

SEEN AND HEARD AT OTTAWA.

THE trottoir of Sparks street on a fine afternoon can display more beautiful demoiselles, more faultlessly attired and distinguished looking men, more ravishing and fashionable costumes than any popular thoroughfare in Canada, not excepting St. Catherine street, Montreal, or Yonge street, Toronto, while the roadway is alive with equipages, whose appointments would not disgrace London or Paris. Evidences of wealth and luxury prevail, combined with an air of elegant leisure not to be found in cities where the mad rush for riches causes business cares to be stamped on every brow. This is probably the result of so many prominent citizens and society young men being connected with the civil service, where, secure in snug berths, they have no care for the morrow, and, like the lillies of the valley (during recess time at least), they toil not, neither do they spin.

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THE prorogation pageant this session was equally as brilliant as that of the last, although the cluster of ladies around the vice-réal throne hardly seemed as large as usual. Nor was there the same display of elegant toilettes seen at the opening of Parliament. The scene on the grounds outside was however very animated, thousands of spectators having gathered to witness the ceremonies. The afternoon was a perfect one, the brilliant rays of the sun lighting up the grounds and terraces with fine effect. His Excellency was received by a guard of honor from the Footguards aligned beneath the Tower, and was escorted from Rideau Hall by a troop of dragoons. On his arrival, cannon was heard booming from Nepeau Point, and the Footguards presented arms, the band playing a few bars of "God save the Queen." His Excellency wore the Windsor uniform and the Hon. Edward Stanley the huge bearskin and scarlet tunic of the Grenadier Guards. The Governor-General occupied an open barouche, drawn by a spirited pair of horses. Of the ministers Sir John Macdonald was the only one who wore the Windsor uniform, the rest of the cabinet appearing in every day costumes. A few judges of the Supreme Court in their state gowns somewhat relieved the monotony. The proceedings in the Senate were brief, being confined to the speech from the throne, and giving royal assent to certain bills passed, after which His Excellency departed in the same state which had marked his arrival.

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AMONG the ladies present on the floor of the Senate at the prorogation ceremonies I noticed Lady Macdonald, Mrs. Machray, Lady Caron, Miss Eva O'Meara, Hon. Mrs. Charles Tupper, Lady Thompson, Mrs. Sedgwick, Mrs. and Miss Collingwood Schreiber, Madame Mosgrove, Miss Gwynne, Miss Gregory, Hon. Mrs. Carling and Miss Carling, Mrs. L'Estrange, Miss Machray, Mrs. Hurdman, Miss Russell, Mrs. Irwin, Mdme and Melles Robillard, Hon. Mrs. Blake, the Misses Sandford and the Misses Carey.

AN interesting ceremony took place on the same afternoon as prorogation, namely, the distribution of prizes at the Art school by Lady Macdonald. Lord Stanley takes a great interest in this school, being the patron, and would have made the presentations in person had his presence not been required at the Senate. Sir John Macdonald, who is one of the most enthusiastic members of the association, was also unable to be present for similar reasons. Sir James Grant presided, and introduced the successful scholars to her Ladyship. Lady Macdonald never appears to such advantage as at an affair of this kind; her tact, her friendly sympathy and unaffected bearing putting the most retiring at their ease, and winning the regard of all. Prizes were donated by His Excellency, by Sir John and Lady Macdonald, Sir James Grant and Mr. Allan Gilmour, the millionaire lumber merchant, who possesses perhaps the finest private gallery of oil paintings in the Dominion.

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PRINCE GEORGE OF WALES, who sailed from England on Monday in command of H. M. S. "Thrush," will, I am informed, come as far as the capital to meet his illustrious uncle. The "Thrush" will afterward escort their Royal Highnesses to England. The last time the Prince was in the Dominion was as a middy on board H. M. S. "Canada."

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THE death of Mr. Frank Dillon, the Montreal lacrosse player, in Ottawa, recently, is a source of unfeigned regret to his many friends. Mr. Dillon was a descendant of the late Sir Richard Blyth St. George, the last member of the Irish parliament for Athlone.

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MR. JOHN WOODRUFF, late travelling companion of Col. Bernard, the brother of Lady Macdonald, has returned to town accompanied by his bride. The lady is a daughter of Capt. Beale of H.M.S. "Victoria." The marriage took place at Weymouth, England, at the end of June, the best man being Mr. W. Wildbore of H.M.S. "Boscowen." The bridesmaids were the Misses Henrietta and Rosetta Hanney and the two younger sisters of the bride. A feature of the ceremony was the wearing by the bridesmaids of amber necklets, brooches and bracelets, the gift of the groom. The happy pair spent the honeymoon in Ireland.

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THE Ambulance movement is becoming vastly popular among all classes of society, now that certain ladies have taken the matter in hand. All persons willing to assist the Women's Humane Society in their efforts to make their good work successful are requested to send subscriptions to any of the following ladies:—Lady Ritchie, 285 Metcalfe street; Mrs. Featherston, 452 Rideau street; Mrs. Gough, 239 Theodore street; Mrs. Gemmill, 311 Cooper street; Miss Nicholson, 112 Metcalfe street; Mrs. Frechette, 87 Mackay street; Mrs. McDougall, 181 Lisgar street; Miss Fleming, cor Daly ave and Chapel street; Miss Gwynne, 188 Metcalfe street; or Mrs. Veith, Elm Cottage, Prescott Road.

RIDEAU.