

tol, but which, without that advertisement, he might have been willing to take as an immigration publication. The zeal of our Yankee friends in pushing advertisements in every available place is too well known among intelligent men to excite debate, except, indeed, a pretext were very sadly needed. The matter, however, did not stop here, as on Tuesday evening the Postmaster-General was attacked for some more Yankee advertisements, which had crept into the "Postal Guide," an official publication printed by the Messrs. Stephenson, sons of the well-known Conservative whip, the publication being edited by a well-known official of the P. O. Department. It was an impropriety to allow such an advertisement to slip into such a publication; but I understand it was disallowed some time ago, when it was brought under official notice, and the most there is to say of this incident is that it is another example of the zeal and ingenuity of our Yankee friends to push their advertisements everywhere. But surely this was not a matter at all worthy the serious consideration of the Parliament of Canada.

On Tuesday evening, Mr. Béchard's bill, to which I have before referred, for a general reduction of salaries, from that of His Excellency downwards, the measure, however, not to apply to the present Governor-General, came up for discussion. The House was not full, many of the members having left for their Easter holidays. Several of those present, however, spoke in its favour, while others denounced both it and its author, treating the bill as a mere exhibition of weakness. None of the speeches delivered could be considered as constituting a real debate upon a question of this nature. There may be something to be said as to the necessity of keeping down expenses to the lowest possible point; but the question of salaries cannot be properly dealt with by such a body as the House of Commons in mere general talk upon such a bill as that proposed by Mr. Béchard. It is a question with some whether the \$1,000 paid to each member of the House, in addition to his mileage and other little perquisites, is not very high remuneration for the service rendered. But if this is put as a set off, as was done by some of the speakers, against election expenses and cost of living ten weeks away from home, the amount will not probably be more than covered. It is, however, a very moot question, whether the country would not be better served by a class of more independent men, if there were no payment at all to members. Dr. Bergin closed the discussion by moving the adjournment of the House, which was carried.

Mr. Blake moved a resolution for an address on the subject of Extradition, having for object to extend the list of offences for which there should be extradition between Canada and the United States; and this principle seems to be manifestly in the interest of both countries, for it cannot be for the advantage of either that its territory should be made a refuge for scoundrels, for which the long frontier line gives such easy facilities. Sir John Macdonald asked for the withdrawal of the resolutions, stating that the Government were in daily expectation of a communication on the subject from the Imperial Government, and Mr. Blake consented to the withdrawal.

Mr. Ives' bill for winding up insolvent insurance companies was read a second time. The measure provides that any insurance company which failed to pay claims proved against it after the space of 60 days should be considered insolvent. A claim should be held to be undisputed unless the company gave notice to the contrary, and gave the reasons for which they contested the claim; the notice to be given within 60 days. There were a number of other provisions. Mr. Blake thought the matter was one that should be dealt with by the Government. The bill was referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

There was no session on Wednesday, the House having adjourned for the Easter holidays, and many of the members, including two or three Ministers, having gone to Montreal to the dinner to Sir A. T. Galt, the Canadian High Commissioner to England. I think it is well Sir A. T. Galt's proposed title is changed from Minister to High Commissioner, and, certainly, taking Sir Alexander's own view of the functions he is to perform, they are not Ministerial, but only those which belong to agency. They will be exercised under the responsibility of the Ministers to Parliament. This is bringing things down to common sense, and I must say, I, from the first, did not believe that Sir John Macdonald would commit the anomaly of calling an agent, however superior his functions, a Minister, and that in England. The agency which Sir Alexander will have to fill is, undoubtedly, very important; and if it is admitted, as I think it must be, that, in the matter of its finances, the credit of Canada is sufficient to take care of itself, the saving under the new arrangement will be immense, even if a very high salary is paid to the agent, as compared with the very large sums which have been all along paid to the financial agents of the Dominion for their management of the Canadian account in London. Sir Alexander's experience as Finance Minister and present connection as a Director of the leading Canadian bank, fit him specially for this most important part of his new duties. The only wonder is that some arrangement of this sort for the management of the Canadian account by a salaried Canadian agent was not made long before. It is unnecessary to say anything as respects Sir Alexander Galt's ability and ready speech, as every body in Canada recognizes these.

STILL LIFE.

Stretching down from the Scotch Border to Derbyshire is a rugged range of high land, rising here and there into peaks and hills noted in the North, and known amongst our English eminences. That elevated land—the backbone of England—is the gathering ground for many of the chief northern streams; its enviering hills are the storehouses in which much of our leaden ores are stored; and the dales that intervene are usually plentiful and secluded.

The country presents remarkable obstacles to the formation of railroads; it is traversed by no canal; and thus traffic is limited by the inadequate facilities, and travel is rare in the dales. There are variations in the shades and character of these dales, just as the industries are varied. On the borders of the fells and in the Cumbrian and Westmoreland dales, the descendants of the statesmen still tinge the character of the population with their rugged uprightness and homeliness; in the Durham dales, lead-mining becomes dominant, and influences even character; whilst in southern dales agriculture rules the roast, and tones the customs of the people.

Amongst all, however, there are generic likenesses, and the life that is led by all is emphatically still life. It has its resemblances to the existence of the bees, its busy phases in summer, and the comparatively dormant state in winter, but its busiest condition is torpor compared to the fever-life of towns, and only the echoes of the great questions that ebb and flow continually in the outer world penetrate into these regions guarded by hills and bleaknesses.

In summer this still life is Arcadian in its simplicity, and it merits in considerable degree the praise the gossiping old Evelyn bestowed upon Switzerland: "The safest spot in all Europe—neither envied nor envying;" and the remarks applied to the Swiss have application to the people in this Northern Arcadia: "Nor are any of them rich nor poor; they live in great simplicity and tranquillity." Summer brings to them its abundant labour; in the Eden village the fruitful corn-fields furnish full employment, whilst lower down it is, in the farm proverb, "up with the horn," to the exclusion almost of arable land. Early and late dairies need attention, and the tons of butter that are sent to the Yorkshire markets show the result, whilst piles of cheese are growing for the fairs, and stock are "summering" for sale at Brough Hill or at the Penrith auction mart. From spring seed time till the last rick of corn is thatched, or till, in the non-arable dales, the hay is thatched, and stacks of "brackens" for bedding for the cattle are laid in, there is little leisure, and the few days of comparative idleness are isolated occasions, such as village fairs, which mark as red-letter days the almost incessant labour.

But with the Martinmaste the stillness of life becomes intensified, while the labours are necessarily restricted. Intercourse with the outer world becomes less; isolation of villages is brought about by storm and snow; cattle are drawn from the fells and sheep from the hills; and with less opportunity for using it abroad the idle time of the workers grows with the longer nights. The coming of winter is marked outwardly and inwardly. The little streams that sparkled over the pebbles on the fell sides or brawled down the hill are swelling daily from the sodden ground, and rush ruddy down the dale, or noisily dash their peat-embrowned waters over the boulders. The dead-brown ferns on the hill-sides are whitened with morning frosts; the heather droops with heavy dews; and the stunted bushes gather runlets of water to drip and plash on their decaying leaves below.

In the villages roofs of thatch or tile look damp, and the few slated eaves or gables glisten in the unfrequent sun's rays, whilst the green that centres in the villages alternates between frosty white or sodden olive. There are few people in the "streets," and the lanes become mud-tracks, in which the hoofs of animals leave traces which surface ice transforms into miniature pitfalls. Homely hospitality reigns; in the north the "merry neets" still linger when the villagers entertain by "house-row;" to the south, though these are unknown, more public and promiscuous gatherings have their place. The denominational assemblies are important events to certain portions of the community, whilst to other classes even occasional card parties are as important. In the dull season of the year the arrival of the weekly newspaper is an event, and the editorial "we" is here a power in the mimic state.

These religious denominations are not so fully marked in the divisions as in towns; the well-to-do farmer will be found regularly at church in the morning, and as regularly at chapel in the evening. In some of the Durham dales John Wesley laid the foundation of enduring societies that are still the most numerous of all the sects in these dales; in others the followers of another eminent peripatetic preacher, Hugh Bourne, prevail. Further north, the Baptists have hold of the affections of the people, and though the Church has put forth efforts of late, it has much leeway to make up, especially in the lead-mining dales.

The people live primitive in habit, peculiar in customary observances. There are many of the old churches where garlands are hung in olden style; there are others where rush-bearing festivals are held; and in one, under the shadow of "Stanmore's shapeless swell," there is a holly bough observance that has been practised for generations.

Of all times of the year this district is the most isolated in winter, and especially in snow-storms. The winds send down the snow from the hills to drift up, the valleys, and to call the old snow-plough into use. Great white sheets, undulating, and only scored here and there with the tops of the dark mortarless walls, stretch to the uplands, and lose even these slight signs on the fells—presenting the appearance there of seas of snow, untracked for miles. The bushes are ribbed with snow; the disused limekilns are banked up with it; and streaks are thickly marked up and down the clefts in the hills. The villages seem deserted, if it were not that on the cleared path near the houses there is the occasional clatter of pattens, or the rattle of a Westmoreland lad's clogs. Brightness gleams through the little window, and the odour and the colour of the smoke that is blown in gusts over the thatched roofs here and there tells of the peat fires that linger. For, be it never so homely, there is always the "clear fire and the clean hearth" Sarah Battle loved, in these isolated homesteads, whilst from the crook-supported pot that depends over the fire there issues ever a savoury odour, and, if it be in Westmoreland, the *havre-cake* of the country will not be far away, with more generally appreciated dainties. For in all, the isolation, the want of intellectual occupation, and the never-changing round of life, lessens the mental employment, and the delights of the table occupy no small share of the attention. Winter shuts out the world to a large extent, and the self-containing nature of the dales is greatly drawn upon in the months of rain or snow to intervene between the late harvest, and the time when nature chants the song of the wise man: "For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear again on the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come." J. W. S.

BOHEMIANS.

What a debt we owe to France for the innumerable words expressive of phases of social life and grades of social status which we have borrowed from her overflowing and expressive vocabulary! There are many states of mind and many characteristics of modern society, which though often felt and witnessed are not to be uttered in English save in roundabout ways which dissipate all the force of the idea to be conveyed. Who, for example, could communicate to another that feeling not of languor, not of disgust, not of ill-temper, but of these three combined, for which the French have given us the word *ennui*? How are we to speak of acquaintances, either male or female, who have plighted their youthful vows and are proclaimed to be "engaged"? "Who is that pretty girl with Tom Henderson?" asks an inquisitive companion. To say "She is his betrothed," is antiquated; "the girl to whom he is engaged" is stilted and lengthy; *fiancee* gets us out of the difficulty at once. So with *flâneur*, *persiflage*, *chic*, *ton*, and the thousand other Gallicisms which express a well-defined social characteristic or style. The fact that all the expressions we borrow from our neighbours have reference to the lighter, sometimes the more dubious, side of modern society make them all the more to be valued. The more serious affairs of life the English tongue is fully capable of putting into sound. Nowhere, perhaps, is the deficiency of our own language more conspicuously shown than in the absence of any word to denote the class of persons—who have as distinct an existence here as in France—the anglicised form of whose designation stands at the head of this article. As we found the term Arab to specify the wandering and lawless qualities of the youth which, before the days of school-board officers, pitched its tent in any convenient nook or corner of the London streets, so the gifted Henri de Murger pitched on the term *Bohème* to express the land where dwelt the great community of Free-lances who were determined to owe no allegiance to the tyrant Custom or the despot Authority. Taking the hint from the swarthy gipsy tribes whose country is the world, but whose head-quarters are popularly supposed to be in Bohemia, De Murger christened with the name of the gipsies' fatherland the whole company of intellectual knights-errants. The rallying place of the community De Murger would doubtless have established somewhere in the Quartier Latin; a more cosmopolitan spirit has seized his idea, and carried it over the globe. Though possessing no local habitation Bohemians were no longer to be without a name.

But observant eyes must have detected an insidious change creeping over society with regard to its attitude towards Bohemia and its inhabitants. Bohemia itself is becoming fashionable! Despite the shadowy, we might say shady, character of the locality, there is as steady a tide of fashion setting towards it as that from Mayfair to Belgravia. The ultimate effect which such an incursion of the barbarians must produce upon the original settlers is already beyond speculating upon. The aborigines are becoming absorbed in the new population, but not without tingeing their conquerors with some of their own traits. Bohemia is itself partly responsible for this consummation. Carried away at first by the enthusiasm which animates all young sects, it adopted extremes which were in reality no part of its substantial creed. In its anxiety to proclaim its freedom from the ordinary trammels of conventionality, it regarded with feelings of contempt any person who resorted to the use of a nail-brush. Those who considered the cleanliness of their linen to be a

matter of moment were considered outside the pale of the new Church. General recklessness of conduct, combined with extreme lightness of purse, were qualities demanded of all "convertites." Some connection with the press, the studio, or the stage was absolutely essential. More sober councils ultimately prevailed. These things came to be regarded as the accidents, and not the essentials, of the true Bohemian. All that was finally necessary before any individual could assume the name of the new sect, was a general agreement with the principle of resistance to undue pressure, above all to anything in the nature of coercion, attempted to be exercised upon thought or habit by the powers that be.

THE SALVATION ARMY.

The first detachment of the Salvation Army came over recently to New York on the steamer *Australia*. They travelled by steerage, and landed at Castle Garden with the immigrants. The party consisted of George Railton, who comes as Commissioner, accompanied by a captain and six lieutenants. These are all young ladies, and all wear a peculiar uniform of blue faced with yellow. A ribbon is stretched across their caps, with the words, "The Army of Salvation." In appearance they are all stout and able-bodied persons of about thirty years, and seemingly well adapted to any enterprise that requires energy and endurance. Their passage was paid to this country by the home association, but this they are expected to refund. The intention of the band is to carry out the gigantic and ambitious scheme of travelling all through the country, and establishing branches of their organization in every city and town. The initiatory undertaking of the band was a service of song at Castle Garden soon after their arrival.

Energy and perseverance in any undertaking are apt to bring their reward, and there can be no question that the labours of the Army have met with great apparent success. They seem to seek out and take into their organization persons from the very worst classes, and yet the work does not fall to pieces. The number of members is now estimated at 100,000. In September last, according to a circular furnished by Mr. Railton, there were in England 122 corps, under the command of 195 officers, using for services weekly, 143 theatres, music halls, warehouses, and other buildings, holding at the annual rate of 45,000 open-air services, and 60,000 in-door services, and preaching to 74,000 persons in-door every Sunday evening, and to 2,000,000 in the streets every week. Through its instrumentality 257 persons have become wholly employed in religious work, and 3,256 others stand ready to speak or labour in the cause whenever called upon. The Army is said to be approved by twenty-three mayors and magistrates, seventeen superintendents of police, and one hundred and twenty-nine clergymen. Its funds are raised mainly by collections taken at the services. Last year there was raised in this way £12,000, while the general fund only amounted to £4,540.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

MONDAY, March 22.—The University boat race on the Thames was won by Oxford by 34 lengths in 21 min. 32 sec.—More fighting has taken place in Afghanistan, and negotiations are consequently in abeyance.—H. M. S. Woodark is being set in order at Devonport dockyard, preparatory to her early despatch to Canada.—Documents are said to have just been discovered which indicate that the denouement of the Nihilist conspiracy is not far off.

TUESDAY, March 23.—Five hundred thousand dollars' worth of diamonds have been stolen from the Postmaster's safe at Cape Town.—The permanent staff of the militia regiments in England have given a day's pay for relief of the distress in Ireland.—The extraordinarily cold winter in France has injured the grape-vines, and it is feared this year's crop will be very poor.—Hartmann is at Geneva, where he went to join a Nihilist committee.—The trial of forty Nihilists commences shortly at Odessa.—The New Brunswick Legislature has passed the resolution providing for the erection of new legislative buildings at Fredericton.—General Melnikoff is taking severe measures against the Nihilists. There does not seem to be any improvement in the internal affairs of Russia.

WEDNESDAY, March 24.—The *Constellation* sailed for Dublin with food and clothing for the distressed Irish, on Saturday.—Prince Orloff has proposed to Prince Bismarck the basis of an international extradition treaty.—It is said the Duke of Genoa, brother of the King of Italy, is to marry H. R. H. Princess Beatrice.

THURSDAY, March 25.—The Queen, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Princess Beatrice, have left for Germany.—France is reviving the *Concordat* existing between her and Rome.—Russia is making preparations for a fresh invasion into Turkistan.—In Italy an early resumption of specie payments is anticipated.—The ex-Empress Eugénie has left for Zurichland, travelling as Countess de Pierrefonds.

FRIDAY, March 26.—H. R. H. Prince Leopold sails for Canada in the Allan steamer *Sarnia*, from Liverpool, on the 29th inst.—It is stated that Sir Stafford Northcote is to be created a peer, and that Lord Beaconsfield is about to resign.—The London Water Works Bill will be one of the battles to be fought at the next election, regardless of party.—The brigands of Sicily captured the Duke of Sax-Meiningen, but released him on payment of a heavy ransom.—The Indian, who murdered Corporal Graham, of the North West Mounted Police, has been arrested at Fort Benton, Dakota.

SATURDAY, March 27.—The Queen has arrived at Baden Baden.—The *Herald* fund amounts to \$37,911.51.—The U. S. ship *Constellation* has sailed for Dublin.—Italy is planning an expedition to the South Pole.—An extensive emigration is taking place from Hungary.—The excitement over the elections in England is at its highest pitch. Betting on the result is even.—A new tax is to be collected in Cuba by means of a stamp to be affixed to all commercial documents.—New election tactics have been resorted to by the electors of Wick district, some of them having attempted to throw the candidate into the sea.