



MADemoiselle EUGÉNIE TESSIER.—Canada has produced one world-famed singer. Little Emma Lajeunesse, whose brilliant feats with her early tutored voice were, a quarter of a century ago, surprising and delighting the friends of her widowed father, has developed into one of "first ladies" among the lyric artists of our time. Her career has proved that no one who is gifted by nature with a sweet, strong, sensitive and versatile voice, need despair of obtaining due recognition of her musical merits, if the innate endowment be worthily directed, by timely training and the discipline of the best masters, to the attainment of the highest results of which it is capable. One thing, however, is essentially necessary at the outset of such a progress. The aspirant must have the approval and encouragement of "those who know," of those who are fitted by gift, knowledge and experience to pronounce judgment on the singer's performance and capability. Without that sanction the path of the *débutante* is encumbered with obstacles which it is practically impossible to surmount. If the withholding of such sanction be based on a just estimate of the singer's powers, the case is, of course, hopeless. If it be refused, through misapprehension or through jealousy, the effect on the public would be most injurious to the singer. Where it is given freely and at the same time deliberately, and where the critic occupies the very highest rank in the profession, the future of the fortunate applicant may be deemed assured. Such just now is the position of Mademoiselle Tessier. During Madame Albani's late visit to Montreal, the *diva* was waited upon by Miss Tessier, accompanied by her mother, brother and a few intimate friends of the family. After an exchange of courtesies, the *prima donna* asked her young visitor to favour her with a piece of music. Mademoiselle Tessier sang Massenet's "Alleluia du Ciel," and, after an interval of conversation, Faure's "Stella." The elder cantatrice did not hesitate to express the utmost satisfaction at the manner in which the young singer had acquitted herself. There were present at the same time Mr. Barrington Foote, the basso of the Albani Company; the Rev. Mr. Lajeunesse, brother of Madame Albani; Mr. Henry Robinson, organist of St. Paul's church; Mr. J. Tessier, who accompanied his sister, and Signor Beviniani, musical conductor of the company and widower of the late Madame Titiens. Subsequently Madame Albani wrote a letter to Miss Tessier, which we have pleasure in reproducing. It was as follows:

(Translation).

WINDSOR HOTEL, Jan. 30th, 1889.

DEAR MISS TESSIER,—I cannot leave Montreal without telling you how much I have been impressed by your charming talent, that is, your voice, so sympathetic and so sweet. I wish you every success—which you merit—success which you will most certainly meet with in the pursuance of your studies. I learn that you are going to give a farewell concert in the spring time. Please add thereto the enclosed small sum as a souvenir of your visit to your countrywoman.

Believe me, yours most sincerely,

E. ALBANI-GYE.

On Monday, the 1st of April, the Tessier Testimonial Concert will take place at the Queen's Hall, under Madame Albani's patronage—the great Canadian *prima donna* thus giving the Canadian *débutante* the influence of her name and her personal sympathy. That the attendance will be worthy of such an occasion we do not doubt. But there is an element of pathos as well as of pride in the contemplation of the relations between these two gifted daughters of Canada and of song. Miss Tessier is blind. The daughter of the late Léandre Tessier, Mr. Black's predecessor as City Treasurer, she was born on the 30th of May, 1868. Twelve days after her birth she lost the use of her eyes. Like Emma Lajeunesse, she gave evidence of extraordinary vocal powers at an extremely early age. Before her second year, she could sing several children's songs, in French and English. At three she sang pieces from "Faust" and "Il Trovatore." At six she was placed in the Nazareth Asylum for the Blind, where she studied till she was eighteen. She was taught harmony by Prof. Letondal, blind like herself, and took some lessons from the accomplished teacher, Mr. Wiillard. She is anxious to take a course at the Conservatory of Music in Boston, so as to prepare herself for oratorio, in which she has already shown strong signs of promise. It is to be hoped that she will receive from the music-loving public the support of which, apart from her infirmity, she is deserving.

LE PETIT SAGUENAY.—The County of Chicoutimi is larger than some kingdoms. The domain of that central feature which it shares with its eastern neighbour, and of which the latter has the prestige of bearing the name, was long known and is still occasionally designated as "Le Royaume du Saguenay." Chicoutimi comprises the source and most of the countless affluents of that giant tributary of the St. Lawrence. The County of Saguenay has, however, the honour of bringing the mighty vassal into the presence of the mightier suzerain. Both rivers have furnished a title to one of the best known compositions of our greatest poets. There is no part of Canada, indeed, more calculated both by its history and by its scenery to impress the poetic imagination than that region whose watery highway is guarded by the Tadoussac. In some respects it was better known under the old regime than (at least, until comparatively recent years) under British rule. Topographical descriptions of

the mouth of the river are extant in the works of Champlain and the occupation of the district by the Jesuit missionaries antedates the foundation of Montreal. As a centre of the lumber industry started by the late Hon. William Price, with whose family it is still associated, it rose to importance before the first quarter of this century had closed. A movement in the direction of colonization began about fifty years ago and resulted in the establishment of now thriving communities, both along the river and around Lake St. John. After long solicitation, those settlements, which had suffered from an isolation that during parts of the year cut them off entirely from the outer world, succeeded in obtaining railway communication. The future of the region may now be considered assured. When, some years ago, the subject of artificial fish culture was forced upon the attention of the authorities by the decreased yield of certain fisheries, the rivers flowing into the Saguenay were selected for the distribution of the fecundated eggs. Among the streams thus stocked was Le Petit Saguenay, a southern tributary of the great river. It debouches in the County of Chicoutimi, but its main course is in Saguenay county. It is noted as a fishing stream, and the country through which it passes also yields various game. The population is sparse as yet, but the scenery has many attractions for lovers of nature. The view which we publish in this issue (from a photograph by Livernois, of Quebec), is a good illustration of a type of landscape that abounds in the region of the Lower Saguenay.

OSGOODE HALL.—As far as Canada is concerned, the well known edifice in Toronto, a sketch of which is given in the present issue, is almost as well known as the great temples of justice in Great Britain and the United States. The structure itself is of fine architectural proportions and is, in every way, fitted to accommodate the superior courts of the most important province in the Dominion. The outward appearance of Osgoode Hall is stately and imposing, being one of the finest structures in the city, while internally it is so disposed and appointed as to increase—may it be termed?—the awe of the individual whose frequent visits have not given him what might possibly be termed undue familiarity. The conduct of the Ontario Courts is based upon that which obtains in Great Britain, the Ontario law and practice, unlike our own, not having been much influenced by those of France. Many of Canada's brightest legal luminaries have either practised in or presided over the courts which have here their headquarters. Indeed, as far as the term may be made use of to anything in this country, this is, in every sense, classic ground. Osgoode Hall was named in honour of Hon. William Osgoode, the first Chief Justice of Upper Canada. It was designed by Mr. W. G. Storm. The grounds in which the Hall stands are on Queen Street, and extend from Chestnut to University Streets. It is the property of the Law Society, which was incorporated in 1747. The east wing was begun in 1829, but was not completed until 1839, and, on February 6th, the first convention of Benchers was held within its walls. In 1845 the west wing was completed, as well as the connecting range, with the surmounting dome. Ten years after the central structure was remodelled, and during the next four years a handsome facade, in cut stone, was reared, the dome being removed. In 1859 the building was completed, and is an ornament to the city and to the legal profession. As it now stands, indeed, the Toronto Temple of Themis would confer additional grace upon any city in the world. Scadding's "Toronto Past and Present," from which we summarize the above, remarks: "As a Toronto architect said in a local newspaper, the Society of Osgoode Hall may deem itself fortunate in having built in less competitive days, when there were not so many draughtsmen and architects sown broadcast through the country as now, importuning people to give them a job and to give them a chance of destroying a noble art in endeavouring, at their expense, to learn their business by disfiguring nature with crude, misshapen and ill-constructed buildings." In Osgoode Hall the law students are examined in their several years, and finally as to their fitness to practise at the Bar and as attorneys respectively.

MORNING PRAYER.—The attitude and expression of the sisters in this charming picture sufficiently reveal the artist's motive. We are reminded of the old Ambrosian hymn:

Jam, lucis orto sidere,
Deum precemur supplices,
Ut in diurnis actibus
Nos servet a nocentibus.

Or in English:

Now that the daylight fills the sky,
We lift our hands to God on high,
That He, in all we do or say,
May keep us free from harm to-day.

LAKE ST. JOSEPH, NEAR TILSONBURG, ONT.—Our readers are not likely to confound this name with that of Lake Joseph, when they remember that the body of water so called is part of the Muskoka chain, whereas Tilsonburg is not very far from the shores of Lake Erie. The lakelet, which lies about a Sabbath day's journey from that town, of whose beauty the reader may judge by our engravings, was formerly called Tilson's Pond. It received its new designation not from its connection with any legend of hagiology, but in honour of a venerable benefactor of the neighbouring town, the late Joseph Van Norman. On his 90th birthday, that gentleman, accompanied by several friends, made a trip up the Otter on a tiny steamer, the "Baby Guy," and the nonagenarian so enjoyed his outing and the loveliness of Nature's work, that the proposal to rechristen the pond after him met with unanimous acceptance. Lake St. Joseph is about five miles long and is charmingly

situated amid a profusion of all that pleases the eye. Of the two glimpses of it that the artist has given us, the one with the sloping pasture and grazing cattle shows very effectively its general character and surroundings. The other is suggestive of the uses that are made of it for picnics and camping parties. The lake and the creeks flowing into and out of it are well stocked with fish, and the woods with game. To the people of Tilsonburg it is a favourite summer resort.

ON BIG OTTER CREEK.—The river which gives its name to this picture is, as our readers are aware, not merely a capital mill stream, but an essential feature of the scenery in one of the loveliest portions of what has been termed the "garden of Canada." Taking its rise not far from London, Big Otter Creek, after a devious course, enters Lake Erie at Port Burwell. Tilsonburg is situated on the river, as it makes an arc through the southwestern corner of Oxford county about sixteen miles from its mouth. In the early years of Upper Canada, the district thus watered was rich in pine and lumbering formed the staple industry, the logs being floated down the creek to Port Burwell. Tilsonburg is now a thriving town, on the line of the Canada Southern, about thirty-five miles from Brantford. Broadway, the chief street, is lined with places of business. Some manufacturing is also carried on, and the leading men display abundant enterprise. The residence of one of them, Mr. John Smith, is seen in one of the engravings. His hospitable home is a frequent rendezvous for picnickers.

CATTLE AT REST.—This scene of calm enjoyment in the wooded pasture land that fringes the Otter shows to what purpose a photographer who can discriminate the picturesque from the commonplace, and can promptly seize opportunities, may turn his art. It is a scene from which we would be slow to withdraw if we happened to pass that way. If we had any skill in draughtsmanship we would not leave till we had secured enough of outline to recall the position, pose and gentle faces of each individual of that amiable, generous, contented sisterhood. But, lo! in a moment, *in ictu oculi*, the whole scene, with its anodyne suggestiveness, is fixed and perpetuated. *Servant's Apollo.*

THE "UISGE BAU" AND "STAR FALLS," BADDECK, VICTORIA CO., CAPE BRETON, N.S.—In spite of, or thanks to, Mr. Dudley Warner, the scenery for seeing which the capital of Vancouver County, Cape Breton, is the best starting point, attracts more and more every year the admiration of crowds of visitors. "From Baddeck to St. Anne's Bay, thence to Cape North, over moor and mountain, through forests dim and silent, over morasses and dreary wastes, is a route becoming popular with the lovers of adventure when moose and caribou are sought, or when the angler is anxious to venture beyond the beaten round. No ride could be desired more beautiful or satisfying to a eye than that around St. Anne's Bay. This harbour is a possible competitor for the advantages of being the point where trains and swift steamers shall meet when the 'Short Route' shall have been established. Great ships can be so close to the lofty cliffs that water may be conveyed into the ship by hose from the rocky bed of the torrent. The French came here more than two hundred and fifty years ago, took possession of the bay and gave it the name that still clings to it. They left it in favour of Louisbourg." That is, indeed, the main charm that Cape Breton has for those whose heritage it is so delightful a portion. It can not only point to the loveliness and grandeur of its landscapes and sea views, it has also reason to glory in an historic past which adds to every scene the allurements of association with great men and their thoughts and deeds. The specimen of Cape Breton scenery which we present to our readers to-day are both in the immediate neighbourhood of Baddeck. The "Uisge Bau" (whose name, meaning "White Water," bears testimony to the race of the early settlers) is a waterfall about nine miles from the town. The "Star Falls" are on the same brook somewhat higher up. These views of scenes which have attracted hundreds of tourists from the States and Canada, are from photographs by Watson of Baddeck.

THE INUNDATION OF THE SEINE.—Ordinarily the rising of the River Seine are not regarded by the people of Paris as others than matters of course, which come and go and as inevitables, must be made the best of. This year, however, it was not so much a question of the drowning out of cellars and the flooding of lower flats; but the Exhibition Building and other structures near the Quai d'Orsay were in danger, owing to the extraordinary height of the flood, for several days, in fact, they were transformed into veritable floating islands. Near the "Esplanade des Invalides" the Department of Hydropathy, which had just been commenced upon the beach, was submerged to the height of the first storey of woodwork. Further on, the building to which Spain had lately reared was invaded by the waters to the height of the window sills, and the workmen were obliged to continue their operations in the upper storeys, to which they had been driven. Alongside the Spanish department the Portuguese section was very much flooded. Moreover, the food products' building was completely surrounded by water, and all the cellars, devoted to the storage and display of wines, formed a regular channel for the stream. In the Chamber of Commerce building the floors were under water, but it was possible to work in the upper portions. The Transatlantic panorama would have been most seriously damaged had the Seine risen a few inches higher. The Civil Engineers' and Navigation departments, which are alongside, were also visited by the flood, while as for the immense iron vat belonging to the International Petroleum, it was completely covered. The Seine fortunately