

turn the rate of interest when it does not appear on the face of the paper, it may have excellent results in some cases, *but the lenders will find means of gaining their ends indirectly.* I have had a case where I was compelled to give judgment for twelve per cent. per day from the date the paper became due."

"There is no force in the decrees of Venice," and no law in the land we live in, that will prevent the needy fool from becoming the prey of the money-lender, and the latter may be relied upon to find means of obtaining his pound of flesh.

But Senator Dandurand's excellent Bill may serve as a measure of restraint upon the transactions of money-lenders.

THE BANKS AND THE BURGLARS.

Under this heading, we recently commented upon the necessity of bankers enquiring into the state of their defences against the unwelcome burglar. He usually selects the season of spring for "maturing his felonious little plan," and, as we remarked, it is a matter of the most serious nature, if the profits of a small branch bank can be carried away in such summary fashion as that adopted by the bold, bad burglars who are now apparently making their annual tour of Canada. Since the warning contained in our last issue, the scene of operations has been changed from the country to the metropolis, and one of our big banks has to report that in the middle of the day his "box" was relieved of six hundred \$5 bills.

Suggestions from the press to the guardians of money are perhaps unnecessary. Yet we cannot resist saying that while robbery under arms cannot always be guarded against, it ought to be possible to introduce some system whereby such robberies as the one most recently reported could be prevented. However, we can only reiterate that if the bankers desire to have the duty of guarding their treasures well performed, they must do it themselves. They have the right kind of men for such service, and money wherewith to pay them.

OUR SOLDIERS.

The military functions of Tuesday and Wednesday last reflected the highest credit upon all engaged thereat. From the commander of a brigade to the smallest cadet present, all seemed to be inspired by the proverbial Queen's weather, and, cheered to the echo by the thousands of spectators, succeeded in making the grand review in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, a gay and glittering spectacle. The sight was one to be remembered, and even if those sweltering in the mid-day heat, and in possession of the official programme, did wonder why the "feu de joie" at "12.00 noon on the arrival of His Excellency," hung fire for a somewhat hot and exasperating quarter of an hour, the vast multitude endured the unexplained delay with patriotic patience and loyalty.

Logan's Farm, the scene of the review, presented a bright and animated appearance, as the time approached for the arrival of the troops, and the line of march was thronged by expectant thousands tempted by the bright weather and the always pleasing spectacle of soldiers marching to the music of their bands.

As regiment after regiment, by company after company, arrived on the field, the music of the bands varied from a drum beat to a Sousa march. It was a gallant sight, and must have pleased the sisters, cousins and aunts of our brave defenders, who smiled upon the bold soldier boys, and felt that thrill of pleasure which always seems to animate the fair at the sound of the drums and fifes of a passing regiment. The steady tramp of troops; the splash of colour as file after file swings past, each man anxious for the credit of his corps and looking every inch a soldier; the waving plumes and bright uniforms of the general and his staff; the stirring strains of Sousa's latest march dying away in the distance; the splendid marching of the serviceable looking Rifles; the waving feather bonnets of the bare-legged Scots; the gallant appearance of the cavalry and artillery; the always attractive regiment of red-coats; the jaunty military air of the French Canadian cadets; the "light springing footsteps" of the Highland laddies; these are some of the memories of last Wednesday's Military display in the good city of Montreal.

And if on the homeward march, hot, dusty and tired, some little cadet showed signs of fatigue and his step became somewhat faltering, it only served to remind us once again of the story of the fond mother of a recruit in a Highland regiment who, when watching a "march past" at the review, said to surrounding spectators with maternal admiration beaming in her eyes: "*Luik at oor Jock, he's the ainy laddie in step.*"

SMALL-POX IN GERMANY.—It is reported from Berlin, that in spite of precautionary measures, virulent small-pox is spreading. The disease was imported into Germany by Russian laborers, and has already spread to Isoilohn, Tuersburg, and Hanover. Fresh cases are also reported at Quellingburg, Reitzsch and Neuholdensteben.

SOME MORE OLDEST INHABITANTS.—Another contribution to the question as to comparative longevity of women and men comes from France. Prof. Buchner, who has made a study of statistics in relation to this subject, is of the opinion that women live upon the average, as well as in special cases, longer than men. One French woman, Marie Priours, who died in 1838, was said to be 138 years old. Statistics of the various countries on this point are remarkable. In Germany only 413 of 1,000 males reach the age of fifty; while more than 500 of 1,000 females reach that age. In the United States there are 2,583 female to 1,398 male centenarians. In France, of ten centenarians, seven were women and only three men. In the rest of Europe, of twenty-one centenarians, sixteen were women.