

accustomed to judge the ancient peoples of Greece and Rome; and thus the Forth bridge stands as a monument of architectural triumph in the British Empire; and there is now a statue dedicated to the designer.

"But the same cause which gives fame, operates to bring disgrace upon the originator and the nation, when a great bridge of this kind falls to its destruction. The Canadian government was behind the former enterprise, and their ideal was to have an elaborate and, aesthetically speaking, a beautiful bridge. But now they propose to build a new one, which utterly fails to satisfy the requirements of the beautiful. Would it not be better for the government to call for world-wide tenders. The proposed bridge is to be built on the cantilever system. By letting out the contract to the best of New World engineers, the result would decide the comparative merits of the cantilever system with the safer and more beautiful suspension system."

The question, this paper adds, deserves the most acute attention on the part of the Dominion; because on sensible action now depends the future fair name of not Canada alone, but of America in general.

In the *Rosary Magazine*, Marguerite Donegan pictures the sorrow of struggling Ireland. She introduces besides several songs to show how the tradition of that land is steeped in sadness. Intense lovers are capable of intense sorrow. And this truth applies most especially to the Irish. A land of unclouded joy once, for one thousand years the country has been the scene of a veritable tragedy, — so much so, that now we may truthfully assert that every sunlit hillside, every fair, sleeping valley, every bit of brown turf, every blade of green grass, is filled with Irish blood.

The current number of the *America* gives two very interesting communications, one by a Spanish astronomer, José Comas Sola, and the other by an eminent French director of astronomy, M. Deslandres. Their verdict might be read with profit by many who rush for the new modern theory concerning Mars. Says the first: "During my twenty years' observations, never have I succeeded in seeing the geometrical wonders so profusely published in every part of the world. I have ever been an enemy to these imaginations, and am convinced that they were illusions or exaggerations of the observers."

"I do not deny that there are borders that give the appearance of canals; but these borders are wide and diffuse, and rarely well defined."