



THE SICK MONKEY.—On the front cover will be found a study of monkeys, by no less an artist than Sir Edwin Landseer. The pathetic expression of the mother monkey nursing the poor, sick one, whose face denotes such patient suffering, is in marked contrast to the greedy look of the healthy fellow on the wall, munching his melon, and caring not a fig for his invalid brother.

HON. EDWARD BLAKE.—Among our "Personal Notes," last week, we stated that Mr. Blake's health had greatly improved at Murray Bay, and, to-day, before giving the notes of his biography, we take pleasure in repeating the same. Mr. Blake is of Irish descent, but Canadian born, having seen the light, on the 13th October, 1833, in the Township of Adelaide, Ont. He was educated at Toronto University, where he excelled in all his studies, taking his degree in 1858. He at once embraced the profession of the law and was called to the Bar of U. C. in 1856, attaining the silk gown in 1864. Mr. Blake entered on public life in 1867—the year of Confederation—being returned for South Bruce, in the Ontario Legislature, and rising at once to the front rank of Leader of the Opposition, a position which he held till 1871, when he was called upon to form a government, acting as Premier for about a year. On the formation of the Mackenzie Administration, in 1873, he entered the Cabinet, without office or salary, but remained therein not much above three months. He declined the Chancellorship of Ontario in 1869, and the Chief Justiceship of the Supreme Court of the Dominion in 1875, but went into the Government again as Minister of Justice, exchanged to the Presidency of the Council in 1877, and left the administration altogether in the beginning of 1878. He was just returned to the House of Commons, for West Durham, in 1867, and several times afterward by acclamation. In 1878 he was defeated for South Bruce, but got the seat the next year, and since has held the seat for West Durham and West Bruce, which he still occupies. In 1880 Mr. Blake was elected Leader of the Opposition, a difficult position, which he filled till 1887, when persistent ill-health obliged him to withdraw from public life. Friend and foe would be pleased to see Mr. Blake thoroughly restored to his constitutionally strong state of health.

NIAGARA FALLS TOWN.—Attention is called to this picture on account of the lacrosse game played on its green, reproduced for this paper by instantaneous photography. The town itself is the oldest in Ontario, and, under the name of Newark, was the first capital of Upper Canada. It is situated on Lake Ontario, at the mouth of the Niagara River, 36 miles from Toronto by water and 15 from Niagara Falls. It was the scene of stirring events from the beginning, and, in 1813, was burned down by General McClure, of the American Army, in his retreat from the North. It is a favourite retreat during the summer months for pleasure and health-seekers.

C. BATTERY R. C. ARTILLERY.—This picture, published for the first time, by ourselves, represents the C Battery, on parade at Victoria, B.C., on their departure for the expedition to the Skeena River. Our readers will remember that we have already given a number of original sketches of this expedition, sent directly to us by Major Peters, of the expedition, and published nowhere else. The Battery have returned to headquarters, at Victoria, all well, and having done their duty like true soldiers and good patriots.

THE BANK OF MONTREAL, TORONTO.—Like many other great institutions, the Bank of Montreal makes it a rule to have its branches built in solid and elegant architecture, and with all interior commodities. Its building at Toronto is among the best of this class, as the engraving shows. Its adaptation to the corner of two streets is skilfully managed, while the pilasters, arch and pediment of the front are in excellent taste.

THE MERCER REFORMATORY.—Among the benevolent and socially useful institutions of the City of Toronto, there is none to excel the Mercer Reformatory, whose name is known throughout the Dominion. The great pile of buildings, shown in our engraving, is in itself a monument of noble proportions worthy of the objects which it was built to subserve.

MOUNT CARROLL.—Here is another of these sublime upheavals of nature, through which our great transcontinental railway is laid out. The towering rocks, snow-capped, and hewn by the ruth of storms for thousands of years, into points as sharp as needles, look down upon forests of primeval woods, in which the fir, cedar and pine predominate.

"THE NEW WHIP." From a painting by Barber.—In the hunting districts of England, and in the home of the Montreal Fox Hounds, also, one of the most interesting of sights are the dog kennels. Like many of the stables there, they are almost palatial, everything being done that hygiene, utility and training can suggest to preserve and improve the health, habits and speed of their canine inhabitants. Rebellion is so thrashed out of the hounds, obedience has so become their second nature, that the veriest stranger may wander amongst packs of them, at any season of the year, unscathed and unharmed, kennelled

closely up as they are. The painter of this picture (in the absence of the keeper) dubs the young heir the "New Whip." The little fellow, donning the cap, coat and whip of the huntsman, wanders amongst the hounds, as he has often done before—though not in uniform—and is received with the cold noses sniffing and baying welcome, common to these followers of the chase. The mock manhood and the real doghood (?) are laughingly and wonderfully portrayed herein, and recall the same artist's works, the "Scratch Pack" and the "Morning Call." Mr. C. Burton Barber would appear to be a painter for pleasure rather than for profit, as his name is not much known beyond where he is most appreciated.

GRAND METIS.—Who can count the falls, rapids, cataracts and cascades on the St. Lawrence and its tributaries, below Quebec alone? The Metis are two rivers, entering the south shore of the St. Lawrence. One, called Grand Metis, takes its rise in the northwest angle of the County of Bonaventure, and discharges into an estuary, called Anse aux Snelles. It is a good salmon stream. The Falls of our picture are on this stream. The other, called Little Metis, rises in rear of the Seignior of Metis, and falls into a small bay, called Little Metis Harbour.

SHOOTING THE LACHINE RAPIDS.—Here is a very familiar scene, of which it may be said that there are very few Canadian or American tourists, visiting the St. Lawrence, who have not got down these glorious falls. It is another example of instantaneous photography, in the front of the boat, just at the beginning of the "pitch."

THE WOODLAND SPRING.—A splendid study of girl figure—arms, legs, feet and curve of body. The jug is a huge one, of heavy crockery. It is trouble enough to fill it, keeping it tilted till brimming, and then the children will have a hard time lifting the same and carrying it home by the help of the half-moon handles.

POINTS.

By ACUS.

At this late day there has arisen a discussion as to whether or not marriage is a failure. It is true that while some marriages are blessed with joy unspeakable, others are blighted with misery extreme. And the latter is about as frequently the case as the former. The root of much matrimonial evil is when a maiden marries in the hope of reclaiming her lover. Fair ideals are always so different from dull realities. The prismatic tinges of a maiden's fairy fancy that blossom in the honeymoon she thinks will last. They seldom or never last, and they die slow in a woman, and their death is sometimes painful. Ambitious men do not always make the best husbands, and too strict application to business is sometimes construed into neglect to one's better half. And intellectual ladies, if we are to believe some stories we hear, do not always make the best wives. The question has been put thus, wittily:

But oh! ye lords of ladies intellectual,
Inform us truly,—haven't they hen-pecked you all?

As the advent of the railroad is considered to be a harbinger of prosperity, it seems odd to find it greeted with murmurs. But labourers in the phosphate districts are complaining that, before the advent of the iron horse, any number of men and horses were employed in carting the phosphate, but now, alas! it is carried off in box-cars. And the poor carters have their hands in their pockets. Farmers also complain that whereas, before the advent of the railroad, they could get their own prices for hay; now, if one sticks at the price, he can send somewhere else for a carload that is cheaper. And expensive hay is a drug on the market. It appears, therefore, that to do a great good, the railroad has unintentionally done a little evil.

How elevating is the influence upon our spirits of the blessed sunlight. What a depressing effect has the presence of gloom. In the month of November they say that in London there are more suicides than in any other month. The clouds, which figuratively darken one's horizon, are so intensified by the presence of material clouds. Under such bright skies as ours, laughter comes easy. Perhaps it is partly because she has such sunny skies that America is unique with her humourists and laughter-loving people. I know it is not a perfect picture that has not a cloud in the sky, but let it be a transparent cloud. Bright enough to be cheerful, and cool enough to be bracing, that is the weather for us.

We are so busy living that we have no time to think of dying. In a spiritual way, this is em-

phasized often enough; but it is also true from a material and business point of view. They tell us that a very common occurrence, among testators who defer the making of their wills until the last moment, is that they generally undertake to bequeath considerably more than they possess. It is often enough the case in this world that one's heart is fuller than his purse, a circumstance which one may not perhaps perceive, when the film is gathering over his eyes. With a mind wasted by disease, and hurried lest the strength should wane too soon, the patient frequently undertakes to straighten out, in a few minutes, affairs that might puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer. It is fortunate, but not very frequent, if one can lay his hand on a convenient executor, who will undertake (as the law books say) "to answer damages out of his own estate."

The clergy expect too much of their parishioners, and the parishioners expect too much of their clergy. The preacher lectures his congregation on temptations to which he is never exposed, and the congregation look for divinity in their preacher, who, like themselves, is only human. But the clergyman, with all his humanity, has an awful responsibility. If, instead of strengthening the weak hands and confirming the feeble knees, he becomes like a wolf in sheep's clothing, he is not to be envied his reward in heaven. Clerical errors of late are becoming alarmingly frequent. But the question is not so much, What are men without religion? as it is, What would they be without it?

The two most common faults of expression are slang and defective spelling. While slang is regarded, by people of taste, with great disfavour, there seems really to be very little use in preaching against it. The people who never use slang are the only ones who will listen to such advice. The good authors are against it, but, then, users of slang are seldom readers of classics. Like punning, it becomes eventually a disease. Unless we except certain humourists of the Josh Billings stamp, bad spelling is hardly made an object of cultivation. Slang, however, is cultivated, and is therefore a greater fault than bad spelling. The best spellers are perhaps those who have an eye for form. They know they are correct by remembering how the word looks. George Augustus Sala is said to be a distinguished follower of this system. Bad spelling should certainly be regarded with greater aversion than was manifested by poor Hannah Jade:

Her "dear" she spelled with double e,
Her "kiss" with but one s;
But when one's crazed with passion,
What's a letter more or less?

OUR TRUE INDEPENDENCE.

The most effective reply that the Dominion Parliament could make to President Cleveland's threats of retaliation would be at once to vote sufficient money to complete our canal system, construct the shortest possible railway through Canadian territory to the Maritime Provinces, and put the harbours of Montreal, Quebec, St. John and Halifax in such condition that no American port could compete with them for Canadian trade. The importance of the first and second measures, from a national standpoint, is evident. That the third is also urgent, I now propose to show.

A few million dollars expended in improving these harbours and making them free for all classes of vessels would make us entirely independent of American ports. If the long-talked-of improvements in Montreal harbour were carried out, and the port made absolutely free, it would have no rival during the summer months, and not only would it monopolize the export and import trade of Central and Western Canada, but most of the foreign trade of the Northwestern States would also come and go this way. Montreal is several hundred miles nearer to the American Northwest than New York or Boston, and nearer to Liverpool than either of those cities. Trade will seek the nearest outlet, if adequate facilities are provided for handling it cheaply. The ports of the Maritime Provinces are a little farther from