

bend in the neck to enable the sportsman to cover the object aimed at. Before the introduction of breech loaders it was a difficult matter to procure a gun with the necessary curve, and even at the present time, the greater number of those manufactured are too straight in the stock to suit the average neck.

The various improvements in the manufacture of guns made during the past few years, leaves little to be desired, and the reputation for excellence of work, achieved by some of the most celebrated makers, leaves little room for criticism. The Sportsman has now no difficulty in procuring a good article; let him be careful in his selection, recognize the importance of a proper fitting gun, and the result will be an increased pleasure in his sport,—a pleasure engendered by success.

WALLACE.

DEATH OF THE EDITOR OF "LAND AND WATER."

The death of Francis Trevelyan Buckland, better known as Frank Buckland—announced from London, has been expected, as he has been in wretched health for some time past. His father, the geologist, Dean of Westminster, a most accomplished man, lost his reason some time before his death. Frank Buckland, who was born in 1826, was a student of Winchester College and afterwards at Christ Church, Oxford. The larger part of his life was given up to the study of the natural sciences, and he was a recognized authority upon the habits and culture of the food fishes. Few men of science were so popular in England. He was a public benefactor through his introduction of new varieties of fish for food and especially through his successful cultivation of salmon and trout. In social life he was one of the most charming of men, despite the fact that his house was really a kind of combination of the Aquarium with the Zoological Gardens, so full was it of birds and beasts and fishes. Whoever loved him loved him perforce, not his dogs only, but his cassowaries and his

crocodiles. The story might have been told of him which was true of Agassiz, that when his wife one morning found in one of her slippers a cold little slimy snake, one of six sent the day before to her scientific spouse, and carefully set aside for safety by him under the bed, and upon the startling discovery started back, crying out in terror, Agassiz! Agassiz! there is a snake in my slipper!" the response of the *savant* was, as he rose suddenly up from his couch: "A snake! Good heavens, *where are the other five?*" At home Frank Buckland sat in a cumbrous old chair which he valued highly because it had once belonged to the famous John Hunter. Its uncomfortable angles were disregarded by him—they were convenient for the monkeys. These small men sat aloft, and were free to pounce down on his proof sheets at will. A retired organ monkey was a great favorite, and shared with the afflicted but always cheerful *savant* the frugal meals to which physicians limited him, fasting everything in turn, even to the claret and water.—*N. Y. World.*

MONTREAL BRANCH OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

The seventy-ninth meeting of the above Branch took place on the evening of the 11th inst., at the residence of H. H. Lyman, Esq., "Thornhill," McTavish Street.

An accurate and interesting paper was read by Mr. George H. Bowles, "On the mouth-parts of some carnivorous and wood-eating Beetles," with very excellent illustrations of dissections.

It was moved by Mr. Couper, seconded by Mr. Lyman, "That the paper just read, with the accompanying illustrations, be sent to the *Entomologist* for publication.—*Carried.*

Mr. H. H. Lyman exhibited his very fine collection of Insect Architecture, the only one of the kind in the city.

Mr. Burland, jr., was elected a member.