

loosened some grains of fine sand, and carried them on with it as it beat against the rocks farther on, and, repeating this process as it went, the stream soon became gritty, and gained a remarkable erosive power, or the power to cut and wear away whatever lay in its path. Thus winding in and out, wherever the limestone was soft enough to yield to it, and in places even through solid beds of hard marble, this strange underground river made a way for itself, and in doing so, cut out many curious passages, and carved the rock into an art gallery of wonderful sculptures. Then, at the other side of the mountain, it emptied out again, and went on quite like any other mountain stream. The cave of Cougar Mountain has until now been one of Nature's secrets, but it will henceforth be one of the most interesting points in the Selkirks. It is a striking illustration of what Nature, unaided, can do. To tunnel a mountain through solid rock is an achievement that would do credit to the highest skill of modern engineers and scientists, who could do it only with much display of tools and labor; but Nature does it quietly.

A New Entomology.

"Entomology with Special Reference to its Biological and Economic Aspects" is the title of an octavo volume of 485 pages, published at \$3, by Blakiston, Son & Co., Philadelphia. It is well printed and profusely illustrated, and to say that its author is Dr. J. W. Folsom, of the University of Illinois, guarantees the merit of the text. As a book, it is good value for its price.

Although the title page bears the phrase, "economic aspects," the work is not one in which you may look to find recipes for kerosene emulsions and sulphur-soda washes, nor keys and illustrations for the identification of insects; but if you are an observer and student of insect life, you will find in it very satisfactory and up-to-date, if not completely exhaustive, treatment of the anatomy, physiology, development and adaptations of insects and their general relations to each other, to plants, to man, and the lower animals. Its sixty pages of insect bibliography will be found exceedingly helpful to the working entomologist who has access to a good library.

In writing of "Economic Entomology," the author highly compliments the work done by Dr. James Fletcher and Dr. Wm. Saunders, of Ottawa, and the Rev. Dr. Bethune, as well as that of the society, whose headquarters are in the city of London, Ontario. To quote his words: "The work in Canada centers around the Entomological Society of Ontario, whose excellent publications, sustained by the Government, are of great scientific and educational importance."

Three Words of Strength.

There are three lessons I would write,
Three words, as with a burning pen,
In tracings of eternal light,
Upon the hearts of men.

Have Hope. Though clouds environ round,
And gladness hides her face in scorn,
Put off the shadow from thy brow;
No night but hath its morn.

Have Faith. Where'er thy bark is driven,—
The calm's disport, the tempest's mirth,—
Know this: God rules the hosts of heaven,
The inhabitants of earth.

Have Love. Not love alone for one,
But man, as man, thy brother call;
And scatter like a circling sun,
Thy charities on all.

—Schiller.

The Methodist Magazine and Review for July begins its sixty-fourth volume with a handsomely-illustrated July number, containing no less than six articles on Canada, its resources and outlook. This periodical has certainly earned its title to rank as a worthy, enduring and successful pioneer in Canadian magazine literature.

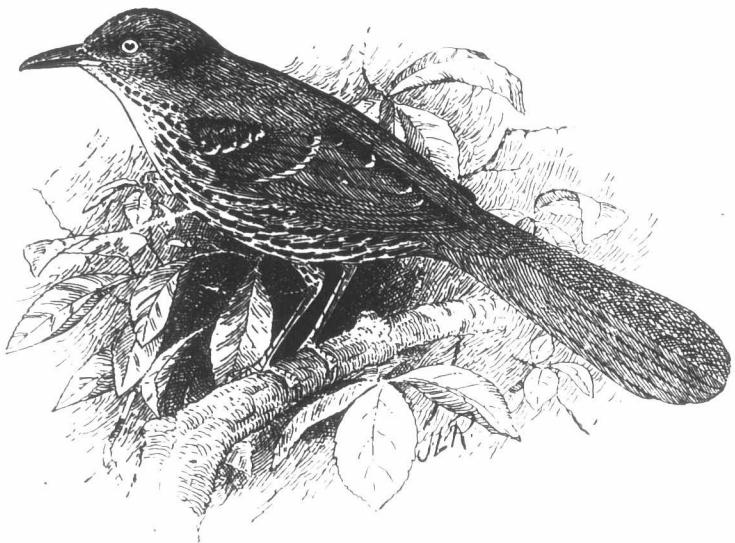
Brown Thrasher

(*Harporhynchus rufus*—Thrasher and Mockingbird family).

The Brown Thrasher is a very lusty fellow, as his name would suggest. He does not hide away in the depths of the forest to sing his song, but pours it out from the most conspicuous spot he can find—a very fine song it is, too, as would be expected from his cousinship with the Catbirds and Mockingbirds. As a rule, he spends his time in low trees or in the lowest branches of trees near the edge of woods, or along fences or roadsides; but often he may be seen hopping and running along the ground, thrashing his long tail to and fro very energetically as he searches for the worms and insects which, with fruit, when in season, make up his bill-of-fare.

The Brown Thrasher is about an inch longer than the Robin. He is of a reddish-brown color above, the wings being darker and marked by two whitish bands. The under part of his body is white, speckled and streaked, except on the throat, with dark brown. The bill is long, and the tail, like that of the Catbird, very long in comparison with the wings. The eyes are conspicuously yellow. The female is paler in coloring throughout.

The Brown Thrasher's nest is built either on the ground or in shrubs or low trees, and is rather roughly constructed of twigs, vine tendrils, rootlets, etc., occasionally with a lining of horse-hair. The eggs (three to five in number) are whitish, or tinted with blue or green, and are finely speckled with light brown. Two very noisy broods are reared in season.



Brown Thrasher.

Current Comment.

A Sunday street-car service, inaugurated in Winnipeg July 8th, was remarkably well patronized, citizens gladly availing themselves of it to escape the 90- to 95-degree temperature in the blaring streets.

It is announced that electric power from Niagara Falls will be delivered to the Toronto Railway Co. on Oct. 1st. Recent preliminary scientific transmission tests by electrical experts have proven in every way satisfactory.

There is no falling off in the influx of immigrants to the United States, though the origin and quality are such as to give slight ground for elation. Over a million entered at the Ellis Island Station, N. Y., during the fiscal year ending June 30th. The largest number, 222,006, came from Italy, Hebrews being second, with 125,000.

A press despatch last week announced that there was still wild consternation in the Russian Imperial Palace at Peterhof, following the discovery of several dynamite bombs in the garden of the palace. Although evident that the bombs had been placed there by connivance

of someone connected with the palace, investigation failed to reveal the perpetrator. The following day an attempt was made to assassinate Vice-Admiral Clouknin, the hated commander of the Black Sea Fleet. He was wounded, and taken to a hospital.

Recent gold finds seventy-five miles to the north of Ville Marie, Que., have created much excitement, and prompted the prediction that a district promising to rival Cobalt has been opened up. Ville Marie is a pretty town on a bay on the Quebec side of Lake Temiskaming, and the new discovery recalls a prediction made over twenty years ago by the owner of the Wright silver mine, of that place, that Northern Ontario and Quebec were the richest mining countries in North America. If not the richest, they may still turn out to be the best, having a tremendous advantage in geography and topography over Rocky-mountain and Klondike regions.

One of the most shameful chronicles of current Russian history is the indictment of Admiral Rojestvensky, for unwarranted surrender to the enemy after the battle of the Sea of Japan. Not less discreditable is the contemptible excuse for acquittal, viz., that he was not in his full senses, and therefore not accountable. Four officers of the torpedo-boat destroyer, Bedovi, who were placed on trial with him, were found guilty of having premeditatedly surrendered.

RESTITUTION FOR A FRENCH NATIONAL SCANDAL.

A long-standing blot on the national escutcheon of France has been partially atoned by a decision of the French Supreme Court, declaring the complete innocence of the celebrated Captain Dreyfus. Captain Dreyfus, of the Artillery, member of a wealthy Hebrew family, of Alsace, was, on October 14th, 1894, arrested on the charge of communicating French military secrets to a foreign power. Two months later he was tried by court-martial, found guilty, and on January 5th publicly degraded, and deported for life to Devil's Island, near Cayenne, French Guiana. His friends and relatives, believing him guiltless, have never since ceased their efforts to establish his innocence. The whole nation and the "honor" of the army finally became embroiled in the controversy. In November, 1897, Dreyfus charged Count Esterhazy with having written the documents. Esterhazy was tried and acquitted by court-martial. When subsequently M. Cavaignac became head of the French War Office, he read in the Chamber of Deputies documents which he said established the guilt of Dreyfus. For charging that these were forgeries, Col. Picquart, formerly Chief of the Intelligence Department of the Army, was arrested and degraded. Then followed the arrest of Col. Henry, Picquart's successor as Chief of the Intelligence Department, who finally confessed he had forged one of the incriminating documents, and later committed suicide in prison. In June, 1899, after the whole world had been aroused by stories of the barbarities to which Dreyfus had been submitted on Devil's Island, a fresh court-martial was ordered. It resulted in a second conviction, and a sentence to ten years' imprisonment in a fortress. Later he obtained a full pardon from President Loubet, and was set free. The last act of the drama has now been completed by the Supreme Court annulling the condemnation of Dreyfus without retrial. The effect of the decision is a complete vindication, restoring him to his rank, as though he had never been accused. Thus ends a tragedy of real life which pales the most vivid fabrications of novelists. Truth is stranger than fiction—and let it not be overlooked that the hero has triumphed.

EARTHQUAKES PLUS GREED.

It has taken a Jap to discover that a contributory cause of San Francisco's downfall was poor mortar, faulty construction and cheap bricks. Dr. T. Nakamura, Professor of Architecture of the Imperial University of Tokio, and one of the most distinguished members of a committee dispatched to the stricken city by the Japanese Government to investigate the effects of the earthquake and succeeding fire, after investigations covering a period of several weeks, says that dishonest mortar, a conglomeration of sea sand and lime, was responsible for much of the earthquake damage in the city.

"I find," said Dr. Nakamura, "that much of the damage from the earthquake was due to poor mortar and faulty construction, and the greater portion of the damage to class 'A' buildings by fire was the result of misguided use of hollow tiling and so-called fire-bricks instead of concrete. It is an easy matter, I have found, to design a building that will be not only earthquake-proof, but practically fireproof. There has developed, as a result of the earthquake in San Francisco, great prejudice against brick buildings. However, they are largely employed in Japan, where earthquakes of greater severity than the one experienced in this city are not uncommon. The secret of their success, however, lies in the fact that good mortar is used. The mortar should either be composed of one part cement to two parts of sand or of one part cement, three of lime and five of sand. The bricks should be thoroughly wet before being laid, and when the mortar has set under these conditions, a wall becomes practically one stone."

Be sure that your sins will find you