MURDER AND ROBBERY

To Secure $25,000 Three Men Are Shot Down.

TRIPLE TRAGEDY AT VALLEYFIELD

One Man Escapes by Locking Himself in the Vault.

The Paymaster of the Cotton Mills and His Two Clerks Were Making Up the Pay-rolls When a Discharged Employe Entered and With the Office Revolver Shot Down Two of Them—The Watchman Coming to the Rescue Was the Third Victim.

Valleyfield, Q., March 2.—The bustling little manufacturing town of Valleyfield was last night the scene of a terrible murder, by which the lives of John Loy, a clerk in the employ of the Montreal Cotton Company, and Maxime Lebouf, the night watchman, were sacrificed at the hand of a discharged employe named V. C. K. Shortis, while Hugh Wilson, another clerk, was wounded and may not recover. The murderer is now in Beauharnois jail, and an inquest is in progress on the bodies of the deceased.

Shortis, who was lately secretary to Mr. Simpson, the manager of the mill, had been discharged for his drinking and irregular habits, and either robbery or revenge prompted his terrible deed. The details of the crime are most sensational.

PICKED UP THE PAYMASTER'S REVOLVER.

Mr. Lowe, paymaster of the mill, and two clerks had just about finished making up the pay rolls about 11 o'clock. Although Shortis had made threats of violence against Mr. Simpson and others, no steps had been taken to exclude him from the mill premises, and Shortis entered and loitered around the office, while Mr. Lowe was at work. He nonchalantly reached over the counter, picked up Mr. Lowe's loaded revolver, which was lying on his desk, and shot the clerk Wilson, the bullet taking effect in the side.

SHOT THROUGH THE HEART.

Mr. Loy, a clerk, thinking it was an accident, made for the telephone to call a doctor, but Shortis took deliberate aim and shot Loy through the heart, death being instantaneous.

Mr. Lowe had been attending to Wilson, and a shot aimed at him struck Wilson in the forehead.

TOOK THE $25,000 INTO THE VAULT.

Lowe, seeing how matters were, grabbed the pay boxes, which contained $25,000, and ran into the vault with them, pulling the massive door after him. Shortis then went to the door and said to Lowe to come out, as he did not wish to injure him. Lowe replied that he was locked in and could not get out, though that was not the case, the door being simply shut.

Shortis said, "Give me the combination, Jack, I will let you out."

Mr. Lowe replied, "Just give the knob a sharp turn and it will open."

The murderer did so, and, of course, locked the safe, which was what Mr. Lowe wished.

THE WATCHMAN HIS NEXT VICTIM.

Lebouf, the night watchman, entered at this juncture and was shot dead. Wilson, by a superhuman effort, managed to crawl about 200 yards and touched the electric fire alarm button. Shortis made renewed efforts to enter the vault in which Mr. Lowe was, but in the meantime the firemen entered and overcame the murderer, after a terrible struggle.

DOGS AND THEIR FRIENDSHIP

An Interesting and Retrospective Article on the Ways of the Canine and His Lovers.

It is an easy task to show the superiority of canine friendship to that of all other animals. The elephant is, to a certain extent, mainly because he is fed by him, attached to his "mahout," but tramples him to death when frenzy seizes its huge frame. Monkey friendship, also, is but a cupboard love—greediness guided by cunning. The friendship of a horse is much nobler than any of these. Indeed, among Arabian sands its attachment to its owner and his family is the Eastern substitute for our Western fondness for dogs. The attachment of dogs and cats to their master was well weighed by him who devised the following test: Tread upon the tail of each, and notice what happens. The dog jumps up with a sudden howl into which pain has surprised him, but next moment he leaps round and fawns upon his master. The cat flies off spitting and enraged, with bristling back and fiery eyes, and will not for a time come near the master, who all unwittingly, it may be, has ruffled its dignity. In our climes a horse's friendship can alone be compared to a dog's. A horse will whinny and follow his master to take food from his hand, or pick the accustomed carrot out of his coat pocket, but manifests no remembrance of him, shows no uneasiness, if he does not frequently visit him. A dog remembers, longs for and searches after his absent master. All his pleasure is to be allowed to sleep at his feet. He is never happy save when with him; his own delight in a walk or a hunt after a rabbit being intensified by the presence of his master. Finally, after living for and with him, he will fight to the last for his master, and then die for him. Byron deems a dog's friendship superior to a man's. Of the latter he says:

When all is done, upon the tomb is seen,
Not what he was, but what he should have been;
But the poor dog, in life the firmest friend,
The first to welcome, foremost to defend,
Whose honest heart is still his master's own,
Who labors, fights, lives, breathes for him alone,
Unhonored falls; unnoticed all his worth,
Denied in heav'n the soul he held on earth.

Dogs have never been valued in the East. Their very name is a synonym for all that is base and unclean. Of course this largely arises from the animals' habits as public scavengers in Oriental towns. The Bible shows no appreciation of a dog's nobler qualities, and Shakespeare has imitated it. Just as Thucydides, the great Greek historian, has never a good word for a woman, so our great poet curiously enough only speaks of a dog's yelp, or howl, or snarl, or bite. He was evidently no dog-lover. The first recognition of a dog's noble nature occurs in Homer. All will remember the grand hound Argus and its touching discovery of its master. Telemachus, as befits his character,

centred in the sphere
Of common duties, decent not to fail
In offices of tenderness,

is followed by his dogs when he walks, and it is said of Patroclus that he kept nine lap-dogs. But when the lover of dogs turns to the West, especially to the Kelts, he finds dogs at once held in high esteem. Doubtless this was due to the assistance men derived from them in the chase and from their afterwards allowing them to repose by the hearth. Orientals hunt, but they have no hearths, no centre of light and kindness for tired men and beast alike. Mauwood's "Forest Lawes" (1615) show how greatly dogs of all kinds were valued by our forefathers. Indeed, Britain was celebrated for its dogs among the ancients. Mauwood says with regard to pet dogs, "Those little dogges called Velteres, and such as are called Rambundt (all which dogges are to sit in one's lap), may be kept in the forest, because in them there is no danger, and therefore they should not be boxed or have the knees cut." Dr. Caius, the celebrated writer of the earliest systematic work on the dog ("Of Englishe Dogges," 1576), is still more amusing on lap-dogs, much as he admires all hunting dogs. "These dogges," he says, speaking of the spaniel or Maltese dog (Melitoeus), or fotor, as he calls it), "are little, pretty, proper and fyne, and sought for to satisfie the delicateness of daintie dames and wanton women's wills, instruments of folly for them to play and dally withall, to tryfle away the treasure of time, to withdraw their mindes from more commendable exercises, and to content their corrupted concupiscences with vain disport"—a tremendous alliterative counterblast to such ladies as at present venture to amuse themselves with a pet dog! The national love of hunting more than anything else produced the splendid breeds of dogs for which England was anciently famous, and probably was the cause why dogs came to be held in such high honor and deep affection among us Westerns. Still farther westward, in the New World, the same motive prevails according to Pope, who tells how "the poor Indian

thinks, admitted to the equal sky,
His faithful dog shall bear him company."

Lapdogs, however, have always been popular with English ladies, eager perhaps to revenge themselves upon their lords, who could seldom stir from home without being followed by several large canine favorites. Keeping dogs, too, for protection, especially in out-of-the-way places, is another motive to make men attached to their dogs, while

the gaunt mastiff, growling at the gate,
Affrights the victim whom he longs to eat.

Chaucer was seldom more true to nature than when he depicts the prioress, Madame Eglantine, weeping whenever anyone struck her pet dogs.

That their wealth of affection and honest, hearty friendship should recommend dogs to great thinkers is only natural. A dog will remain quiet in a room while his master works, but is ready in a moment to accompany him when books are closed and it is time for the usual walk. Artists are almost invariably attached to dogs: Let us be content with naming Velasquez and Durer, Landseer and Ansdell. Among authoresses, who can forget the dogs of the Bronte girls? Emily Bronte was especially fond of them. She once gave Keeper, her mastiff, a severe thrashing for an offence, though she had been told that if touched with a stick he would certainly throttle her. Most readers, too, will recall her victory over her fierce bull-dog, and the courage with which she burned out the scar of a mad dog's bite. Very different is the picture painted by Miss Mitford of Mrs. E. B. Browning lying on her couch with her dog Flush at her feet, while she read "books in almost every language, and gave herself heart and soul to poetry." Another authoress who never fails when the public is excited about dogs to enter the lists chivalrously in their defence, and is herself a special lover of dogs, is the novelist Ouida. Among great writers, Grote, the historian, should be named as a great dog-lover. Much of his work on Plato was written while his favorite Spitz dog Dora slumbered on his knees. He would lift her tenderly down when he had occasion to look out a quotation or the like, and then, as gently replacing her, go on with his writing. Sir Isaac Newton's Diamond need only be named. The late editor of the "Dictionary of National Biography" works with a noble black retriever at his feet. But of all authors none has carried his love for dogs so frequently into both his prose and his verse as Sir Walter Scott. The hunting scene at the beginning of the "Lady of the Lake" need only be mentioned, or the lines in one of the introductions to "Marmion," how

Pandour and Camp, with eyes of fire,
Jealous, each other's motions viewed,
And scarce suppressed their ancient feud.

or again,

When wiry terrier, rough and grim,
And greyhound, with his length of limb,
And pointer now employed no more,
Cumber our parlor's narrow floor.

Maida, Scott's gallant deerhound, is equally celebrated with Byron's Boatswain, and to our mind his epitaph (written by Scott) is more suitable to a canine friend than Byron's misanthropic effusion. Maida is buried near the front door at Abbotsford, with the inscription—

Beneath the sculptured form which late you wore,
Sleep soundly, Maida, at your Master's door.

Tempting as the subject is to every lover of dogs, it is time to end. He who does not value a dog's friendship, so genial, devoted and disinterested, is certainly unworthy of human friendship. It may, however, be added, that where the conditions for making a dog happy are absent, there it should not be kept. To chain it up day and night in a close kennel in the country is as abhorrent to the animal's nature as to keep it permanently in the streets and confinement of a city. Hydrophobia seldom breaks out where a dog is brought up under what may be called its natural conditions—abundance of exercise and abundance of cold water. It should be remembered, too, that properly to evoke a dog's friendship, it must, like a child, be carefully educated. The dog-breaker should bear in mind, when educating another person's dog, the old adage, "Love me, love my dog." Kindness is quite compatible with enforced obedience. There are, unfortunately, and, it is to be feared, in the interests of the canine race, that there always will be, old maids who hate dogs because they can bark and bite, because they jump upon clean dresses and come with dirty paws and coats into drawing rooms. Old maids of the female sex may be advised to keep a parrot instead; while masculine old maids are to be recommended to devote themselves, instead of keeping dogs, to the study of Hebrew or statistics. These latter will be found more engrossing and at the same time much quieter pursuits.
quieter pursuits. PELAGIUS.

The late William H. Macdonald of Wingham, insured in the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, Richard A. McCurdy, President, under policy No. 335638, on Sept. 28, 1888, for $3000. On his death, this great company not only paid the face of the policy, but in addition all premiums paid.

"Wingham, Feb. 16, 1895.

"Messrs., the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York:

"Sirs,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of cheque No. 74578, on the First National Bank of New York, being claim under policy No. 335638, on the life of my late husband, William H. Macdonald, for which please accept my sincere thanks." Yours truly, (Sgd.)

MINNIE A. MACDONALD."

Ask an agent to show you the Continuous Instalment Policy, which will protect your widow and children.

Talk with an agent, or write Henry K. Merritt, Manager, 31, 32, 33 Bank of Commerce Building, Toronto. 71

New Companies Incorporated.

The Toronto Hoop and Veneer Co. (Ltd.), capital stock of $50,000, for the manufacture of hoops, staves and veneers.

The Rose Importing Co of Napanee (Ltd.), capital $9000, to import fancy goods.

The Berlin Social Club has also received letters of incorporation.

PROFESSOR BLACKIE DEAD.

THE NOBLE OLD MAN PASSES PAINLESSLY AWAY.

Vivid and Interesting Sketch of His Career—A Sturdy Patriot, a Rugged Poet and a Magnificent Philosopher—One of the Grandest Characters of the Century Beloved and Honored He Dies in His 85th Year.

Edinburgh, March 2.—Prof. John Stuart Blackie died at 9.45 o'clock this morning. He passed away peacefully. He bade farewell to his family last evening, saying he was perfectly certain that his end was approaching.

A Grand and Noble Character.

Professor Blackie was perhaps the best known, and also one of the best loved, men in Scotland. Men of all Churches, and of all shades of political opinion, had a kind feeling for, and a good word to say, of the genial professor of Greek.

His benevolence was so great, his shrewd, common-sense remarks so pungent, his love for the whole human family so undoubted, that everyone who knew the Professor, as lecturer, poet and Scottish Home Ruler, was bound to love and admire the boisterous, breezy genius of the young man of 85. It seemed as if he would never grow old; his mind to the last was as fresh, and young, and buoyant as it was 40 years ago.

He could not be called a typical Scotsman; he was a citizen of the world—variable as a Frenchman, metaphysical as a German, and musical as an Italian. Fergus Mackenzie said truly, recently, when speaking of him in the class room: "Imagination and fancy, enthusiasm for great ideals, pathos, humor, fine insight into men and books, far-seeing knowledge of life, scorn, indignation, tenderness, came in flashes from the old man eloquent in the course of one brief hour. A heroic note from Plutarch, a deep thought of Plato, a happy character of Sir Walter's, some sturdy deed of Knox's, filled up the time delightfully to some students, foolishly to others, and it was only in after years that they began to reap the harvest of these desultory conversations. Then they recognized they had been getting wisdom instead of Greek." And, more than all, what made the name of Professor Blackie so dear to every Scotsman was the fact that his patriotism knew no limit—sometimes gushing forth in tuneful numbers. In a recent contribution to "Old Ebony," this patriotism found vent in verse that rolls like the torrent that dashes from the rocks of his native mountains:

"Praised be God! no race of crouching
Slaves is bred on Highland hills,
'Neath the sweep of snow-capped mountains,
Gusty glens and tumbling rills.
Not a race of foundled children,
Basking 'neath a southern sun,
Sleeping half the day, and thankful
When their span of work is done,

But a race of men, strong-hearted,
Deedful, daring, fearless men;
Finding dear delight in wrestling
With the storms that shake the Ben—
Men for every chance well bucklered
That man may meet beneath the sky;
And for every prize the noblest,
Bravely sworn to do or die.

Such were they who made proud Edward
Pay presumption's lawful meed,
When he marched with bristling legions
To enslave the Scottish Tweed.
Many wives and many mothers
Then his folly taught to mourn,
When, like dust, his thousands fled
From kilted Scots at Bannockburn."

John Stuart Blackie was born on July 28, 1809, in the city of Glasgow. His father was a Border man, belonging to the little town of Kelso. When the deceased was about three years of age the family removed from Glasgow to Aberdeen, where his father acted as the first agent of the Commercial Bank of Scotland. So we find that the Granite City of the north had the honor of teaching young Blackie his letters. At the age of 12 he was sent to the Aberdeen University. Here he had the best grounding in Latin that Scotland of that day could give. He went to the College of Edinburgh when he was 15, and was fortunate in having as his professor the great "Christopher North," poet, philosopher and humorist, perhaps the greatest man Scotland has produced since Burns. After five years' study in Edinburgh, chiefly literature and divinity, Blackie went to Germany to study languages. He told Arthur Warren only the other day, in a few sentences, the history of this time:

"There was Niebuhr, the biggest man Germany has produced; and there was Bunsen, the greatest man I ever knew for all-round culture. Bunsen looked like Goethe. I told him so, and I found that others thought so. But Bunsen had a sweeter mouth than Goethe. My father's teaching, the nature God gave me, and Bunsen's influence have been the great shaping forces of my life. Goethe I never saw, but I studied him, and I knew him. In that German town I saw and heard many of the greatest thinkers. The recommendations of those learned German ones procured my appointment as Professor of Latin Literature at Aberdeen University. I was "called" at the age of 25, but I was not meant for a lawyer, and I abandoned my briefless career at the age of 30. I taught at Aberdeen till 1852, when I was appointed Professor of Greek at the University of Edinburgh. Thirty years later I retired from the professorship. That is the story of my life."

His real life is to be found in his books—in his "Self-Culture," where he taught that "the great art of the teacher is to teach people to teach themselves;" in his "Life of Burns," which is free from the cant which so disfigures all biographic sketches of the Ayrshire plowman; in his metrical translation of Goethe's "Faust," where we have one genius putting the thoughts of another into another language—never well done unless, but seldom to be found; in his "Homer and the Iliad," a grand work at which he labored for 10 years. He will also live in his lectures—"Bonnie Prince Charlie," "Scotch Songs," "The Philosophy of Love," "Scottish Nationality," etc., etc.

The writer had the pleasure of hearing him deliver the two first-named, and a finer intellectual treat he never had before nor since. It was not so much the lectures themselves, but the unique digressions he treated his audience to every five minutes or so, on nearly every topic under the sun, And then there was the sterling, earnest enthusiasm of the old man, with his utter abhorrence of all cant and humbug, his bitter contempt for what he called gentility. And then, in the middle of a period of fervid eloquence, he would burst into song, waving his arms and stamping his feet like a boy of 16. For the time one forgot he was listening to a man upwards of 80.

Some years ago while lecturing in Glasgow on a Sunday, his subject being "The Philosophy of Love," he was extolling the great excellence of the love songs of Scotland, when, in his fervor, he burst out singing, "Let us haste to Kelvin Grove, bonnie lassie, O!" His audience applauded him to the echo; but what a terrible shock the "unco guid" got when the fact was recorded in the newspapers next day. The due observance of the Scottish Sabbath is strict, very strict; but Professor Blackie was of the opinion that the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.

His lecture on "Scottish Nationality," which he delivered to the Perth Gaelic Society, in the year 1891, was brimful of common sense, perhaps sometimes somewhat grotesquely expressed. The subject matter is so well suited for this paper that the writer takes the liberty of summarizing what he said.

Their national character was their noblest inheritance, and if they began not to respect themselves they would be despised by the whole world. He said to them, as an old man of 81 years and 7 months, to beware and preserve their nationality—always to keep themselves out and out, through and through, thoroughly Scottish. There was little or nothing of the Scottish element in Scottish education. Not a single lecture on Scottish history was given in Edinburgh. He maintained that national music was the proper nourishment of national character. The root of all nationality was the mother tongue. The real language that nourished characters like Burns or Scott, or the men who fought at Waterloo, was the national poetry and the mother tongue. He had seen many who could not, and would not, sing a Scottish song—they said they were too high set. It was said it was vulgar to use the Scottish tongue. He told them that the Scottish dialect was the musical dialect of the English language. He knew half a dozen languages scientifically, and the English was the most barbarous, hotch-potch, mixty-maxty of all. Then the English were so conceited. There was no more pretentious beast than John Bull. Gaelic, they said, was hoarse and guttural. They did not know the beautiful Greek language, the most musical of all languages, was full of the guttural "ch." The mother tongue was the key to the hearts of the people. They were, he said, in great danger of losing their nationality, because Scotsmen going to London flunkified to John Bull. London was a monstrosity. Let Scottish business be transacted in Edinburgh, and Imperial business be done in London. If they did not make a bold stand as a nation they would become a mere province of England; they would be swept out of the memory of Europe.

There are many amusing anecdotes told of the professor, of his high spirits, and his kind, laughing, buoyant nature. Everybody has heard the good story told by Dr. Stodart Walker, but it is so good and characteristic that it will bear another telling. One day Professor Blackie caused a notice to be written on the blackboard of the class-room, stating that "Professor Blackie will not meet his classes to-day." The story continues that a wag of a student, entering the room after, very unkindly rubbed out the letter C. Still, furthermore, so runs the anecdote, the professor himself entered, and, seeing the obliteration of the C, immediately proceeded to wipe out the L.

This wonderfully versatile old man, who was in his 85th year, had in his time done much good work for the world. He wrote, if we count pamphlets, between 30 and 40 volumes, on a great variety of subjects—all bright and good and healthy reading. By his voice and pen he obtained the sum of £10,000, with which he founded the Celtic Chair in Edinburgh University. He trained many men to be ornaments to society and useful to mankind. When he became aged he had troops of friends, and a host of devoted, grateful followers. Truly, Truly, a fitting reward for a well-spent life, now sadly closed.

THE STUDENTS' MEMORIAL.

Action Deferred Until the Commission Is Appointed.

At a meeting of the University Senate Friday evening to consider the memorial of the students respecting the recent troubles, it was resolved to defer action on the memorial until the personnel and the terms of the commission should be announced. The Senate holds itself free to take any action subsequently which may seem necessary.

Concerts Past and to Come.

An excellent concert was given by Mr. H. M. Field's pupils at the College of Music on Thursday evening last Among the performers were: Piano, Miss Mary Mara, Miss Topping, Miss Minnie Topping, Miss Katharine Birnie, Miss Gunther; violin, Mrs. Adamson; cello, Herr Ruth; vocal, Miss Reynolds, Mr. H. P. Stuchbury. The ability shown in the artistic interpretation of the works rendered, as well as in the thorough and excellent technical development of the pupils spoke of the hands of a master. Mr. Field's work may be unhesitatingly compared with that of the great European teachers. Two changes were made in the program on account of illness. Miss Mary Mara did not give the Schubert-Tausig March, but will play it at the next concert on March 19. Miss Reynolds kindly took the place of her pupil, Mrs. Smith.

Tickets for the Yunck String Quartet concert on Monday evening in the theatre of the Normal School must be obtained before entering the building, as no tickets will be issued at the door. Tickets will be sale at Messrs. Nordheimer, or Winter, Gourlay & Leeming, until 6 o'clock on Monday, after which hour they may be obtained at Lloyd's drug store, corner of Gerrard and Church-sts. It is particularly requested that the audience be seated at the hour announced for the concert, 8 o'clock, as no one will be admitted to the concert hall during the performance of any number. Carriages will enter by the west and leave by the east gate.

On Saturday night the Young Conservative Club held a most successful smoker at their new club rooms in Melinda-street. There was a large and varied program contributed to by Eddie Pigott, W. A. Pigott, Alf. Rubbra and others. Messrs. Spencer and Hales gave a boxing exhibition, which was very much appreciated, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

The dinner and at home of the Brownies' Club on Friday night at Brown's Hotel, Simcoe and Wellington-streets, was a most successful affair. The menu was an excellent one, and a long toast list was gone through, after which a liberal program of dancing was carried out. During the evening an address was presented to Mr. J. Brown, assuring him of the club's appreciation of his hospitality during the season.

No Liberal Nomination in South Victoria.

Lindsay, Ont., March 2.—The Reform Association of the south riding of the County of Victoria held a convention here this afternoon. Several candidates were nominated, viz.: George McHugh, president of the Reform Association of the county; Thomas Stewart, barrister; William Lownsboro, Mariposa, and E. A. Bowes, Lindsay. After the second ballot it was seen the contest lay between George McHugh and Thomas Stewart. As neither candidate could secure a two-thirds majority, the convention was adjourned, to meet in the same place on Saturday next at 2 p.m.

Women's Enfranchisement Association.

At a meeting of the Women's Enfranchisement Association on Saturday, Miss Z. Carey read a paper advocating the Hare-Spence system of proportional representation, upon which a discussion took place. It was decided to have an exposition of the system at a meeting on the last Saturday in March.

A committee was appointed to consider the propriety of inviting Rev. Anna Shaw to address the association.

Personal.

Archbishop Walsh is confined to his room by a severe cold. Many will be disappointed that he will not preach to-day in St. Michael's Cathedral, as had been announced.

Dean Cassidy of St. Helen's lies in a very critical condition. His recovery is despaired of.

F. G. Kirkpatrick of Kingston and Alex E. Garrett of Hamilton have been gazetted notaries public.

TRUE DIGNITY.

BARBARA: "Oh, Mother dear, I've got such a Pain!"
MOTHER: "Have you, Darling? Where?"
BARBARA: "In the Proper Place, of course!"
—Punch.

IN MUSIC'S REALM

Degrees in music seem to be sought after with much anxiety in England, and from the various examinations which are held under leading musicians we are sure that when secured there should be no doubt of the nature of the work that has been done by the recipient of the degree. There seems, however, to have been a desire on the part of some to evade the English examinations and secure the degree through a colonial institution, through which some sort of agency seems at one time to have been established, by which the colonial degree could be obtained in England. This arrangement caused a great stir and roused up much irritation, the English authorities contending—and, we think, justly—that degree in music, to be of value in England, must be taken there, and not away from the particular university granting the same, claiming at the same time that the Canadian university in question should have acted upon the same principle in Canada. Nevertheless, candidates in England did take advantage of the Canadian degree, securing and wearing the title. From letters which have appeared in English musical journals—extracts of which we give—we gather that some of these candidates now want their money back again, as the distinction gained by them is considered valueless. One writer—F. R. C. O.—in a letter on "The Vanished Canadian Degrees," says: "I should be glad to join any collective endeavor on the part of other Canadian 'victims' to recover the fees lost over the valueless degrees granted," and closes by saying, "As another of those whom Toronto has swindled," etc. Another, E. Burritt, Lane, says: "Being myself one of the victims who, after passing the prescribed examinations, paid a good many pounds for a distinction which is now regarded as worthless, I should be glad to know by what means the fees can be recovered," and then suggests a way to recoup himself by a brilliant idea, viz., that "If any of your readers want a very nice corded silk Toronto Mus. Bac. hood, as good as new, I am open to an offer, or I might be induced to raffle it," although he has found out that what it represents to him is of no value, among 35 members at a shilling apiece. Another writer, H. P. Gaston, says: "While sympathizing with Burritt Lane over the trouble, work and expense he underwent to obtain a title the Colonial Secretary has termed worthless, I think he had better abandon all hope of recovering the fees he paid for this, now notorious, in absentia decoration, and advises Mr. Burritt Lane to keep the corded silk hood "as a record of a former indiscretion."

* * *

The question now arises, Why did not these disappointed candidates apply for their degrees to English universities in the first place? Was it because they thought the colonial examinations were not as exacting, and that therefore the degree could be obtained more easily through the university arrangement which they now have to repudiate? Having resorted to it, and having secured whatever advantage there was in wearing the coveted title, does it not seem rather childish to be crying out for the money they had to pay, as a matter of course, to those who prepared them for the examinations? The actual work done in preparing for the latter is surely not worthless, and it should help in the preparation towards the attainments of the English degree, and is therefore good as far as it goes. Certainly, with the storm raging all round and about them, they could not claim ignorance as to the views of those in England, who made it their particular business to make it clear that the Trinity College, Toronto, degree would not be recognized in England. Out here, no matter what our English musical friends may think as to the merits or demerits of the particular mode adopted by this institution in the past, all fair-minded English musicians must admit that it is not according to the rules of English fair play to cast a stigma upon the name of Toronto, such as is conveyed by F.R.C.O. in The Musical News of February 16, where, in a letter, he quotes himself as "Another of those whom Toronto has swindled," etc. This writer probably knew what he was doing when applying for the colonial degree, notwithstanding the cry he now indulges in. We are of the opinion that it would have been more in accordance with the dignity if the institution which made the mistake of entering into the arrangement of which F. R. C. O., with many others, not to have done so at all, but we understand that the agency has been withdrawn, and therefore this objectionable feature no longer exists. Should F. R. C. O. ever visit Toronto he may find out that the mere attainment of the right to use a title would not carry him very far in Toronto unless he had the unquestionable qualifications which the wearing of the title should, but does not, by any means, invariably ensure. The University of Toronto, which is the representative university here, also grants degrees in music, but all candidates must come to Toronto to take them, and pass examinations, both practical and theoretical, but, outside of both the universities in Toronto, an immense amount of musical work is done, the qualifications for which might surprise F. R. C. O., whose ideas and knowledge of Toronto are evidently bound by his experience in connection with his obtaining a questionable degree, which he has now to repudiate, in addition to the agony of having to pay for it, too. Having read the English musical papers, even at this distance from the fountain head, we are surprised that anyone immediately under its influence could have been so persistently blind to the ultimate consequences of disregarding their warnings. Having done so, would it not be more manly for such to keep their unjust reflections upon a city and its musical work, of which they are so palpably ignorant, to themselves, and, taking Mr. Gaston's advice, to keep their hoods as a record of former indiscretion, refrain from adding to it by slandering the good name of musical Toronto.

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The following extract is from a paper published in Montreal, The Metropolitan:

"We have been informed that dissatisfaction exists among some of the members of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, and that it is with difficulty that a full attendance is secured for rehearsals. Probably this accounts for the last concert being disappointing. It is difficult to keep up a high standard, and each individual member is fully aware that punctuality at all rehearsals and concerts is requisite to maintain it, and now that the orchestra has given six concerts of the series of ten we trust that it will keep faith with the public, conclude the series, and endeavor, by united effort, to bring it to a successful issue."

In Montreal they have at least the money, hence the trouble as above indicated is not financial evidently. Perhaps some of the orchestra think they could do the conducting better than the man whose particular business it is to do it. Or perhaps members of the orchestra only come to rehearsal just as it suits their fancy, and the conductor shows that he does not approve of this sort of thing. Or it may be that some in the orchestra indulge in the habit of talking amongst themselves, when they should be playing their parts and paying respectful attention to the conductor, and he objects. Or it may be the fault is not in the orchestra at all. What is it?

* * *

Loud talking, indulged in at a concert or during a musical performance of any kind, is a gross violation of good manners, and should be put a stop to in all respectable society. Yet how often it occurs, and on the part of those who are supposed to have been trained on the highest lines of refinement, that even university education provides? We attended an entertainment the other night at which there was not only reading of a classical nature, but some music also. The readings, and even the songs, were listened to with respectful attention; but one would have thought the first sound of the piano was understood to have been the signal for general conversation. At many of our concerts the same nuisance is noticed. If a musician, say an accomplished young pianist, should consent to play, at the urgent request of the hostess it may be, and cheerfully consents, surely common courtesy should ensure a respectful hearing, but it does not, as a rule. Until pianists, thus rudely treated, assert themselves, and stop should the conversation begin whilst they are playing, this want of consideration for others will force itself into notice. To such of those who really do not know any better than to talk during the performance of music, we commend the following notice, which is posted throughout the building where the Seidl orchestral concerts are given during the summer season:

"Talking

during the performance is a breach of politeness, not common to cultured audiences. Real lovers of fine music are always considerate of their neighbors, and thoughtful of the courtesy due the performers."

PROGRESS.

A Unique Criticism.

The following clipped from a Texas paper is the most original musical criticism which ever came under our notice, and it is well worth perusing.

THE WONDERFUL SINGER.

A TEXAS MAN'S DESCRIPTION OF YAW'S VOICE

Patti, Sanderson, Melba, Eames, all had been heard with pleasure night after night at the "big house" down the street, but life up to that time were in vain, for we had yet to listen to the phenomenon of the age, the exponent of notes in alt., such as had not been heard since the days of Mozart's sister-in-law. The first stroke of the baton brought out a crash of complex harmony, and the seance began. The number seemed to have the spirit of Beelzebub in it. Up this little dream figure started, and away went her voice, skimmering through the immense auditorium like a pistol ball. It lingered awhile, searching all the corners of that huge theatre, until it struck the elevator, where it took passage for the next flight. From gallery to gallery it went, touching here, there and at all places the heart of every listener, breaking away only to run into some hidden nook, where she dwelt on a tone of liquid sweetness. This was her famous E flat in alt., which she simply caressed, and then, with a bound beyond all human comprehension, took a complete octave above—and held it. Ye gods! what applause followed! It seemed she had left the theatre and gone scrambling over the roof, and when the din subsided she still stands smiling, holding her note sweet as ever; then coyly coaxes it down by degrees and drops it into the balcony, where she lets it wander around idly. A short symphony follows and here she comes tumbling down steps in cadenzas at breakneck speed, one note rolling over another with such utter recklessness you wonder where she will light, but a soft tone in her lower register serves as a cushion, and away she goes again with the agility of an acrobat, and soars to heights hitherto unknown. Something seems to scare her—she hesitates, trembles—and one of the sweetest thrills breaks forth human soul has ever heard. Then some suitable motif attracts her from her wild flight to a more soothing tempo, and soft, smooth melody pours forth. Each note seems sweeter than its sister, and then dies away into nothing. You rub your eyes; the spell is broken. The little bird is gone, and your dream is air.

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THE BUSINESS OF THE WEEK

THE FEATURES THAT HAVE INTERESTED SPECULATORS.

The Money Markets Continue Easy at Low Rates—The Depression in Trade Is Reflected in Lower Prices for Stocks—Fears of Gold Exports—The Wheat Situation More Favorable.

The low rates obtainable for choice investments is one of the chief reasons why securities earning a fair return on capital continue to be quoted at comparatively high prices on the Stock Exchange. Money is very plentiful owing to the difficulty of finding profitable employment for it, and this condition will exist until after the elections. What is needed most of all is a return of confidence. The uncertainties regarding tariff reform are a menace to business, and until this is removed there cannot be any restoration of confidence, which is so essential to the conduct of trade and to enterprise.

The large deposits of money in our financial institutions are liabilities which many of these concerns would gladly see reduced. While there is such a lack of favorable opportunities for the safe investment of funds, there must necessarily be greater obligations on the part of custodians of this property. Hence the great desirability of paving the way for a renewal of public confidence, which inevitably would open up new channels for the profitable employment of surplus moneys, as well as of giving work to a large number of our idle population.

THE SPECULATIVE ISSUES.

The week opened with a break in the leading speculative stocks, resulting from the decision of the directors of Canadian Pacific to pay no dividend to its ordinary shareholders. This was unexpected. A reduction of 1 to 1 1-2 per cent. was looked for, but such a thing as reducing from a 5 per cent. basis to a non-dividend one at one sweep was truly a surprise. It was no wonder that the stock sold down to 41 5-8 here and to 41 in New York after the announcement of the directors, a drop of nearly 8 per cent. The poor traffic for 1894 resulted in a net loss in earnings of $1,318,107. But the company had a surplus of $7,000,000 in 1892, and many of the shareholders are wondering now what has become of it.

Commercial Cable, which was very strong the previous week, has been very irregular. A few holders, becoming frightened at the decline in C.P.R., sold out at the beginning of the week, but on the publication of the statement showing net earnings of over 10 per cent. for 1894, the stock firmed up a trifle. It has since declined to 145 1-2, closing at 145 3-4.

Bell Telephone rose to 158 at the beginning of the week on its favorable annual report, which shows net profits of $263,227, as compared with $226,383 in 1893, an increase of $46,844. After paying dividends of 8 per cent., $50,000 was added to contingent account. Since then the stock declined to 156 1-2, and closed at 155 5-8.

Toronto Street Railway shares have been in good demand all week, advancing steadily from 72 1-4 to 75 1-4, and closing at 74 7-8. The rise is based on the good statement for February. Net earnings for the month increased $7200, as compared with the same month last year, this large increase being due to the reduction in operating expenses of 10 per cent. on the gross receipts.

Montreal Street Railway shares are active and higher on satisfactory earnings also. The closing price yesterday was 187 1-8, and the talk is that the stock will sell at 200 this year.

Bank shares are extremely dull, and inclined to heaviness. There was moderate selling of Commerce, which sold at 135, and closed at 135 1-4. A few shares of Dominion sold early in the week at 270, and Standard at 161. Hamilton sold yesterday at 153 3-4, Montreal at 219 and Molsons at 175. The latter bank declared the usual quarterly dividend on Tuesday.

After selling at 148 3-4 early in the week, Western Assurance closed firm at 149 1-4. British dull, with sales at 112. Incandescent firmer, selling at 111 yesterday. Dominion Telegraph wanted at 115, and Consumers' Gas sold at 197. Loan company issues are featureless. Farmers' weaker, selling at 108, and Toronto Savings changed hands at 119 1-4.

ON WALL-STREET.

Railroad securities have been pressed for sale on Wall-street, with many of them reaching during the week lowest figures for months. The low prices for staple products and the demoralized state of freight rates cannot but result in diminished earnings, and this undoubtedly explains the recent decline and liquidation. London has been a free seller, especially of Louisville and Nashville, which yesterday sold at 47 5-8, a decline of about 5 per cent. for the week. St. Paul sold at 54 yesterday, a decline of 2 per cent.; Northwest at 87 3-4, a decline of 2 1-2; New York Central at 95 1-2 on Friday, a decline of 4, and Lake Shore at 135 1-4, closing yesterday at 135 5-8, a decline of about 2 per cent. The closing of Congress on Monday had a beneficial effect on Sugar and Lead, the former closing yesterday at 92 7-8, and the latter at 28 1-4.

MISCELLANY.

The advance in the rates of sterling exchange is creating a feeling that the time is not far distant when exports of gold from New York will be resumed.

The favorable effects of the imports of gold through the sale of the bond issue are being offset by the sale on London account of between 40,000 and 50,000 shares of American stocks, and the withdrawals of gold from the United States Treasury by redemption of legal tenders.

In London money on call is firmer at 1 1-4 to 1 3-8 per cent.

Yesterday's statement of New York associated banks was satisfactory, inasmuch as there is an increase in loans of $1,588,700. The surplus reserve is decreased by $1,468,225, and amounts to $28,054,500, as against $75,777,550 a year ago, and $6,503,125 two years ago.

The clearings of Canadian banks for the month of February are favorable, as compared with a year ago. They show an increase of 5 per cent. over the same month of last year, but a decrease of 16 per cent., as compared with February, 1893.

The surplus wheat in Australia for export is estimated at 5,000,000 bush, against 10,000,000 bush exported last year.

It is said that the through freight rates on grain from Chicago to the seaboard are now down to 20c per cental.

Two independent calculations as to the wheat remaining in the United States on March 1, 1895, indicate that the total quantity in the country back of available supply points is somewhat in excess of 100,000,000 bush, as compared with perhaps 140,000,000 bush one year ago. The approximate total quantity of wheat at available points throughout the United States and back of the same at the present time is about 204,000,000 bush, whereas one year ago the corresponding total was 246,000,000 bush.
was 246,000,000 bush. LEGAL TENDER.

Accommodation Horse Show Exhibits.

Messrs. Silver & Smith of the Adelaide-street Horse Repository have leased the spacious stables in Richmond-street, corner of Sheppard, adjoining William Donnelly's livery stable, and propose to fit it up especially for the accommodation of horses to be exhibited at the coming horse show in the new Armory.