

(For the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.)

EPIGRAM.

FROM PIRON.

As Cupid, one fine day, was here and there
In search of am'rous victims gaily frisking,
He spied my love, and cried: "A face so fair
As that deserves preserving!" Quickly whisking
From out his quiver easel, paint and brush
To copy it, he still could make no start
For want of canvas. Reckless, in a rush
Of haste, he substituted my poor head!

A. W. GUNDRY.

CANADIAN ANTIQUITIES.

We have frequently had occasion to urge both the desirability and the necessity of preserving from oblivion or utter destruction the many historic antiquities with which the old Province of Quebec still teems. We refer casually to the subject in an editorial article of the current number. The present Centennial year appears a most propitious one for the revival of interest in this direction, and we trust that every inducement will be held out to our antiquarian and historical students to prosecute their researches with renewed activity. The Historical and Literary Society of Quebec has been labouring in this patriotic field for years, publishing periodically works of sterling interest relating to our early history. Its last volume consists of the publication of four valuable manuscripts one of which is an account of the memorable events of 1759, and the other the diary of Hugh Finlay during the siege of Quebec by the Americans in 1776-76. This diary, with the memoir of Charles Sanguinet, is simply indispensable to the student for an inner view of the state of the Province and of the ancient capital during the "Bastonnais" invasion. We cannot too warmly recommend to public attention and to public patronage the labours of the Quebec Historical and Literary Society, and we repeat what we stated some months ago, that it would be desirable that the transactions and minutes of meetings of the Society were published in the Montreal and Toronto papers as well as in those of Quebec. Too much publicity cannot be given to these proceedings, and we trust that the officers of the Society will be pleased to consider our suggestion.

In Montreal the absorption of commerce stands very much in the way of any devotion to the study of Canadian Antiquities, and hence the importance of encouraging the few who do persevere in the pursuit. Perhaps chief among these is the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal which is quietly pressing its way into public recognition. The Society publishes a handsome and interesting quarterly entitled the CANADIAN ANTIQUARIAN AND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL which we are glad to see has already reached the third number of its fourth volume. The January number now lying before us is a very creditable pamphlet indeed, and if more prominently put before our citizens would, we are confident, meet with generous support. We would suggest to the Society that they should take immediate steps towards obtaining increased publicity, and we are sure, judging from ourselves, that their brethren of the press throughout all the Provinces would give them a helping hand.

The present number contains two papers by that most indefatigable of our archaeologists, Mr. J. M. Lemoine—one on the Destruction by Fire of the Old Recollet Convent, and the other on Champlain's Tomb. There is considerable information to be gleaned from a sketch written by Mrs. Jameson in 1837 on the great Manitoulin. Mr. R. W. McLachlan has a paper on the Medals of the War of 1812 accompanied by a beautiful coloured illustration of the two sides of the Medal, the ribbon, and three clasps, bearing severally the honored names of Chateaugay, Fort Detroit and Chrysler's Farm. The paper contains a clipping from the Montreal Herald of Sept. 12th, 1812, (the first year of its publication, and this reminds us that we must congratulate our excellent contemporary on the splendid new dress it has donned within the past few days), describing the scene in Montreal on the arrival of the American General Hull and a part of his captured army. Mr. Benjamin Sulte contributes a chapter on the Boucher and Varennes families. The number concludes with an account of the capture of Montreal by the Americans under Montgomery in 1775. A large portion of the sketch reads curiously like that of Lossing in his Field Book of the Revolution. We repeat that the CANADIAN ANTIQUARIAN is a journal worthy of general and generous patronage.

CITY POLICE CARBINE.

The carbine and angular bayonet furnished to the City Police by R. H. Kilby, 348 St. Paul street, is manufactured by the Whitney Arms Co., weighs 8 lbs., is strong, simple in action, and is furnished with ammunition capable of shooting with accuracy at a long range. The tumbler has three notches: The first is a safety notch, the second is half cock, and the third, full cock. This, in an eminent degree, diminishes the chances of accidental discharges, to which those arms are subject where the hammer has to be raised to full-cock before the cartridge can be inserted in the barrel, thus necessitating the hammer being lowered after closing the breech, an operation never unaccompanied with danger when in the hands of a person who has not yet perfect control of his nerves.

THE GLEANER.

PROF. O. C. MARSH, of Yale, has procured about 2,500 volumes of Japanese literature for the library of the college.

By a late decree of the Russian Senate women will hereafter be allowed to become barristers-at-law after due examination.

THERE are 21,255 Baptist churches in the United States, with 13,117 ministers, and a total membership of 1,815,000.

THERE are 3,000 white men in Florida who have not voted since the downfall of the Confederacy—enough to insure a Democratic triumph at every election.

UPWARD of 300 children are suffocated in bed annually in the central district of Middlesex, England. Seven-tenths of those suffocations occur on Sunday mornings.

CROQUET is rapidly giving way to roller skating in London, and the ladies' newspapers are publishing concise rules to promote gracefulness of movement and proficiency in the sport.

PROF. TOURY, of Baltimore, bought samples of the kerosene sold in the stores, and found by experiment that more than half of the stuff was very dangerous, giving off inflammable vapor at a very low temperature.

IN Germany 1,520 out of every 10,000 of the population are under school instruction; in Great Britain, 1,400; in France, 1,160; in Belgium, 1,140; in Austria and Hungary, 840; and in Russia, 150.

THE Women's Dress Association of England are turning their attention to the costumes of servants, whose prevailing love of finery is to be taken in hand, and awards of money are to be offered as encouragement to female servants to dress more suitably to their station in life.

THE London Standard says that several foreign powers are directing their attention to the practicability of establishing telegraph stations in mid-ocean, by which messages can be sent from any part of the sea along the line of the cable to the terminal points on shore, and vice versa.

THEY have been trying transfusion of blood again in France with partial success. In Sweden the art of transferring blood from a living person to one dying or even supposed to be dead has been carried to such perfection that the Swedish doctors boast they can restore a man to life an hour after he has been hanged.

PROF. RUDOLPH says that he has found out that the sun is a white, hot mass, 856,000 miles in diameter, having a surrounding ocean of burning gas 50,000 miles deep, with tongues of flame darting upward 50,000 miles, and volcanic forces that hurl luminous matter to the height of 160,000 miles.

NEARLY a century ago Old Port Royal disappeared beneath the waves in an earthquake, and now, in calm and clear weather, you may look down into fifteen fathoms of water and see submerged houses, towers, and churches, with sharks swimming quietly in and out of the open windows of their bellfries.

"It is coming to be understood," says the New England Journal of Education, "that the attempt to crowd the full contents of our elaborate textbooks into the memory of the pupils is equivalent to teaching the dictionary, in course, as a training for an orator." In other words, that "cramming," as an experiment, is a total failure.

"DRINK Pure, or Taste Not," says an advertisement. Something in that. The first step to temperance reform will be to prevent the adulteration of intoxicating liquors. If men will drown reason and run the risk of crime, let them guzzle down madness in the least pernicious form, and we shall have fewer modern atrocities and more old-fashioned, high-toned immorality.

THE Home Secretary of England has just revised two sentences of notable severity passed in Salford and Oxford. In one case Sir John Mantell sentenced a man to three months' imprisonment with hard labor for being found asleep in the street. In the other a boy had been doomed to five years' imprisonment for stealing a pair of boots and a penknife. The first sentence was remitted, and the second commuted to six months.

MUCH dissatisfaction is expressed in Massachusetts with the working of the common school system in that State. This dissatisfaction finds vent in newspaper articles and public addresses. The results of the system now in use are said to be in no sense commensurate with the amount of money expended and a reorganization is called for. The Rev. Dr. Peabody, Prof. Everett, and Mr. Frank W. Bird are among the opponents of the present system. It is suggested that less money be spent on school-houses and more money be devoted to the employment of better teachers.

"THE Company of St. George" is to be the title of the associated body under whose auspices Mr. Ruskin's model village of Arcadia is to be originated, directed and sustained. The memorandum of association declares the object of the company to be the institution and practice of wholesome laws of agricultural life and economy, and the instruction of the agricultural labourer in science, art, and literature, so far as they are "properly connected with agriculture." The profits are to be applied first, to the development of the company's land, and, secondly, to "the physical, moral, intellectual, social, and religious improvement" of those who reside upon it.

CAPTAIN WEBB writes in Cassell's Family Magazine:—"It is the duty of every parent to

insist on his sons learning to swim. Now, to teach a very young child to swim, the best place of all is a large puddle in the sands at low tide. The child, like a puppy, will begin by paddling. If you throw a cork into the water, you will see the puppy run in up to its depth, and give a short bark; and the chances are, especially if there is a grown-up dog that can swim to set him an example, that in a day or two he will take his plunge of his own accord, and very proud he will be of his first success; only here again, don't overdo it; as soon as the puppy has been in, walk away and call him, and he will be the more anxious to go into the water another time. The principle is somewhat similar to Sam Weller's letter—'She'll wish there vos more, and there's the great art o' letter writin'.' Now, pity your child like your puppy; entice him in, and if you can get some older child who can swim to go in with him, all the better, but the let the child do just as he likes. Perhaps the first day he will be afraid to go into the water deeper than his knees. Here again a little artifice may be employed. Get two children to play at splashing one another—they will enjoy the fun, and gradually getting excited, will very likely venture in deeper and deeper."

HEARTH AND HOME.

WOMAN'S POSITION.—Ninety-nine of every hundred young women are destitute of an independent income adequate to their comfortable support; they must work or marry for a living. But in industry, woman's sphere is exceedingly circumscribed, and her reward, as compared with the recompense of masculine effort, very inadequate. Except as household drudges, it is very difficult for seven single women out of eight to earn a comfortable, independent livelihood in any country, and it is much worse in some. Hence false marriages, which lead to so much misery.

GOOD ADVICE FOR THE YOUNG.—Avoid all boastings and exaggerations, backbiting, abuse, and evil speaking; slang phrases and oaths in conversation; depreciate no man's qualities, and accept hospitalities of the humblest kind in a hearty and appreciative manner; avoid giving offence, and if you do offend, have the manliness to apologize; infuse as much elegance as possible into your thoughts as well as your actions; and, as you avoid vulgarities you will increase the enjoyment of life, and grow in the respect of others.

DUTIES OF A MOTHER.—She should be firm, gentle, kind, always ready to attend to her child. She should never laugh at him—at what he does that is cunning—never allow him to think of his looks, except to be neat and clean in all his habits. She should teach him to obey a look—to respect those older than himself; she should never make a command without seeing that it is performed in the right manner. Never speak of the child's faults or foibles, or repeat his remarks before him. It is a sure way to spoil a child. Never reprove a child when excited, nor let your tone of voice be raised when correcting. Strive to inspire love, not dread—respect, not fear. Remember you are training and educating a soul for eternity. Teach your children to wait upon themselves, to put away a thing when done with it. But do not forget that you were once a child.

FRIENDS.—There are friends who are friends only for the hour, friends for the noontide and the flood; they have no real rooting, as you discover if your horizon gets clouded over and foul weather comes in place of fair, if your rushing water run dry and your goodly vessels are stranded on the beach. These are the parasites of life, the clinging growths which twine round the stronger trees and, may be, strangle them before they die. And there are the real friends, who, if you get into trouble, stick closer to you than a brother, and who only need to be tested to show that they are of pure gold all through. But this kind is apt to be a little stiff and stately when things go well with you, and you feel rather hard that you must be in sorrow or distress before you can get the starch taken out of them, and would rather they were more familiar now, if less devoted then—content to discount the chances of the future for the advantage and pleasure of the present.

A PERMANENT HOME.—To have a home which a man has himself reared or purchased—a home which he has improved or beautified—a home indeed, which, with honest pride and natural love, he calls his own—is an additional security for any man's virtue. Such a home he leaves with regret; to it he gladly returns. There he finds innocent and satisfying pleasures. There his wife and little ones are happy and safe; and there all his best affections take root and grow. To such a pair, as time advances, the abode of their early and middle life, whence they have, perhaps, all departed, becomes constantly more dear; for it is now a scene of precious memories—the undisturbed declining years! And say—what lapse of time, what varied experience of prosperity, or sorrow, can ever efface the good impression made by such a home on the tender heart of childhood! To the tempted youth, to the wanderer from virtue, to the sad victim of misfortune, such remembrance has often proved a strengthening monitor, or a healing balm. Nor can this kindly influence wholly fail so long as the dear objects of that familiar scene retain a place in memory, connected, as they irreparably are, with thoughts of a father's counsels, a mother's tenderness, a sister's purity, and a brother's love.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

BOXES in the new London Opera House have been sold for £10,000 each, the owner to receive five per cent. interest if the profits allow, and to have the use of it during Italian opera seasons only.

A Neapolitan named Florino has opened a subscription paper to procure funds for a monument to Bellini, the composer. He heads the list with a subscription of 1,000 francs.

A NEW opera, by Ivar Hallstroem, "The Betrothed of the Gnome," the libretto based on a Norwegian legend, has met with such success at Stockholm, that the work will be produced in Munich.

At the play of "Henry V." in Chicago, when the King was solemnly bestowing the regal kiss on the new-made Queen, a hoodlum in the gallery audibly ejaculated, "Yum-yum-yum!" And everybody laughed.

WILLIAM HENRY NORTON, who died recently in Boston, was an actor of such versatility that he assumed characters in comedy and tragedy with equal success. He was also an expert photographer, and conducted a gallery in Boston while acting regularly, and also owned a boot and shoe store.

A poor ballet girl recently met a terrible death at the Alexandra Opera House, Sheffield, in the presence of a thronged house. She represented some "fairy queen," and was suspended in a basket of flowers, which caught fire through the stage lights, ignited her highly combustible drapery, and mortally injured her before the panic-stricken and distracted audience.

PRINCE POMPEO BELGIOJOSO has recently died at Milan. He was the friend of Bellini, Donizetti, Pacini, Rossini, and most of the Italian masters. He had a superb bass voice, and often sang in public at concerts given for benevolent purposes. It was for his voice that Rossini wrote the bass portion of the Stabat. Prince Pompeo Belgiojoso was related to the celebrated Princess Christina Belgiojoso.

TAMBERLIK, the tenor, relates an adventure which occurred to him among Mexican brigands in the neighbourhood of Vera Cruz. The brigands captured him together with \$40,000 which he had in his pocket, but, upon persuading him to sing for them, were so well pleased with his performance, that they not only restored him his money and liberty, but paid him \$2,000 for his performance.

It may be interesting to many to learn that "Pausanias, the Spartan, an unfinished romance by the late Lord Lytton," is in the press. It is edited by the present Lord, who has written a long preface. A mail steamer was wrecked some time ago on the voyage from Lisbon; but her mails were soon fished up, and among them were the proof sheets of "Pausanias." They had dried when they reached London into a solid mass, and the printers had to bake them before the sheets could be parted.

THE capital raised by Mr. Mapleson among his friends in London for the new opera house is very large. The privilege accorded to the subscribers will be as follows:—For the sum of £10,000 (\$50,000 in gold), a box in the grand tier, and five per cent per annum; for £8,000, i. e., \$40,000, a pit tier box, and five per cent per annum; for £6,000 and £4,000 respectively, a first tier, and a second tier box, and of course the five per cent. The privilege for £2,000 (\$10,000) is a stall, and for £1,000, one dress circle seat, with the exceptional right granted to the director, that if any one of the subscribers should give him annoyance, he can, by simply giving three months' notice, and returning the invested money, get rid of him.

A very interesting document appears in the Concordia. It is the fac-simile of a letter addressed by George Frederic Handel, the great composer, to Mr. Coleman, Envoy at the Court of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, at Florence, asking him, in the name of the English Court, to find some Italian singers for the London Opera. It is written in French, and dated 19-30 June, 1730. Handel tells Coleman that he had re-engaged his contralto, but wants another soprano, and depends upon him (Coleman) to get one who does not object to play in the parts of both men and women. Besides this soprano, Handel asks for un homme et une femme for the next season. This is one of the few very letters of Handel in existence. Only two have been sold in the present century.

THE London Pictorial World says that the story of Cinderella is not the invention of some imaginative genius, but that it is founded on fact. It cites Strabo as its authority. The story is as follows: One day a lady named Rhodopis was bathing in the Nile, and the wind carried one of her sandals and laid it at the feet of the King of Egypt, who was holding a court of justice in the open air not far away. His curiosity was excited by the singularity of the event and the elegance of the sandal, and he offered a reward for the discovery of the owner. Rhodopis claimed it, and it was found to fit her exactly. She was very beautiful and the king married her. She is remembered in history as the "Rosy Cheeked Queen" of Egypt, and she lived two thousand years before the Christian era.

H. J. BYRON, the London dramatic author and manager, says that a theatre in that city with which he was connected made a hit with a play, and every night more people applied for the best seats—called stalls there—than could be accommodated. The manager disliked to see money turned away, the more so as the dress circle was only partly filled. It was in vain, however, that the applicants for stalls at six shillings were invited to dress circle seats at three shillings—the difference in price repelled them. At length the manager made the rates alike, and thereafter readily sold the seats at six shillings that could find no buyers at three. New York managers had a similar experience, until the same scale of prices was adopted in most establishments for orchestra and dress circle seats; and now the best of the latter sell quickest.

ARTISTIC.

MISS THOMPSON has been offered and has accepted £3,000 for the copyright of her new picture of the Balaklava Charge.

MACMILLAN will shortly issue a series of illustrations to Shakespeare's plays, engraved on steel, from designs by several distinguished German artists.

THE discovery is said to have been made at Olympia of the Venus Victorious in white marble, by Paionios, which was presented to the Temple there by the inhabitants of Nopartos.

AMONG the treasures lately brought to light at Pompeii is a silver altar, on which were deposited two silver cups and spoons, the latter of which are precisely similar in form to those now in use.

THE Prix de Sévres is to be awarded this year to the best design for the vases to be placed on the mantelpieces of the foyer of the Grand Opera. Competitors must furnish one single design for the form and two compositions for the decoration, one of "Music," the other of "Dancing."