

more from all sorts of substitutes, the latter flavored often with poisonous ingredients, beside the alcohol in it.

After centuries of wine growing, and the world for a market, a short crop compels France to expend an enormous sum to satisfy the depraved appetites of her people with imported and fabricated poisons, that would be vastly more profitable to the nation if they were all poured out into the sea; or if the money, time and labor had been employed in making and burning firecrackers.

Let us figure up the wine account of France.

Cost of	550,000,000 gals. genuine wine produced at 15c.....	\$ 82,500,000
"	176,000,000 " imported wine at 15c	26,400,000
"	132,000,000 " made from refuse and raisins at 10c.....	13,200,000
"	264,000,000 " imitation wine at 10c.....	26,400,000
	1,122,000,000	\$148,500,000
Deduct	50,000,000 " exported, say at 90c.....	45,000,000
Money, time and labor wasted.....		\$103,500,000
Add to this the value of the imported bread, which might have been raised on the grape lands, 7,000,000 acres.....		\$120,000,000

Annual money loss by wine.....\$223,500,000

To this vast waste in a thing utterly useless, we might add 500 million dollars a year more, for the damage to the nation in idleness, vice and crime caused by wine; a very low estimate. It does not matter if these statistics are inexact; if they are 25 or 50 per cent. too high or too low, the fact remains that the business is an enormous pauperizer. Throw off 100 or even 200 of the 223 millions and it is still ruinous. Imagine for fancy's sake that the 223 millions were money profit, that would not begin to compensate the misery, madness, crime, and ruin made by the infernal curse of poison wine.—*Rescue.*

General News.

CANADIAN.

A very successful meeting of shorthand writers has been held in Toronto.

The Ontario Teachers' Association closed its annual session at Toronto on Thursday.

Grimsby Camp-meeting has opened and promises to be large and attractive.

Rat Portage has decided to incorporate as a township under the Ontario Act.

The past week has been marked by disastrous fires at St. Thomas, Chatham, Stratford, Meaford, Owen Sound, Shelbourne and Midland. Those at Meaford and Shelbourne were very extensive. The burning of a saw-mill at Midland has thrown about two hundred men out of employment.

There has also been an unusual number of fatal casualties. Wm. Stewart, aged 20, was drowned while boating in Red River; Albert Patterson, aged 10, was drowned at Toronto; Budge Riddell, aged 7, at Barrie, and a still younger boy at Parkhill. Dr. McGregor committed suicide at Kincardine on Monday, while under the influence of drink, and the same day a drunken man was killed by a runaway horse at Harriston. Last Saturday a young man named Murray was killed by a passing train on the railway track at Montréal. A workman named Plumbe met his death by a fall from a high building at Québec on Monday.

The Hon. Mr. Cockburn, who was the first speaker of the Dominion House of Commons, died at Ottawa on Tuesday, and the following day Judge Allen died very suddenly of heart disease at Rimouski.

BRITISH.

The House of Commons has passed the Bankruptcy Bill and the National Debt Bill. It has been decided to appropriate £100,000 of the Church surplus fund to emigration purposes.

Parnell has threatened to head a more extensive agitation than has yet taken place, if the deficiencies of the Land Act are not speedily remedied.

On Wednesday thirteen men were killed by an accident at a mine near Redpath in Cornwall.

A fire broke out on Tuesday in Dr. Boyd's private asylum at Ealing. The proprietor, his son and six patients were killed.

UNITED STATES.

The town of Vineyard, Haven, Mass., was almost destroyed by fire last week.

An immense fire at Chicago on Wednesday night destroyed the Rolling Stock Co's buildings.

The telegraph operators seem to have failed in their strike, and are returning to their work.

Small-pox is making sad havoc among the Minnesota Indians.

Three men have been killed by a railway accident at Pittsburg, Pa.

A discovery of oil in large quantities is creating much excitement at Rich Hill, Mo.

The Virginian corn and tobacco crops are ruined by drought.

Yellow fever is raging at Havanna.

Prof. Peters at Clinton, N.Y., has discovered a new planet.

FOREIGN.

The Republicans have carried the French elections by a very large majority.

The wheat crop in France is unusually small, but the quality of it is good.

Anti-Jewish riots are again breaking out in several European towns.

In Russia the nihilists are giving trouble again. Plots have been discovered, and many students arrested.

The cholera in Egypt is diminishing. The deaths from it are now about 300 per day.

The Nile continues to rise, and is doing much damage to crops.

There are alarming indications of another earthquake at Ischia.

A serious riot has occurred at Vienna. A demonstration of working men was suppressed by troops after much bloodshed.

Our Casket.

JEWELS.

Prayer is not conquering God's reluctance, but taking hold of God's willingness.

If there were no listeners, there would be no flatterers.

The man whose soul is in his work finds his best reward in the work itself. The joy of achievement is vastly beyond the joy of reward.

Making apologies is a mean business, but the necessity of making them is still meaner.

The serene, silent beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world, next to the might of the Spirit of God.

"Self-conceit is the essence of vulgarity. True politeness is always so busy thinking of others that it has no time to think of itself."

The sweetest word in our language is Love. The greatest word in our language is God. The word expressing the shortest time is Now. The three make our greatest and sweetest duty.

No shattered box of ointment
We ever need regret,
For, out of disappointment,
Flow sweetest odors yet.
The discord, that involveth
Some startling change of key,
The master's hand resolveth
In richest harmony.

"Whatever" your weakness, or the spot at which you fall, beware of it and shun it. I once knew a gifted young man, who, in very early life, had indulged a love for ardent spirits, which was almost fatal. Under the influence of conscience and religion, he finally conquered himself, and, for years, did not taste a drop. In a conversation with him on the subject, he told me that so strong