

"A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF LORD LANSDOWNE," by J. E. Collins, author of the *Life and Times of Sir John A. Macdonald*, has been published by the Rose Publishing Company of Toronto, in connection with a number of "The Rose Library," Wilkie Collins' "Haunted Hotel:" Ottawa, Messrs. Hope & Co., Price 25 cents, free of postage. A large portion of the sketch consists of a notice of the antecedents or ancestry of the Marquis. We are told that he "is not an adventurer, and is not likely to attempt to demoralize us with flattery or unwholesome hospitalities;" like a predecessor of some years ago, might well enough have been added. With each copy of the book is given free a really good lithograph likeness of the Governor-General, a bust about life size.

IN "ST. NICHOLAS," that most attractive "Illustrated Magazine for Young Folks," published by the "Century" Company, New York, is a little poem, "In the Park," by Bessie Chandler. She and her mother have perhaps been living in University Park, Toronto, with its "stagnant." She writes:

"We mustn't go near the pond, sissy,  
Cos there's something—I don't know what  
—there.

But I heard mamma talking about it ;  
It isn't exactly a bear—

But a *stagnant*, I think mamma called it ;  
And she says she's afraid every day  
To live by the Park any longer,  
And she wishes they'd take it away.

I never have seen a *real* stagnant,  
But I guess it has teeth and would bite ;  
But don't be afraid, little sissy,  
Because, if it comes, I will fight.

\* \* \* \*

And don't take your eyes off the water,  
And we'll watch for the stagnant to come."

THE FORTHCOMING report of the Challenger on deep-sea fishes will contain some remarkable forms new to science. Many are luminous, showing fire spots upon

the head, like the headlight of a locomotive, or along the fins. It is supposed that these are their means of communication. Some of the localities from which they were taken were two or three miles from the surface, where, if a man stood, the pressure would equal that of two obelisks like the one in Central Park piled upon his back. The temperature of the water is just below freezing.

A CORRESPONDENT of *La Nature* mentions a singular instance of the kindling of a fire by the concentration of the sun's rays by a globular water-bottle through which they passed. The bottle was "onion-shaped," and filled with water, forming a perfect lens. It sat upon a table, and the fire would have done great damage had not the relater observed and extinguished it. On the next day an experiment was made, and a fire kindled by this means.

A NEW EMPLOYMENT for the electric light has been found in Bavaria, where a committee has reported upon its use as a head-light for locomotive engines. The colour and form of signals can be distinguished by the engine driver on a cloudy night at a distance of 800 feet. The lamp is so constructed that it moves automatically when the engines traverses a curve so as to light the track far in advance.

A POWERFUL ANTISEPTIC and deodoriser may be made by mixing carbolic acid and chloride of lime, which, when combined, contains sufficiently active properties to correct fermentation. A weak solution is used as a dressing in some gangrenous affections as it does not cause irritation. The smell can be disguised by a little oil of lavender.

TO PRESERVE FRUIT in a fresh condition for many months place it in very fine sand sufficiently thick to cover it, after it has been well washed and dried and moistened with brandy. A wooden box is the best receptacle to use, and it should be kept well covered and in a warm place.

### Questions and Answers.

We will again in this volume as in a former one, devote a certain amount of space to questions and answers of correspondents on all subjects pertaining to health. Any question relating to health addressed to this JOURNAL will be answered as satisfactorily as possible.