed lately at Halifax. Standing on the gang-way of the steamship *Polynesian*, Dr. Clay, immigration agent at the winter port, said to one of the passengers who was holding an infant in his arms, "My good fellow, I want all the children kept out of the cold this sharp morning; you had better give the baby to its mother." There was no answer for a few moments. The man's heart was too full to reply, and the tears stood on his cheeks as he slowly said, hugging the child more closely to his bosom, "Ah, sir, she has no mother. I went home to England to bring out my wife and family to make their home in Canada, but just as I arrived my wife and little boy went down in the *Princess Alice* in the Thames, and I have no one left but this baby, sir." Sympathy for the lonely little one and her father was expressed by all who heard the sad story.

TOUGH ENOUGH.—Hugh Gough, of Borough-bridge, was a rough soldier on a furlough, but a man of doughy deeds in war, though before he fought for his country he was a thorough dough-face ploughman. His horse having been houghed in an engagement with the enemy, Hugh was taken prisoner, and, I ought to add, was kept on a short enough clough of food, and suffered from drought as well as from hunger. Having on his return home drunk too large a draught of usquebaugh, he became intoxicated, and was laughing, coughing and hiccuping by a trough, against which he sought to steady himself. There he was accosted by another rough, who showed him a cough which he had caught on a clough near; also the slough of a clough near; also the slough of a snake which he held at the end of a tough bough of eugh-tree, and which his shaggy slough had found and brought to him from the entrance to a slough which ran through and drained a slough that was close to a slough in the neighborhood.

MAD KING.—Much amusement has been caused in the diplomatic world by the last freak of King Louis II. of Bavaria. He gave a dinner, the table being laid for fourteen covers, at his castle of Hohenschwangau, in honour of Louis XIV. and his court. One place was for himself, the other thirteen for Louis XIV. and twelve persons of his *courage* most celebrated for their wit. The banquet was, under the circumstances, melancholy. After dinner the King went into his riding-school. He had accurately calculated the time which he would require to ride from his castle to Innsbruck, and rode round the school as many times as would equal the distance, in order that he might be able to boast that he had ridden on horseback from Innsbruck. On the road, or rather on the tan, the King dined and breakfasted, just as though he were really on a journey.

CINDERELLA'S SLIPPER.—It is curious to learn that the "glass slipper" in Cinderella, of which from our youth upwards we never questioned the authenticity, though well aware that no one who was not a *protégée* of fairies would think of dancing in such an article, was not part of the original story, but has been due to a misunderstanding of a word used in the French version of the tale. The slipper, we have been told by a writer in the *Sunday Times*, supported by "Littré's Dictionary," was originally a slipper trimmed with a particular kind of rare fur, called in French *vair*, the fur of a creature of the weasel kind. But this fur not being known to ordinary French story-tellers, they spoke of a *pantoufle de verre*—a glass slipper, by a sort of unconscious pun. Certainly the new reading is far more creditable to the sagacity of Cinderella's godmother, as a purveyor of comfortable clothes; for whatever magic power the glass slippers might have had of surviving a dance, it is impossible that they could have been comfortable to the feet, and must have resulted in all probability in serious corns.

EFFECT OF GASLIGHT ON THE EYES.—The German Minister of Instruction has recently issued a report on the influence of gaslight on the eye. The conclusion arrived at in this report—the result of frequent conference with well-known physicians—is that no evil results follow a moderate use of gas, if the direct action of the yellow flame on the eye is prevented. For this purpose screens or shades are employed. Very great objections, however, exist to the use of zinc or lead shades, most evils affecting the eye being traceable to them. Their use, it is said, inevitably tends to blindness or inflammation, and other and harmful effects. The milky-white glass shade is the best, and it distributes the light and has a grateful effect on the eyes. The burner should not be too close

to the head, as congestions of the forehead and headaches result from the radiated heat. The glass plate below the gas, employed in some places, is especially useful for the purpose, as it causes an equal distribution of the light—necessary where a number are working at one burner—prevents the radiation of heat, and tends to a steady illumination by shielding the flames from currents of air. In cases of highly inflamed eyes, dark blue globes can be very beneficially employed. With precautions of this kind, no evil effects from the burning of gas need be feared.

BRITISH DUKEDOMS.—Two British peerages were created last year, and two became extinct. As matters stand, two dukedoms, Cleveland and Buckingham, will become extinct on the death of the existing dukes, but the duke of Buckingham, who is middle-aged and a widower, may marry again. The inferior dignities of these noblemen would, however, descend to their relatives, so that their death would not affect the number of seats in the House of Lords. Only two dukedoms other than royal, Abercorn and Westminster, have been created by the Queen. The former is in the peerage of Ireland. There is not at the present time any Whig nobleman who has just claims to such a distinction, but on the Tory side Lord Salisbury, who has a wife, is more than likely to end his career with only strawberry around his coronet. Lord Derby, even had he remained in the running—and he may be in it again—would have cared for such distinction even less than his sire, who, of course, might have had a dukedom had he pleased. But what was a brand-new coronet to the fourteenth Earl of Derby, prime-minister, renowned scholar, and of whom "the travelled Thane Athenian Aberdeen," in his decline, nearly as crusty, caustic, and uncomplimentary as Rogers himself, said: "I have heard Pitt, Fox and Sheridan, but our own Lord Derby, when he is at his best, is equal to them all." Only some four or five of the dukes can match Lord Derby in point of income, and, while living in a princely semi-feudal style, the Stanleys have never been spend-thrifts.

SUBSTITUTES FOR LIQUOR.—A curious feature of the operation of the no-license law of Norwich, Conn., is the substitute by drinkers of other stimulants in the place of liquors. Perhaps the most natural substitute of all is Jamaica ginger. The extract has about double the alcoholic strength of whiskey, and as it is a medicine in constant demand and kept by all druggists, it makes a very satisfactory substitute for the habitual old toper, who is bound to get drunk on something. That it is used in this way to a considerable extent is shown from the increased sales of the drug as well as the confession of the user. One dealer estimates his sales of Jamaica ginger since the 1st of November as fully three times as great as they were before; another sells perhaps a third more now than before that date; another has noticed but a small increase—not over five per centum, while a fourth estimates the calls upon him as five times as large now as they were up to Nov. 1. It is also said that the sale of paregoric has slightly increased in some cases.

THE FOUR STAGES.

"What is life?" sang a maiden gay,
As she tossed her golden tresses.
"Why, life is only an hour of play,
With silks and satins and dresses."
"What is life?" sighed a mother gray,
Who had walked across the sea.
"Good gracious, dear, I've waited all day
For a cup of strong, black tea!"
"What is life?" the small boy sang—
His book hung by his side—
When on the air a shrill voice rang,
"Now, boys, let's hook a ride!"
"What is life?" the old man said,
Whose age was growing ripe,
"Friends who don't wish to see me dead
Will pass me tobacco and pipe."

LITERARY.

A NEW comic paper has just appeared in London called *Fis*.

THE Duke of Argyll has a new book in press, but its name and subject have not yet been made public.

ADMIRAL HOBART PASHA is about to publish his personal experiences during the recent Russo-Turkish war. This will be a most interesting book.

IN a few weeks will be published "The Life of Rattazzi," written by his widow, the Princess Maria Bonaparte Rattazzi.

MR. CHARLES LOWE, who has for some time acted as foreign sub-editor of the *Times*, has been sent to Berlin to represent that journal.

IT is said that the Goethe collection of the late Mr. Bayard Taylor, consisting of rich and rare volumes, some dating from 1790, will soon be sold.

THE Archbishop of York is going to publish through Mr. Murray a collection of miscellaneous papers under the title of "Word, Work, and Will."

MR. SPURGEON has published the first of a twenty-fifth volume of sermons, having issued a sermon week by week for 24 years—1,450 in all.

JEFFERSON DAVIS has prepared a book of memoirs, which is to be published next spring simultaneously in New York and London, with a French edition in Paris.

IT is announced that Mr. Theodore Martin has found it impossible satisfactorily to complete his "Life of the Prince Consort" in four volumes, as had been intended. The fourth and fifth volumes, concluding the work, will be published together, probably about the close of the present year.