

OUR ENGRAVINGS

MRS. S. A. CURZON.

Sarah Anne Curzon was born in England, in 1833, and early engaged in literary work, her articles, both verse and prose, being accepted by various periodicals of standing. Coming to Canada in 1863, she has done noble work for her adopted country, having clothed in graceful verse many forgotten incidents of our past, thus awaking an interest in Canadian history in the minds of many heretofore indifferent, and rescuing from oblivion much that is valuable to the lover of country. Indeed, many of us have cause to blush at the indifference we have hitherto shown when we see the appreciation of our northern land, for Mrs. Curzon's poetry is permeated with intense love of Canada. Indeed, she has done more than this; she has given to us her heart. Her life has been a busy one, full of household cares; the happy mother of a family, she has found time to identify herself with various organizations, for raising humanity. She was one of the first members of the Toronto Woman's Literary Club, which did excellent work in obtaining the opening of Toronto University to women. Mrs. Curzon devoted her pen for some years almost entirely to this and kindred subjects, being full of the love of humanity, and in accord with all philanthropic aims. She is secretary of the Woman's Enfranchisement Association of Canada and an officer of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Add to all this a distinctively religious character, and her purely literary work, and we see, indeed, a busy life. In 1887 Mrs. Curzon published a volume of poems on the war of 1812, accompanied by copious notes, showing careful historical research, the chief of which commemorates in stirring verse the brave deeds of Laura Secord. This poem is in the form of a drama, and the same theme appears as a ballad. In her poems we almost see the poet's life shining through with all its varied interests. A very clever little comedy, "The Sweet Girl Graduate," was written while the agitation for the admission of women to the University was at its height, and Mrs. Curzon's younger daughter was one of the earliest to receive the degree of B.A. "Fort Rouillé" and "Queenston Heights" show her patriotic feeling, "The Absent Ones" and "Away" give us glimpses of the home circle. Others, as "Backwoods' Preacher" and "Thy Word," show deep religious feeling. The "Ballads of Spring" and "Ballad of the Beautiful" reveal powers of humour and sarcasm not often found in the poetry of women. In the "Songs of the Great Dominion," lately published in England, a serious injustice has been done to Mrs. Curzon, as, by an unfortunate blunder, out of the poems chosen to represent Mrs. Curzon only a scant twelve lines appear, while others have many pages allotted to them. There is a strength, purity, and nobility of expression, and an intense appreciation of the various moods of nature which we find in none but the true poet. The *Canadian Monthly*, *Grip*, THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, *The Week*, have all been enriched with the products of Mrs. Curzon's graceful pen. She is also an appreciative reviewer. For two years she was sub-editor of the *Canada Citizen*, advocating civic sanitation, social purity, woman suffrage, public playgrounds, and kindred topics relating to public health and morals. Mrs. Curzon possesses that excellent thing in woman, a sweet, low voice, and her fair presence conveys the idea of modesty and dignity—a true lady showing again, as has been shown before, that the possession of literary gifts and the taking part in the struggle to lift woman, and thereby man, and the world in general, does not destroy true womanliness. It is to be hoped that Canada may not be slow to acknowledge her indebtedness to one who has done her such noble service.

THE OLD FORT AT ANNAPOLIS.

This is an old view—taken about fifty years ago—of part of the military buildings at the historic old town of Annapolis Royal, N.S. An interesting sketch of the history of the old fort appeared in the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED of 6th July, 1889, to which we would refer our readers.

WHEAT GROWING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

With the immigration so rapidly coming into our Pacific Province, the area of land under cultivation is fast increasing, and a large percentage of this is devoted to the production of wheat. The illustration shown on page 344 is from a photograph of a field on Judge Spinks' ranch, about a mile north of Vernon, B.C., a farming settlement in the Okanagan Valley, Kootenay District.

STEAM TRAM-CARS AT SYDNEY, N.S.W.

In view of the indifferent street-car service in all Canadian cities, and the especially poor system in Montreal, a view of the tram-cars used in an Australian city may be of interest. It will be seen that one engine draws two carriages, each of which has two stories; the lower divided into compartments with sliding doors; the upper two long benches back to back and open to the street. The top is covered, affording shelter from sun and rain, while in very bad weather the doors in the lower section keep it as dry and warm as an ordinary railway carriage. The system is immeasurably ahead of anything in America, and could be adopted here with a vast gain to the comfort of the people.



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When first introduced the engines occasioned some alarm to horses; but this soon disappeared, as in the case of British cities where similar trams are in use.

NOTRE DAME DE LOURDES' CHURCH, MONTREAL.

This is one of the most striking pieces of ecclesiastical architecture in the city, and is the object of much attention from visitors. It was built in 1874, and is large and substantial in every particular; it will accommodate 3,000 persons. Its congregation is largely drawn from the most fashionable French families in the city. The Rev. C. J. Maillet is the priest in charge.

ON HAMILTON BEACH.

The breathing space for the citizens of Hamilton is the Beach, a pretty strip of land about six miles from the city. It is a great summer resort for hundreds of wealthy residents whose handsome cottages almost line it from end to end. The beach itself has a picturesque formation. It is a narrow strip of land seven miles long and not much over a hundred yards wide, separating Hamilton Bay from Lake Ontario. The Bay is a large triangular sheet of water about twenty one miles in circumference, having a depth at some points of over ninety feet, and it seems almost a miracle how this narrow barricade of land has managed to rise from its waters

until it has completely separated the Bay from the Lake. Some years ago the Government constructed a canal through the Beach and built long piers extending from a distance out in the lake to a corresponding distance within the Bay, so as to furnish access for the largest vessels into Hamilton harbour. On these piers two light houses were placed, whose graceful outlines can be seen in the adjoining sketch. Later on a line of railway was built along the Beach, crossing this canal by a swing bridge, which has recently been the scene of an unfortunate railroad accident, involving loss of life, a train having come along at night when the bridge was open and plunged into the deep waters beneath. In 1874 the most of the Beach was leased to the city by the Dominion Government at a nominal rental, and the city had it surveyed into lots, streets laid out, and took it under the supervision of the municipal corporation. The lots were soon taken up by wealthy citizens, who erected residences there, in which they spend the summer months. The number of these residents has been constantly increasing of late years, and now from the south end of the Beach to the canal, a distance of about three miles, there is a continuous street of pretty villas, under whose deep, cool, shady

verandahs a hot August afternoon can be pleasantly spent. North of the canal the Beach is devoted to campers, and whole families go down there to dwell in a city of tents that springs up as if by magic as soon as the first hot weather sets in. This season over two hundred tents were pitched along one strip of beach, and at night the numerous camp fires reflected on the white walls of the tents and the sparkling waters of the Lake made quite a brilliant illumination. Just before the heavy equinoctial gales set in these hardy campers "fold their tents like the Arabs and steal away"—not silently, however, for the closing ceremonies of camp life are usually marked by a round of festivities, camp-fire concerts, clam and corn bakes. During the months of July and August, every Saturday afternoon, there is something going on, and during the week there are band concerts in the evening for the enjoyment of the crowds who run down from the city for a breathing spell. It is a favourite place for boat racing, on account of its peculiar location. Whether the wind blows from the east or west there is always smooth water to be had for the oarsmen, either on the Bay side or the Lake side of the Beach, and the facilities for seeing the races are superb. During the recent double scull champion race between the Hanlan-O'Connor and Gaudaur-McKay crews over twenty thousand people viewed the race from the shore, the piers, or the long line of boats and steamers that lined the outside of the course. Every year the Beach residents have a regatta of their own, in the competition at which none but *bona fide* residents are eligible, and immense crowds of their friends go down from the city to view the races, water polo and other aquatic sports. In one of his sketches our artist has selected the scene on the long promenade by the Bay shore on such a gala day. The Royal Hamilton Yacht Club has recently erected a very handsome club house near the canal for the accommodation of its members, who number over seven hundred, and the picturesque structure adds much to the appearance of the locality. Farther down the Beach there is a church for the residents, and not far off the beautiful children's Sanitarium, erected by Senator Sanford, a health resort for poor children during the sultry days of summer. In this admirable institution many of the beds are endowed by individuals and societies connected with the city churches.

IN BEACON HILL PARK, VICTORIA, B.C.

No traveller who has visited Victoria, but must confess that Beacon Hill Park is one of the most beautiful pleasure grounds on the continent. It covers about three hundred acres, a large portion of which is laid out in garden, and is a mass of beautiful foliage. The park is situated near the sea, and the lonnger can drink in the salt air and feast his eyes on the natural and artificial beauties that surround him. It is especially gay on Sundays and holidays, when the citizens of Victoria resort there in great numbers.

Following upon the Duke of Portland's agitation in favor of doing away with the bearing or check rein from carriage horses, the Queen has directed him, as her master of the horse, to take off the bearing reins from the horses that draw the royal carriages.