

dispensable that a Preliminary Exhibition should be held in order that the objects to be transmitted to Philadelphia should be compared and the best of their kinds selected. For the convenience of concentration and of shipment, they recommended that the Exhibition should be held at Melbourne. Letters were addressed to the Governors of Hong Kong, Manilla, New Caledonia, and Fiji—of Java, Batavia, Singapore, Ceylon, Reunion, Mauritius, and the Cape of Good Hope, explaining the advantages likely to arise by assembling at Melbourne examples of the natural products of so many different zones of latitude. In December 1874, a Royal Commission was appointed, the duties of which were to take measures to secure the effectual representation of the arts, manufactures, products, scientific inventions, and new discoveries of Victoria at Philadelphia, and to arrange for a Preliminary Exhibition in Melbourne, to which all the British, French, and Dutch possessions in Australasia and the neighbouring islands were invited to exhibit. New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, and Western Australia agreed to send contributions. It is to be regretted that the Queensland and New Zealand Governments refused to grant any assistance to persons who were desirous of exhibiting at Melbourne, and the consequence is that the resources of these Colonies were quite unrepresented. The Government of Western Australia also neglected to provide funds for representing that Colony at Melbourne and Philadelphia, but some few exhibits were received from private persons. It was believed that His Majesty the King of Siam would contribute an interesting collection, but the exhibits did not arrive. It was also expected, from advices received, that Fiji, Hawaii, and Netherlands-India would be represented, but various reasons operated to prevent their sending contributions. It is very satisfactory that Japan should have forwarded such a large and interesting collection, and that officials of high rank in the Government should have been accredited to act as Commissioners.

The youthful colony of Queensland has voted a million and a quarter of dollars for Immigration purposes to be expended within two years.

FROM THE ANCIENT CAPITAL.

OPENING OF THE SESSION—THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE—DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS—A MUSICAL HOUSE.

QUEBEC NOV. 10.—The excitement is over and this afternoon we settle down to transact the important private legislation of the Province. As your readers will have read pretty full accounts of what has been going on here since your representative first stepped within the Parliamentary buildings, a brief sketch or recapitulation will suffice. On Thursday afternoon, down came the B Battery Artillery and, halting in front of the Grand Entrance, stood at ease till the arrival of His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor. In the meantime a body of the Provincial Police marched in military order to the Parliamentary gates and there drew up files inwards, and shortly after the Lieut.-Governor passed through and, arriving at the Grand Entrance was received with a military salute, the band playing "God Save the Queen." At the door he was received by the Usher of the Black Rod with one of his most Brummellian bows and a brilliant staff of officers, each in a different uniform, gorgeous in gold lace, scarlet and blue. His Honor was dressed in his Windsor Uniform and, although an old man, bore himself in a soldierly manner. In the Legislative Council Chamber, which is furnished and fitted up in scarlet, the scene was very pretty. On either side, the ladies of Quebec were seated, clothed in their furs and silk dresses, their bright and young faces forming a striking contrast to the Honorable Councillors sitting within the rails. To look at the latter and noticing the chief of the Clan Frasers with his large white medal hanging from his left breast by a piece of the Clan Fraser ribbon, the former much resembling one of those tin plates of our childhood, we were fain to picture one of the old fashioned Indian Councils of which Cooper and others have written. There was, however, this difference that none of our Councillors had the same cast of stolid dignity so characteristic of the Red Man, and few of them had even his stalwart appearance, the majority of them being decrepit, and evidently shrinking from the idea of soon, ah! very soon, entering their happy (?) hunting grounds. His Honor entered the Chamber by the Speaker's door and took his seat in the Chair of State so large that even Goliath of Gath would have felt

lost in it. His Honor delicately sat on the extreme edge and, the Lower House being summoned, he told them he would not require their services till they had elected a Speaker. He then dismissed them and immediately went home. The Lower House returned to their chamber and electing Hon. Pierre Fortin, member for Gaspé, to be Speaker, adjourned till next day not, however, before Mr. Joly, Leader of the Opposition, had remarked on the fact that Mr. Fortin's election was contested and, also, that he doubted that gentleman's capacity to preside over their debates. On Thursday, the whole of the ceremony was repeated, but on the Lower House going into the Gubernatorial presence, His Honor delivered the Speech from the Throne with a quantity of bowing and scraping on both his own and the Speaker's part. The discussion on the Address has occupied the House two days and has resulted in a tremendous victory for the Government, who defeated the amendment proposed by Mr. Joly, by a majority of 30 votes out of a House of sixty members there present and voting. The incidents of the debate are but few. It was at first thought the Address would have passed unopposed, but to the surprise of all and the disgust of many, even on his own side of the House, Mr. Joly proposed in amendment to the Railway clause, by which Government state their intention of taking over and completing the North Shore and Northern Colonization Railway, that the Federal Government should be requested to assist the Province by a subsidy, on the ground that the lines would be a connection of the Pacific Railway.

The speech of the mover of the Address, Mr. Landry, member for Montmagny, was intensely florid. I might remark that Mr. Landry is a gentleman farmer and, judging from his speech, a most successful cultivator of those specimens of the vegetable kingdom which look pretty as well as imposing, but at the same time have neither substance nor utility in them. The "Solid man of the House"—I need scarcely explain that I mean the member for Montreal Centre—co-operated with the member for Montmagny in introducing the reply to the Speech from the Throne. While, as has been remarked, Mr. Landry, the gentleman farmer, dealt only with trifles light as air, endeavouring to give them a substance and consistency they had not, it was evident that, from the moment Mr. O'Gilvie rose, he intended to say something effective and something whose bulk might be broken up and readily divided among all the members, giving to each all he wanted and leaving numbers of "baskets-full" to spare. With no attempt at eloquence of diction or affectation of style, he said all he had to say, in short, sharp and decisive sentences, easily understood and their point readily grasped. It need scarcely be said that no other influence than his own was required to obtain for him a hearing, his personal geniality, whole-souledness and practical common sense having gained for him the entire respect of the House, and whenever the "Boss Miller of Glenora" undertakes to put a shoulder to the Provincial political wheel that wheel has got to turn. The other speeches on Monday were unimportant, with the exception of that of Solicitor General Angers who, by-the-by, leads the House of Assembly, vice Malhiot resigned. In reply to Mr. Joly, he attacked the Federal Government, charging them with having already treated with sovereign contempt an application similar to that proposed by Mr. Joly, and preferred that the Province should build its railways without assistance. The debate lasted till 6 o'clock, when it is customary to go to dinner, but that evening had been set apart by many of the members to attend a concert given by Jehin Prume and Calixa Lavallée and, although no one liked to state it publicly, it was evident the feeling was to adjourn till the next afternoon. So the strange sight was seen of a House of Parliament adjourning a debate on a motion of want of confidence in the Government, in order that the members might be present at a concert! On the other hand, it may be remarked that so little fear had the Government of the result and importance of the amendment, that they offered no objection to the adjournment which was moved by Mr. Beaubien, member for Hochelaga. The debate yesterday afternoon and evening was long and exhaustive, but that reminds me my letter is verging on the same fault. Therefore I will postpone any further remarks till my next.

REP.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE PRESBYTERIAN TEMPORALITIES.

Our front page will be easily understood as illustrating the great controversy in the Presbyterian church in regard to the Temporalities fund. Rev. Gavin Lang, of this city, is the chief mover in the case.

HUNTING SCENES.

We present a number of pretty scenes illustrative of the present hunting season which all lovers of nature and sportsmen in particular will relish and appreciate.

EUROPEAN PICTORIAL NEWS.

This contains a number of reduced views of European incidents of current interest—a Bosnian frontier guard in Herzegovina, and a group in silver presented to the Grand Duke of Luxembourg, on the 25th anniversary of his Lieutenant Generalship. The events of the German Emperor's visit to Milan are more fully referred to below.

REVERIE.

A delicious engraving from a painting of the artist Jacquet which created quite a sensation at the last French Fine Arts Exhibition. The pensive beauty of the face, the pose of the white arm, and the air of mystery investing the whole figure are charming.

HON. A. R. ANGERS, Q. C., SOLICITOR-GENERAL, QUEBEC.

Mr. Angers is now Leader of the Quebec Lower House and has thus risen to great prominence. He was born in Quebec, in 1838, educated there and married the daughter of Hon. E. Chénier, Senator. He was called to the bar of Lower Canada in 1860, and created a Queen's Counsel in 1874. He is a member of the extensive law firm of Langlois, Angers and Colston. He was first returned to Parliament for Montmagny in February, 1874, on the resignation of Hon. Mr. Cauchon, appointed member of the Executive Council and Solicitor-General for Quebec, on 22nd of September, 1874, and re-elected by acclamation. Mr. Angers is a rising man, full of promise, upon whom his friends rely for important services.

HON. P. GARNEAU, COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS, QUEBEC.

This gentleman was born at Cap Santé, in May 1823, and educated there. He went to Quebec early in life where he entered upon commercial pursuits and prospered, becoming one of the leading merchants of that city. He was Mayor of Quebec from 1870 to 1874, is Vice-President of the Stadacona Bank, President of the Quebec Street Railway Co., and lately of the Quebec Board of Trade. He was also a Government Director of the North Shore Railway. He was first returned to Parliament for the County of Quebec in 1873, and was appointed a member of the Executive Council and Commissioner of Agriculture and Public Works in September 1874.

THE KAISER IN ITALY.

A grand gala dinner was given in the Hall of the Caryatides at the Palace, Milan. The palace itself is externally very plain, but within it is of great magnificence, and seems almost as large as a town. The Imperial guest proceeded to the banqueting hall by the grand staircase, a very fine one, consisting of three flights of stairs 16 feet wide. It is lighted by very superb gaseliers, which have seven jets, at each corner. The balustrade, which is a foot and a half broad, was covered with crimson velvet and a superb Aubusson carpet was placed over the steps. The walls were almost covered with mirrors, and the whole staircase was an avenue of choice flowering plants. The hall in which dinner took place is about 130 feet long by 50 feet wide. The gallery which runs all round it is supported by 44 Caryatides, in white marble and of very considerable artistic merit. The ceiling is covered and richly ornamented with *bassi relievi* in stucco and gilding. From the ceiling hang, by huge cords covered with yellow drapery, 18 large chandeliers of rock crystal. The room is lighted by altogether 3,800 wax candles. Facing the door by which the guests entered is a music gallery. The invitations to this dinner were about 150 in number. The guests were placed at a horse-shoe-shaped table, the Royal personages being on the outside of the centre of the curve. The King, who spoke in French, proposed "The Health of the Emperor and his Family." The King said he was the interpreter of the wishes of the Italians for the prosperity of Germany and the continued friendship of the two nations. He added, "Our personal relations of friendship guarantee European peace." The Emperor replied in French. Having expressed his thanks, he said he had long wished to return the King's visit. He was much moved by his reception, and felt that sentiments of sympathy between Italy and Germany would continue to guarantee peace. The Emperor has repeatedly expressed to the King his great pleasure at the reception given him. In a telegram sent to the Empress, which the papers publish, he speaks in the warmest terms of his receipt on at his entry. He says, "*Une così simile non ho mai vista in vita mia.*"

TITIENS.

Montreal was among the first of American cities to receive a visit from Mlle. Theresa Titiens. She appeared at the Theatre Royal, on the evenings of the 10th and 11th. Her performances consisted simply of concert solos. She was assisted by Signor Orlandini, baritone, Mr. Wilkie, tenor, and M. Sauret, violinist. Expectation had been wrought high in the matter of these concerts and the consequence was that the attendance on both nights was very large. Titiens is no stranger to thousands of Canadians who have heard her in England, which has been her home for sixteen years, and to these she stood in the light of a favorite. All of us hastened to hear her with the best of sentiments in her regard, and if there has been disappointment, it is no fault of the public. Neither does the fault lie wholly with the *diva*. We must say at once that it is a palpable injustice to bring forward Titiens in concerts, with all their cold surroundings and the prejudice which amateur performances have attached to them. Titiens is essentially an actress, a lyric artist, and the real qualities of her voice cannot be judged of outside of action. Titiens is Norma, Lucrezia, Semiramide, and the Leonora of Beethoven's *Fidelio*, and you can no more judge of her by one song, than you could of Booth by a recitation of the "Charge of the Light Brigade," or of Salvini by

a rendering of Manzoni's "Cinque Maggio." Titiens needs costume, motion, the support and interblending of orchestration, to bring out her voice which is colored, toned, and made buoyant by all these accompaniments. This fact was made apparent last week. When she sang "The Last Rose," "Sweet Home," the "Ave Maria," she was fluent, correct, pleasing, but not animated herself nor creating any enthusiasm in her audience. But when she attacked "L'Ardita" and "Il Bacio," the lyric fire kindled in her eye, swayed in her body and flashed in her intonations. Then all was superb, and the house fairly rose to her. We repeat that these concerts do an injustice to Mlle. Titiens, and their pooriness is made more manifest by such helps as the baritone and tenor, singers palpably inferior to several whom we could name in this city. There was a compensation in S uret who is a conscientious artist, thoroughly satisfying his hearers. He puts on no airs, he tries no *tours de force*. He plays what he has to play with all soul. His fingering is remarkably delicate and true, his bowing is instinct with feeling and his notes are always of the purest. If we must say the truth, he was the favorite of these concerts. Of the quality of Titiens' voice we need not speak, as she is so well known. Last week, she was evidently laboring under hoarseness, and no wonder, as the atmosphere was very damp, the ground being covered with melting snow. There is no doubt that her lower register is worn, but her upper notes are still as deliciously limpid as ever. A gentleman who heard her in London, in 1859, told us that he remembered at once the glorious voice in the opening bars of "Ernani, involami," sung at the beginning of the second concert. Her phrasing is as perfect as of old, and her whole interpretation is that of the grand Italian school in which she has been reared and in which she replaces Pasta and Grisi. In opera she is good for ten years more, unless this American concert tour, with its winter travel and variable temperatures, injures her voice, as we much fear may prove the case.

SUPERFLUOUS WOMEN.

Mary A. Livermore says in her new lecture: Let me not be understood as depreciating marriage and setting myself against it. Nay, I magnify marriages! True marriage gives an antetaste of heaven. There can be no country worth living for that is not based on home and family resulting from marriage. Nevertheless I object to the theory that marriage is the final cause of woman, the sole object of her creation, because it is incorrect and harmful. The theory that marriage is the only business of a woman's life cannot be practically carried out with woman. Facts are against it. While there are on an average usually about 105 or 106 boys born into the world to every 100 girls, there has been such waste of life among men through war, dangerous pursuits, drunkenness, and profligacy that, taking the world over, there are, and always have been since the days of authentic history, more marriageable women in the world than men. In 1860 the average number of marriages in the United States was 75 to 100 marriageable women. Since then we have passed through the five-years' war of the rebellion, in consequence of which nearly 1,000,000 men lost their lives. In addition there has been since been growing a morbid luxury among both men and women, which, added to the expensiveness of living, has tended to greatly restrict marriage. The State census of Massachusetts, just completed, informs us that there are now 63,084 more women than men in the State, and that the disparity is increasing yearly. The theory that marriage offers to woman her only career of usefulness leads us to do injustice to the great army of the unmarried. They not only drop down in general estimation so that we speak slightly of them as old maids and superfluous women, but neglect to provide for them, and to give them the training necessary for their successful living and proper development. Mr. Greg, the charming English essayist, calls unmarried women "redundant" and "superfluous women," and has written an elaborate paper in answer to the question: "Why are women redundant?" He not only attempts to answer his question, succeeding only indifferently well, but he raises another query, which he also undertakes to answer: "What shall we do with these superfluous women?" And after a full discussion of the whole subject, to which he carried a kindly spirit, he is unable to suggest any other provision for these superfluous women than exportation. You must do with them as you do with any other commodity with which the market is overstocked—as Delaware did last summer when its peach crop was overwhelmingly superfluous—you must export them. The women must emigrate.

ARTISTIC.

M. JEAN ENGELMANN, the inventor of chromolithography, has just died at Paris at an advanced age.

The Hogarth Club is one of the youngest and most successful of the London art clubs. It was founded five years ago, and has about three hundred members, a large number when it is remembered that none but artists are admitted. They have a capital house in Charlotte street, Fitzroy Square, and have lately decorated it with much artistic taste. It is usual to have a special evening for visitors, and members send their pictures to the club for that evening.

The King of the Belgians has just purchased the last sketch of the famous series executed by Rubens to serve as models for the tapestries of Count Orléans. The Museum of Madrid possesses the whole series with the exception of this one, which was carried off during the Peninsular War under the First Empire, and sold to an English dealer. It afterwards became the property of the Marquis of Camden, from a whom it passed into the Bredel collection, lately dispersed in London.