

Melrose Abbey, wondered whether or not the workers of the strange heads which there peer out from amongst the ivy had carved in the stone representations of their own characters. What they did matters little now, but if the same be the case with the stone masons of the present day, it will be well to keep at a distance from them. "Gorgons, and hydras, and chimeras dire," are among the most respectable of their creation. Almost every contortion of the face which can be imagined, and some of the most fantastic forms ever conceived by the wildest dreamer, are lying in the workshops, amidst piles of rough stones, which in their turn will be gradually made to assume their ordained shape. The placing of each distinct portion of this chaos of matter in its proper position, under the direction of the presiding genius, Mr. Morris, goes on uninterruptedly. The entrance to the Chemical School is by an arcade; close by this is the belfry, a square tower, with a slanting roof, ornamented with a vane at the top. In accordance with the general style of the College, narrow dormer windows are cut in its sides. On the eastern end of the building, also, two towers are rising. Through one of these, which will be eighty-five feet in height, entrance will be gained to the servants' apartments, and the other, 100 feet in height, will constitute the main senate entrance. This eastern side is pure Norman.

In every single detail, from the shape of a tower down to the moulding of a window, acknowledged precedents may be found. Already the appearance of the building reminds the visitor of old places in England; and so entirely is the eye cheated by this appearance of antiquity, that even the presence of the workmen and the newness of the materials fail to eradicate the impression altogether. This is especially the case with the windows to the left of the tower, the arcade leading into the Chemical School, and the belfry turret with the curiously capped chimnies adjoining, already erected. But looking at the whole building as shewn in the plan, it is all of the same antique character.

Few days will elapse before the works will be closed as the weather is growing cold; but as soon as possible next season, they will be urged on with renewed vigour.—*Toronto Globe.*

AN INSTANCE OF THE PRACTICAL VALUE OF FREE TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES.

The *Kent Advertiser* states that out of three thousand School Sections in Canada West 2,000 are destitute of Free Libraries. Referring to the county of Kent, and the remarks apply to all counties, our contemporary says,—“Many townships in the county are fully able to raise a local apportionment of £100, and the tax not be sensibly felt, while on the other hand the good effected would be incalculable. Some may be inclined to ask, how a few small Libraries, scattered throughout the county, can produce an incalculable benefit; if they are intelligent individuals, it is only necessary for them to candidly examine the subject for themselves,—the result is easily anticipated. An instance of the utility of Free Public Libraries, of a practical character, may be supplied by the following:—a farmer desires to consult some work on Agricultural Chemistry, or Practical Agriculture, for the purpose of informing himself upon some special point which he has been discussing to himself, or to gather some necessary information on the management of Horses or Cattle, and their diseases with remedies; before he can obtain reliable information, the books must be purchased, probably at a distance, and received by mail, at a cost of \$4 or \$5. If, however, there is a Library in his School Section he can obtain them in a few minutes, without any cost, excepting his tax for its establishment, which was about \$1. Now this is a considerable advantage resulting from the Library; but it probably contains 100 volumes or even more, any of which he is free to borrow, this is better still. There is another important consideration yet, his sons and daughters, and no doubt their mother also, may wish to read some of the highly interesting and instructive books to be found upon the catalogue; nor is this an exclusive privilege, but equally free and advantageous to every family in the School Section.” (See page 16.)

5. VAUGHAN EDUCATIONAL FUND—LIBERALITY TO TEACHERS.

We insert with great pleasure the following resolution, passed by the Township Council of Vaughan:—

“Resolved,—That it is highly desirable to increase the efficiency of the Common Schools of the Township, by aiding the Trustees in securing the services of the most competent Teachers by the offer of liberal salaries, and for that purpose the Treasurer be directed to pay to the Secretary-Treasurer of each School Section, within the Township, the sum of ten pounds out of the interest received or receivable, the 31st of December, on the securities in which the money received from the Government from the Clergy Reserve Fund has been invested.

VI. Miscellaneous.

The following was adjudged the best out of upwards of thirty contributions for the prize offered by the Directors of the Mercantile Library Association of Hamilton, for the best Canadian or National Song; but no prize was awarded. The author is Mr. Baxter.

1. THE MAPLE LEAF.—A CANADIAN SONG.

Swiftly down the dark Ottawa,
Glides the white man's fire canoe;
And no more the red man's offering,
Soothes the river Mahntoo.

By Huron's shore the fire-horse rushing,
Wakes no war-whoop with his scream:
The Indian in his lone last wigwam,
Sleeps the sleep that knows no dream.

The dismal wailing of his death-song,
Has forever passed away:
Now, thro' wood-lands once his war-path,
Children culling wild flowers stray.

From beyond the mighty salt lake
Came the Saxon: none but he
Had sons who could with honour guard,
The land that bears the Maple-tree.

Whose leaf is now the well-lov'd Symbol—
In Canadian hearts enshrined—
Of freedom, who, beneath it's shade,
Shall sacred shelter always find.

For while Canadian "Hearts of Oak"
Resolve to shield the Maple-tree,
No foe's touch can e'er pollute
Her leaf, the emblem of the free!

2. REMARKABLE INSTANCES OF BRITISH HEROISM.

The Rev. Mr. Scudder, of India, in a letter to the Christian Intelligencer, gives the following instances of heroism, called forth by the Indian mutinies:—

Let Americans never be ashamed that Englishmen are their forefathers. England is a noble country,—her sons are heroes and her daughters are heroines. This rebellion has brought out deeds that deserve to be associated with those valorous actions which we, with throbbing pulses, read in history. In one place, a lady and her husband fled in their carriage. He stood upright. She took the reins. She lashed the horses through a band of mutineers, while he, with a cool aim, shot dead one who seized the horses' heads, and another who climbed upon the carriage behind to cut him down. On they fled, till again they found themselves among foes, and a rope stretched across the road made further progress appear impossible. True to herself, she dashed the horses at full speed against the rope, and as they, bearing it down, stumbled, she, by rein and whip, raised them, while her husband's weapons again freed them from those who succeeded in leaping upon them. He was wounded, but both escaped with their lives. In another place, a young lady, the daughter of an officer, shot seven mutineers before they killed her. A captain, pressed by his Sepoys, with his good sword, slew twenty-six of them before he fell!

3. THE PECULIAR POST OF DUTY.

Every man has his own peculiar post assigned him here by Heaven, which none can exactly fill but himself; and it should be the object of each to discover what that is, and then to keep it. He has two guides in this decision,—the Providence of God, and the voice within. Let him listen to these, and rest assured that they point out to him the highest and the best path that he could walk in. Another and a different one may better befit another man, and then, though they be widely opposite to him that is the highest. One may be called to a busy, prominent position in society and active life; another's highest walk may be away from these in solitude and concealment. Let all (and that in every varying shade between these two) be careful how they pretend to add to or diminish from either; let each follow in faith the way most clearly presented to him by the two guides he is blessed with, without wilfully, or, though apparently from the best motives, turning to the right or to the left. It is very questionable how we ever really diminish our liability to temptation by mere change of circumstances. Satan's strong citadel lies in our own breast; and when we narrow the external circle of dangers we frequently only strengthen the few that remain; for the great enemy will not thus be