

[Written for the Canadian Illustrated News.]

CHICAGO.

BY JOHN READE.

I.

She sits like a queen on her throne
And vassals kneel at her feet;
She gives the word and her will is done,
For her messengers are fleet.

II.

Some of them fly to the east,
Some of them fly to the west—
And she summons the world to her royal feast,
For she makes mankind her guest.

III.

She gives with a bounteous hand
From the wealth of her ample store,
And the welcome dwellers in every land
Pass through her open door.

IV.

Her lineage no man knows,
For she came like the golden light,
Which silently, noiselessly comes and goes—
Through the spectral halls of night.

V.

In the depth of the prairie wild,
The home of the buffalo herd,
One day the voice of a little child
The soul of the desert stirred.

VI.

And the buffalo fled for fear,
By that tiny voice subdued,
And people gathered from far and near
To conquer the solitude.

VII.

Was it thus that she rose to view,
The beautiful Queen of the West,
Where brooded the awful Manitou
Over the still lake's breast?

VIII.

She sits like a queen on her throne,
And bright is the crown she wears,
In the wide world there is not one
More happy than she and hers.

IX.

Let her enjoy while she may—
Has not somebody said?
"Let us eat and drink and be merry to-day,
To-morrow we may be dead!"

X.

Beautiful Queen of the West,
Ah! if thou couldst but see,
Now while thou deemest thyself most blest,
The doom that is over thee!

XI.

The treacherous sun smiles down
On the face of city and field,
But thou canst not see the fery frown
Beneath his smile concealed!

XII.

As a mother with gentle care
O'er her sleeping infant bends,
Seems the sky, and yet through the pathless air
The angel of war descends.

XIII.

O Queen, in thy wealth and pride
If thou sawest the danger near,
If thou knewest the woes that thee betide,
Thy heart would freeze with fear!

XIV.

She sits no more like a queen,
Happy and rich and gay,
Her wealth is now with the things that have been,
And her glory has passed away.

XV.

Crushed and bleeding and torn,
In ashes and dust she lies,
And the cry of her thousands left forlorn
Pierces the cruel skies.

XVI.

Fallen is her crown of pride,
Fallen are her palace-domes,
And her streets are ghastly far and wide
With the wrecks of ruined homes.

XVII.

Father and mother and child,
Hungry and cold and wan,
Where the demon-fire held carnival wild,
Find their happy homestead gone.

XVIII.

And young there are who seek
For the living among the dead,
With anguished faces that more than speak
How their inmost hearts have bled.

XIX.

O God! 'tis a pitiful sight!
Look down and in mercy spare
The children whose wail through the livelong night
Pierces the smoky air.

XX.

Thank God for the blessed rain!
Thank God for the hearts that feel
With a brother's love for a brother's pain!
For the words and acts that heal!

XXI.

She is weary and desolate
And her beautiful head bows low,
And the nations mourn o'er her awful fate
And pity her in her woe.

XXII.

But her heart still throbs with life
And her strength will come again,
And her marts with the wealth of the world be rife,
And the voices of busy men.

XXIII.

But oh! may her people learn
From that awful scourge of flame,
To fear the God who can say, "Return
To the dust from which you came."

XXIV.

So she may be a queen,
Not in outer splendour alone,
But, in fire re-born and made pure within,
Sit on a stainless throne!

MISS KATE RANOE, (MRS. MOLYNEUX ST. JOHN.)

Miss Ranoe made her first appearance in Canada at the Montreal Theatre, in 1868, in the burlesque of "Black-eyed Susan." After a short season she visited Quebec, and proceeded thence to Toronto to join her husband, one of the editorial writers of the *Globe*. She played one or two star engagements in Toronto with great success. When the Red River expedition was formed she accompanied her husband, who went up as special correspondent of the *Globe*. On the departure of the regular troops Miss Ranoe returned with the head-quarter staff by the same route, and in the winter made the journey across the plains back to Fort Garry, to rejoin her husband, who was Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba. An account of the trip through the woods to the north-west angle of the Lake of the Woods was written by her and appeared in the *Globe*, as the journal of a lady; and subsequently she delivered a lecture at Toronto and some of the leading cities of Ontario on the subject of the Red River Expedition and Manitoba. She has become, for a short season, the lessee of the Montreal Theatre, and will attract large audiences. We understand that the Misses Holman will also appear with Miss Ranoe.

THE "MANITOBA" AND CAPT. J. B. SYMES.

The "Manitoba" is a steamer recently built by Messrs. J. & W. Beatty, of Thorold, for the Collingwood and Lake Superior trade. She has only recently been placed on the route, and has given evidence of qualities which cannot fail to make her a great favourite with excursionists. She is 186 feet long, 28 feet beam, 47 feet over all, 11 feet hold. She carries a 300 horse-power engine, with 44 inch cylinder, 9 feet stroke. She has 50 staterooms, which, with the cabins, are fitted up in the most luxurious style, making her altogether a floating palace, whose attractiveness must satisfy the most fastidious. The "Manitoba" cost upwards of \$60,000. She is commanded by Capt. J. B. Symes, a seaman of long experience and known merit. Formerly he was engaged on Lake Huron, and for several years he has been connected with the Collingwood and Lake Superior line. As a careful, considerate, and courteous commander, Capt. Symes has earned a reputation of which he may be justly proud. He has sailed the steamers "Waubesa" and "Algoma," and the Messrs. Beatty have shown their confidence in his ability by entrusting to his care their new steamer "Manitoba." The Captain wears, not without a little honest pride, a magnificent gold watch and chain presented to him by the men at Silver Islet, Lake Superior, last fall. The other principal officers are:—The purser, John McDougall; 1st engineer, J. Fullerton; 2nd engineer, Thos. Rothgrew,—all men of experience and reliability.

LOWER FALLS, YAMASKA RIVER

The Yamaska, or *Rivière des Saumons*, runs through several counties on the south shore of the St. Lawrence. Its southwestern branch rises from several sources in the townships of Granby, Brome, Sutton, and Durham, which unite at Farnham. The north-east branch is formed by the union of several streamlets, rising in Eli, Acton, and Rexton, and runs through the west angle of Milton, entering the seignory of St. Hyacinthe, where it joins the S.-W. branch. Thence passing by the town of St. Hyacinthe, and skirting the county of the same name, as also Rouville and Richelieu, it falls into the St. Lawrence on the north-east side of Bay St. Francis, near the upper end of Lake St. Peter. The river winds for about ninety miles through a rich and fertile country, dotted with numerous villages, and containing some of the best farms to be found in the Eastern Townships. The river has several rapids, and offers great facilities at many points for utilising water power, hence there are many valuable mill sites along its banks, which have been turned to good account. In this issue we give a view, taken below the Lower Falls, near Cowansville, in the Township of Durham. Cowansville is a thriving village on the Yamaska, containing about six hundred inhabitants.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY BRIDGE.

In the present issue we give two illustrations of the works on the Intercolonial Railway: one the bridge at Rivière du Loup, and the other the piers of the bridge at Trois Pistoles. These two works embrace the most important bridging to be done on the great national line which is destined to cement the connection between the Eastern and Western Provinces of the Dominion of Canada, and to form, at no distant day, an important link in the great chain of railway which will span the continent on British territory from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and give the old Empire an independent circuit from its eastern to its western possessions, at the same time that it will render the trade of many countries much more directly tributary to British commerce than it is at present. The sketches from which we copy were made by an accomplished young lady of Montreal.

"LOOK AT BABY IN THE GLASS!"

It is doubtful if the budding intelligence of the human intellect displays anything more extraordinary than the first introduction of "baby" to the looking-glass. Who has not seen the infant clutch the mirror, and try to turn it round in order to see the baby behind? How long this notion of another behind the glass, or how soon the natural intelligence grasps the idea of mechanical reflection, it would perhaps be somewhat difficult to say. But certain it is that the "glass" is a rare attraction for babies; that they like very much to see themselves mirrored there and are seldom weary of looking at their own features as reflected by the glass. The artist whose production we have copied, has faithfully given expression to the outward signs of emotion or feeling which looking at baby in the glass is calculated to create; but the picture is one which speaks so much for itself that we need not descant upon it. We may, however, tell a little story in this connection which was related to us by a friend. He had visited the great Exhibition in London in 1851; at the end of one of the corridors was placed a large mirror, and as he walked forward towards it he thought he saw approaching him a gentleman whose countenance was very familiar. He went onward, intending to salute him whom he believed to have been an old friend, until on approaching the mirror he discovered he was going to salute his own likeness! It is to be feared that the delusion of the "glass" is not confined to babies.

HINTS FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.

Carbolic acid sprinkled in small quantities about a room will abate those intolerable nuisances, fleas and mosquitoes.

INVISIBLE CEMENT.—Isinglass boiled in spirits of wine will produce a fine transparent cement, which will unite broken glass so as to render the fracture almost imperceptible and perfectly secure.

ACHING CORNS.—Why do our corns ache just previous to rains? Because our feet swell with the sudden depression in the density of the air; and the hard corn, not being elastic, is painfully stretched and pressed.

TO LOOSEN SCREWS AND BOLTS.—When you find screws and nuts have become fast from rust, pour on them a little kerosene or coal oil, and wait a few moments until they become soaked with the liquid. When this is done they can be easily started and the bolt saved.

HOW TO MAKE COMMON HARD SOAP.—Put in an iron kettle five pounds unslacked lime, five pounds soda, and three gallons of soft water; let it soak over night; in the morning pour off the water, then add three and a half pounds of grease, boil till thick, turn into a pan until cool, and then cut in bars.

CLEANING TINWARE.—An experienced housekeeper says the best thing for cleaning tinware is common soda. She gives the following directions: Dampen a cloth and dip in soda and rub the ware briskly, after which wipe dry. Any blackened ware can be made to look as well as new.

TO WASH HAIR BRUSHES.—Hair brushes, however dirty, may be washed and kept good for years, without loss of stiffness, by putting a small handful of soda into a pint jug of boiling water. When the soda is melted, put in the brush and stir it about till clean. Rinse it in cold water, and dry in the sun or by the fire. The quicker it dries, the harder the bristles will be.

TO MAKE PICKLES HARD USE ALUM AS FOLLOWS:—To a gallon of vinegar add one ounce of powdered alum. If the vinegar is put into bottles tightly corked and set in a kettle of cold water, with hay or straw between them to keep the bottles from knocking together, and allowed to remain over the fire until the water boils, then removed and kept in the kettle until nearly cool, the vinegar will keep perfectly clear when used for pickles, but it should be added to them cold. Sheets of horse-radish root will prevent all pickles from moulding.

FILL YOUR LAMPS IN THE MORNING.—Scarcely a week passes but we read accounts of frightful accidents from kerosene lamps exploding and killing, or scarring for life, men, women, and children. A simple knowledge of the inflammable nature of the liquid may put a stop to nearly all the accidents. As the oil burns down in the lamp, inflammable gas gathers over the surface. When the oil is nearly consumed, a slight jar will inflame the gas, and explosion follows. If the lamp is not allowed to burn over half way down, accidents are impossible.

MAKING CANDLES.—Many of our farmers who study economy in their domestic affairs, find it more economical to make their own candles than to buy them. Such persons will find that by making the wicks about half the ordinary size, and dipping them in spirits of turpentine, and drying them carefully before the fire, or in the sunshine, before moulding, they will last longer and afford a much clearer and more brilliant light than those made in the ordinary way. A small portion of beeswax, melted with the tallow, has a tendency to prevent their "running," and renders them much more lasting.

HOW TO CLEAN CHROMOS.—In answer to numerous inquiries, *Frang's Chromo* says: "When you clean them, use a soft brush, or wipe them with a soft chamois skin, (a drop of oil may restore clearness,) or with a fine linen rag very slightly dampened. Always tenderly. Next, whenever the original varnish coating is dulled, bruised or rubbed, revarnish it with thin mastic varnish. Chromos, like oil paintings, should not be hung in a dark room, but in one with diffused light, and never exposed to the direct rays of the sun. The chromos after water colours, keep and display better when planted under glass, they lack the protecting cover of the varnish. The larger chromos, after oil paintings, display, as a general rule, best when framed like original paintings. It is not necessary to put any of these under glasses; it is a matter of taste—preserving them, at the same time, from dust and rough handling.

HOW TO DRY PLANTS.—The process of drying plants for an herbarium is very simple. The specimens should be collected when free from dew or other moisture, and spread upon a sheet of blotting-paper, on the third page of the paper. The leaves and flowers should be spread very carefully, so as to show the structure and perfect shape of each. When the plant is thus arranged, the paper is folded together so that the second page rests upon the plant, and after a number are arranged, the whole may be placed in a pile and subjected to a slight pressure for a few days. It is not well to place the plants upon single sheets of paper, because they are very liable to disarrangement and injury. After the plants have become perfectly dry, they may be removed from the blotting paper, and placed between sheets of paper, and if desired may be adixed by touching the under side of the stem and leaves with a drop of mucilage. When practicable the whole plant and root should be preserved.

GLYCERINE AS FOOD AND MEDICINE.—Glycerine is one of the most valuable articles our pharmacopœia can boast, while as an article of food, it is one of the best and most fattening nutriment. Sweet oil, or olive oil, has for ages been an article of daily diet in Palestine and other old countries, and glycerine is an essence of it. It is a perfectly natural and bland fluid, and the most penetrating, perhaps, in all nature. Oil itself will penetrate where water will not, and glycerine, which may be considered the ethereal part of oil, has this property to a most remarkable degree—it penetrates the solid bone.

A medical journal tells us that if poured into a mixture of blood and matter, such as is expectorated from consumptive lungs, it will get between the globules of each and show them with greater distinctness. Being thus penetrating, it is the very best application for feverish sores, for inflamed or dry surfaces, simply from its quality of penetration and evaporation. If applied with a common brush to the surface of the throat in diphtheria, in a few minutes its permeative quality enables it to sink between the molecules of the false membrane, dissolving and detaching it in a few hours. It is the best application known in case of burns.