

For some time past Sir Roderick has taken little part in scientific discussions, but his influence, especially in re-assuring the public mind as to the continued safety of his intimate personal friend, Dr. Livingstone, was often felt. It is matter for deep regret that the great explorer had not been able to meet his friend once more. Sir Roderick died last month, in the 80th year of his age, giving another of the many proofs that deep study and patient application to scientific research are compatible with longevity.

#### THE QUEBEC CITIZENS' BALL IN HONOUR OF THE 60th REGIMENT.

We give an illustration of the ball tendered by the citizens of Quebec in honour of the officers of the 60th Regiment previous to their departure from Quebec for Halifax, and append from our contemporary, the *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, an account of the affair:

In the Music Hall last night took place the farewell ball given the officers of the garrison by the citizens of Quebec. The affair was a decided success, and reflects the greatest credit upon its originators, while it will ever be remembered as one of the most pleasing social gatherings which has taken place in the city.

The Messrs. Russell undertook the arrangements, and it is useless to expatiate upon their manner of getting up a ball. They put the Music Hall into the hands of Mr. Leonard, who speedily transformed it into a dancing room. The decorations were superb. A dais occupied the centre of the left side of the Hall, which was covered with crimson cloth and draped with the flags of the Dominion and the Province of Quebec. The stage was provided with seats, reached by a broad staircase, also covered with crimson cloth, and carpeted in richest velvet. In the centre of the green curtain was a large medallion, with the inscription:

WELCOME.

Success to our Friends in all Parts of the World.

FAREWELL.

Opposite this, on the gallery, was a large painting of the Royal Arms, and all along the gallery were statuettes and vases of flowers with banners and flags, the whole having a most beautiful effect. From the ceiling were suspended winged Cupids, which led to many jocular remarks during the evening, to the effect that Love was quietly flying high. The gallery lights were alternately pink and white. On the whole the decorations were superb, and the designer, M. Leonard, deserves very great credit for the manner in which he executed the work entrusted him.

About nine o'clock the guests began to arrive, and at ten o'clock Madame Garneau and His Worship the Mayor entered the Hall, and assumed seats on the dais, on which they were afterwards joined by Mrs. C. E. Levy, and other ladies. Madame Garneau received the guests in her usual charming manner, and dancing was shortly begun.

The programme embraced a choice selection of dances, numbering twenty in all. At one o'clock the supper room was thrown open, and full justice was done to the *recherche* collation provided by the Messrs. Russell. Dancing was afterwards resumed and kept up "fast and furious" to ever so many o'clock this morning. The attendance was not quite so large as had been expected, but it was extremely select. Militia officers, as a rule, appeared in evening dress. Of the costumes worn by the ladies, it is sufficient to say that they were most elegant and costly, and that the beauty, wit, and talent of the city was fully represented by the assembly.

#### VIEWS IN GUELPH

Few towns in Upper Canada possess, in such a high degree as Guelph, facilities for the extension of their trade and the establishment of flourishing business with their neighbours. Admirably situated in a favourable position on the River Speed, and more than ordinarily favoured by nature, Guelph has for years past been distinguished as a rising town, needing but energy and perseverance to place it high in the list of the manufacturing centres of the West.

The town, which is the county seat of Wellington, is the centre of the business of the neighbourhood, extending in a radius of many miles. The river, which passes through the place, affords valuable water privileges which are availed of for running mills of every description. There are in the town no less than three large breweries, all doing a large business. Its melodeon factories, and notably that of M. M. Mills & Co., supply the whole of Western Canada with instruments that find equal favour with purchasers with the best productions of the New York factories. The sewing machines of the Guelph Sewing Machine Co. are to be found over the whole world, almost, thus speaking sufficiently of the excellence of the Canadian-manufactured article. In addition to its manufactures the town has a large retail country trade, and exports considerable quantities of wheat and flour. In the neighbourhood are several beds of dolomite, both brown and black, which yield an excellent building stone, and from some of which large quantities of lime are manufactured.

The two views produced on another page were both taken on Wyndham Street, the business quarter of the town. One of these shows the premises of Mr. John Horsman, a spirited and enterprising hardware merchant. Being a man of large practical experience, and keenly alive to the advantages of progress, Mr. Horsman has succeeded in establishing a large and lucrative business. The views are copied from photographs by a local artist.

#### No. 2 FORT, LEVIS, QUEBEC.

In this issue we give a sketch of the second of the three forts erected in South Quebec, or Point Levis, on the side of the St. Lawrence opposite the ancient capital. They command the whole of the country around Quebec; the approach to the city by the St. Lawrence, and the upper end of the Island of Orleans. They are built on improved modern principles; no enemy can breach the escarp, nor exist one minute in the ditch, from the mode of defence devised. And were it possible that he could get into the forts, he would be utterly unable to hold them, for the Citadel of Quebec would straightway pound him out with its artillery. The views are much the same of all the forts, and they are so constructed as to be serviceable for Montreal defence. Of course we do not wish to "show our hand" to any lurking enemy, and, therefore, conclude by saying that these Point Levis fortifications have unquestionably confirmed Quebec's proud claim to being indeed "the Gibraltar of the North."

#### THE WINKS BLOCK, MONTREAL.

Montreal is famous for the ornate and substantial architecture of its leading commercial buildings. Its banks and warehouses will compare favourably with those of any other city on the continent. It is to be regretted that so many of the finest of the commercial establishments are crowded into narrow lanes, unworthy the name of streets, and therefore invisible, except upon so close an inspection that the eye cannot take in all their beauties at once. One very fine commercial building has, however, been erected on a most conspicuous site. The Winks block, opposite the St. James Hotel and Victoria Square, on the corner of Bonaventure and McGill Streets, is no less remarkable for the beauty of its architecture than for the adaptability of its site to display it to the best advantage. Occupying one of the most frequented quarters of the city; visible from so many different points; the first object that strikes the eye of any one travelling riverwards down Beaver Hall Hill, or passing along any of the nearer streets, or the square, it always commands a look of admiration. It was erected some five or six years ago, and is occupied by several commercial establishments. Our illustration will sufficiently show its style to enable the reader to appreciate it without any detailed description.

#### NASSAU AS A WINTER RETREAT.

[Written for the Canadian Illustrated News.]

The town of Nassau is situated on the island of New Providence, one of that extensive group called the Bahamas. It is in latitude 25°12' north, and longitude 77°30' west of Greenwich. It was a busy place during the late American war, being the great depot of the blockade runners; but has latterly relapsed into its usual quiet and peaceful state. There are, however, signs of its again becoming a place of some interest, though from a very different cause,—namely, its delightful climate, which is beginning to be known as one of the most beneficial in the world for the relief of pulmonary affections. The remarkable effects of this climate, in the amelioration of those distressing complaints, have been little appreciated until very lately. In 1869 the Government of the colony erected a large and splendid hotel for the accommodation of visitors, and especially invalids, desiring to spend the winter months here, but the outbreak of the American war filled the town and hotel with adventurers and speculators, and the philanthropic designs of the Government were frustrated for the time. Since the close of the war, however, the influx of visitors has increased yearly, and the hotel is now unable to accommodate the number of invalids who make Nassau their winter residence. It is, therefore, in contemplation to erect another, while several large buildings are to be temporarily occupied as hotels.

The writer, having spent last winter in Nassau with considerable advantage to his health, gives the following few lines for the benefit of those who may hereafter contemplate a trial of this climate:

The island of New Providence is about twenty-one miles long from east to west, and about seven miles broad; and to the Englishman, it may be said, it resembles the Isle of Wight in shape. The town extends along the northern shore for about three-quarters of a mile, and back to a slight ridge of limestone hills, some four or five hundred yards from the harbour. The streets are laid out at right angles, but are rather narrow, and mostly without sidewalks. But the want of the latter accommodation is scarcely felt, for the roads are so clean and smooth that they answer all the purposes of sidewalks,—especially as there are but few vehicles on the streets at any time.

As the whole island is formed of a soft limestone, this material has been used to build the houses and construct the roads; and both houses and roads are substantial and neat looking. The former are nearly all surrounded by wide verandahs, many of which are completely shut in with jalousies, and form pleasant covered walks during the heat of the day. Here the invalid may swing his hammock, and read, or sleep, during the heat of noontide with the greatest comfort.

The interior walls of the houses are nearly always pierced with large openings to permit a free circulation of air during warm weather. These openings are usually fitted with blinds, though sometimes glazed sashes are provided also, where privacy is desired. But privacy is seldom obtainable in the West Indies. The free and sociable habits of the people preclude all possibility of exclusiveness; and the stranger soon learns to "make a virtue of necessity" in this respect.

The climate is one of the most delightful imaginable. From the beginning of November to the end of April, the temperature seldom falls below sixty-five or seventy degrees of Fahrenheit, and as rarely rises above eighty or eighty-two. The dry north-east and east trade winds blow cool and pleasant for the greater part of the year. Once or twice a month the wind veers to the south for a few days, and the weather becomes sultry and oppressive; but this change is always followed by a brisk north wind, sometimes amounting to a gale, and the atmosphere again becomes cool and pleasant. The duration and force of the north winds are usually in proportion to the duration and intensity of the preceding heated term.

The temperature will fall ten or twelve, and occasionally fifteen, degrees after this change of wind; and the invalid should guard against the danger of taking cold. But at no other time will he be called upon to use even the slightest precaution against changes of weather; for the air is always mild and balmy, resembling that of a fine summer's day on board ship in the middle latitudes.

The town is full of gardens; every house has its garden, and almost every garden has its orange grove and its banana orchard. The cocoa, the date, the royal, and the cabbage palms overtop the houses; and the cotton-wood tree spreads its enormous branches nearly a hundred feet latterly from the trunk, and its dense foliage casts a shadow nearly five hundred feet in circumference—enough to shelter two or three regiments of soldiers from the sun's rays. The banyan, or wild fig tree, throws down roots from its branches, forming new trees, until it becomes a small forest in itself. Lemons, limes, citrons, shaddock, grape fruit, sapodillas, mangoes, mamees, avacado, alligator and other pears, pawpaws, star, custard and other apples, cocoa nuts, breadfruit, yams, sweet potatoes, and many other kinds of tropical fruits and vegetables are produced on the islands, and most of them may be found in the Nassau market at nearly all seasons.

The profusion and variety of flowers corresponds to that of the fruits; and the breeze comes laden with the fragrance of the rose, the jessamine, the myrtle, and the oleander. The latter grows to an enormous size, and is covered with blossoms the year round.

Some of the plants and flowers are very curious. The moonlight flower opens only at night, and bashfully shrinks from the light of the morning sun; while the scarlet hibiscus constantly turns its face to the God of day. The life plants (*semper vivum*) is possessed of such extraordinary vitality that a single leaf, or even part of a leaf, germinates and produces numerous roots and branches, when simply tacked to the wall; and this without a particle of soil or other nourishment, excepting such as it can attract from the moisture in the atmosphere.

A few hints to those about to visit the South may not be deemed out of place. How often do we see invalids abroad deluding themselves with the idea that change of climate alone will cure them! This is a fatal mistake. Proper rules of hygiene and diet are quite as necessary, indeed more necessary, than at home. Alone, they may appear to have little efficacy, but when observed in connection with a change of climate they are invaluable. Scores of invalids return from long and fatiguing journeys, without having derived the slightest benefit therefrom, simply because they have trusted too much to the mere change of climate; instead of seconding its good effects by a proper attention to diet and regimen. On the other hand, the invalid must not expect any of those magical changes for the better which are so often said to follow a residence in a southern climate. Often it is months, and sometimes it is not until the return home, that the hoped for improvement is evident.

Again, he should not travel alone, if possible, but go in company with at least one; and the more the better. He should likewise have some resource for employing spare hours. And here we can promise the visitor to Nassau a multitude of new sights and experiences.

Last, but not least, comes the question of expense. Meat and provisions are scarce and dear, and the cost of board high. At the Royal Victoria Hotel the price is three dollars (\$3.00) per day, though the table is not good, and the general accommodations are somewhat meagre. In the boarding-houses the price ranges from ten to fifteen dollars per week, and the table is often covered with a more substantial fare than at the hotel. But the visitor may often secure board in a private family, and be as comfortable as though he were at home. The passage from New York to Nassau by steamer is made in four days; and the fare is forty-five dollars in gold. Five dollars may be allowed for incidental expenses on the voyage. All the prices here given are in gold; British and American gold and silver being the money most in circulation. But it is not necessary that the traveller should encumber himself with any large amount of specie, as a draft or certified check on any respectable house in New York can always be negotiated at the Public Bank, or at the house of Messrs. T. Darling & Co.

In conclusion we would recommend the visitor to take an ample supply of clothing; and especially of under-clothing, which sometimes passes out of the hands of his sable land-dress in a mysterious and unaccountable manner. Plenty of fine gauze for a mosquito net may not be out of place for those who are too sensitive to the caresses of these affectionate little creatures.

The end of November, or the beginning of December, is soon enough for the invalid's arrival in Nassau; as the rainy season is sometimes prolonged to the middle of November, and it is not desirable to land here before the dry season is fairly established. The beginning of May is the earliest period at which it will be safe for the invalid to leave for the North; and many prefer to remain until the end of the month. The heat is not appreciably greater in the beginning of June than the end of April; and the weather is certain to be warm and settled in the North by the middle of June, thus preventing danger of catching cold on the return home.

[We give on another page an illustration of Cumberland Street, Nassau, looking north, with a royal palm tree in the centre, and a banana plant towards the left.—Ed. C. I. N.]

#### THE BOEBLINGER HOUNDS.

The Boebingers are a race of hounds that have recently attracted much attention among German and other European dog-fanciers. Their breed appears to be a cross between the Water Spaniel and the Newfoundland, uniting in itself the finest characteristics of the two races. In appearance they are handsome, well-formed animals, with a bright, cunning eye, and a look of knowingness coupled with intense sagacity. They were originally raised by Herr E. Kober, of Boeblinger, in the vicinity of Stuttgart, who is now shipping large numbers of these animals to foreign countries, notably to France and the East Indies.

**PISCATORIAL.**—The following is a detailed statement of the number and kind of fish taken during the late season in the Ottawa by the "Lowe Farmer":—Pickerel, 625; Bass, 291; Pike, 11; Perch, 269; Eels, 6; Miscellaneous, 22. Total, 1,234. This account does not comprise small fry, suckers, catfish, or white fish. Of the largest fish taken a pickerel weighed 9½ lbs., black bass, 3½, Oswego bass, 1½, Eel, 5, Pike, 4, Perch, 1½, 2 catfish, one 15 lbs., the other 8 lbs. The miscellaneous take includes Maskinonge and Sturgeon, small Shad, &c. All taken within a mile of the Queen's wharf.—*Ottawa Times*.

**THE ANALYSIS OF TEA.**—Tea contains several characteristics, which are seldom taken into account, in addition to its usual 5 per cent. of them or thereabout. Iron forms a very important constituent, as does also manganese and potassa. The leaves of the tea plant give about 5.63 per cent. of ashes, of which 4.04 are soluble from the leaf and may be found in the extract. The extract therefore is very rich in inorganic compounds, especially in phosphoric acid, but they contain only a little potassa. Old tea leaves contain much iron, but little potassa and phosphoric acid. Of a young tea more than one-third will go in the extract, of old leaves much less. The above observations are the result of some recent investigations as reported in *Annalen der Chemie*.

A lady asked a pupil at a public school, "What was the sin of the Pharisees?" "Eating camels, ma'am," quickly replied the child. She had read that the Pharisees "strained at gnats and swallowed camels."