

two vigorously-written sketches of Spain. From the latter production, which far exceeds in force and fidelity anything that has yet emanated from a pen, which, however powerful, is yet in its infancy, the reader may be enabled to form a tolerably correct idea of the fighting of the British troops in Spain, during the Carlist war, when to lose some eight hundred men and eighty officers of that force before breakfast, was merely looked upon as a hot morning's work.

We regret that, from its length, we cannot this week give the whole of this truly graphic sketch, for we are well assured that a nervous impatience will be felt to know the result of one of the most brilliant affairs that took place during the whole of the war.

This was fighting; this it was to be a soldier.

THE MONTREAL MINING COMPANY.

Pursuant to advertisement, this Company held its first General Meeting of the Shareholders on Monday last. Mr. Forrest Shepherd, the practical geologist and mineral explorer of the Company, who has just returned from Lake Superior, attended the meeting, and gave full explanations of the proceedings of the exploring party under his orders. He stated that, owing to the very extensive working party, and assistant geologists, and the unlimited means in money and provisions placed at his disposal, he had been enabled to secure advantages for the Company, of which he had no expectation when he embarked in the undertaking. The mineral wealth of the northern shores of Lake Superior exceeded that of the other side belonging to the United States, and in his own opinion, and that of every scientific man he had met on the ground, surpassed all present known in the world of the same kind. For this Company he had traced in one district, for a distance of nineteen miles, a vein of copper, combined with a large proportion of silver. Instead of excavating ore from the surface for exportation, which could tend to nothing, he had unceasingly employed himself and 100 men under his directions, with competent, practical, and scientific leaders, in thoroughly exploring the country; and he thought he had done quite enough for one season in securing the best locations without expending valuable time and money in hurrying the material to exportation before any honest judgment could be formed upon it. He had not only chosen the best veins that he could discover, but had endeavoured to choose them in the best places for working them beneficially. He had, therefore, located them in the immediate neighbourhood of water power, at points on the coast which afforded good harbours; and, besides making clearances, he had erected suitable dwellings for the servants of the Company, and constructed wharves. Mr. Shepherd promised to make a detailed report of his locations, eighteen in number, and embracing a considerable extent of superficies, in the course of the week. He acknowledged the obligations he had been under to the Hudson's Bay Company, whose entire organization had been placed at his service by Sir George Simpson, and had given him facilities which none but himself in that region possessed. Mr. S. presented to the Trustees a systematic and minute geological diagram of the coast of Lake Superior, from Sault Ste. Marie to Pigeon River, a distance of more than five hundred miles. Upon this work of labour and science, an exclusive party of seventeen men, with competent geologists and

surveyors, had been employed throughout the whole season, from the opening of the navigation until the month of November.

Mr. Shepherd, we understand, is acknowledged to be the most successful mineral explorer now upon the continent of America.

Sir George Simpson, a Trustee of the Company, was called to the chair by the meeting.

The Hon. Mr. Moffatt, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, of which Board the Hon. P. McGill and Mr. Meredith, Q.C., are also members, stated the circumstances under which the Company had been formed by the association of different persons having a common object and interest, and equally privileged to explore by the Government. He made a statement of the Company, of the number of associates and shareholders, and declared that the Trustees in their future management would be cautious, as more money had been lost in mining by rashness and haste than had ever been gained by it. The deliberate report of the Trustees would be forthcoming as soon as possible after they had an opportunity of thoroughly examining the report of Mr. Shepherd.

Mr. Sheriff Jarvis expressed the perfect satisfaction he felt at the statements made at the meeting. He had come down purposely from Toronto as the representative of a large body of shareholders in Canada West, all of whom were anxious to know something of the proceedings of the Board and the exploring parties. He had not expected to hear anything high so favourable as he had heard, and he should tell those who had sent him to Montreal that their affairs could not be in better hands or in a more promising condition.

On the motion of Mr. Jarvis, a vote of thanks, couched in very flattering terms, was carried in favour of the present Trustees, expressing a full acknowledgment of their past services and confidence in their future management.

Several specimens of rich ore, drawn from various parts of the Lake, and native silver and copper in quantities, and dressed ore, and copper in ingots from the laboratory of Professor Silliman, drawn from ores belonging to the Company, were produced.

Professor Silliman's report was also read upon the analysis he had made, with his opinion, that the working of the mines would produce on an average from 30 to 50 per cent.—*Times*.

THE JUVENILE DEPREATOR.

The gentleman in the "White Choker," who formed the subject of an article in this paper a fortnight ago, as having succeeded in "doing" the Honorables Cuvillier and Masson, under the cover of forged letters of introduction, has, as we then predicted he would, been carrying on his game in the United States. A friend of our own met him in the West in the neighbourhood of Detroit, and much to his surprise—although he had no suspicion whatever of him, having merely recognized the modest young man as one whom he had seen at Donegana's table—leaning on the arm of a lady of our mutual acquaintance. Our friend took occasion afterwards to inquire of the lady in what manner she had become acquainted with the interesting young gentlemen in the "white choker," and was informed that he was a Mr. Lease (the name he assumed here) connected with a large mercantile house in England, and had brought letters of introduction with him to her worthy sire. No doubt these letters of introduction purported to be from

either M. Cuvillier or Mr. Masson, or both, as they were more likely to be known in Detroit by name, than parties in England.

One story is told of this young gentleman in the "White Choker" which leaves no doubt of his true character. While he was at the Michigan Hotel, a gentleman was robbed of a fifty dollar note, and suspicion fell upon a party who was his (Lease's) companion at the time. The latter, however, got him off by swearing an *alibi*—that is to say that, at the hour when the robbery was supposed to have taken place, he was with him driving in the neighborhood of the Spring Wells—some three miles out of Detroit.

All this was well enough concerted, and we have reason to believe that the young marauder, who seems moreover to be quite a woman's man, must have meditated an attack upon the heart of the young lady to whom we allude, for in no other manner can we account for the seeming folly of one (so usually cunning) exemplified in the fact which follows. He, some time after this occurrence, exhibited to his fair companion (no doubt with a view of enlisting her sensibilities in his favor) a letter purporting to be written by his confederate, breathing the deepest gratitude for his generosity in raising him from the Penitentiary, by proving the *alibi* in question.

We understand that he has since gone to Washington, with more letters of introduction of course—and perhaps this time from Detroit. But surely the gentleman cannot escape detection much longer if, as we presume will be the case, due publicity be given to the matter. The soi-disant Mr. Lease is rather thin, with a high white forehead, light hair inclining to curl, rather prominent teeth, and with a smile as perpetual as the post of a Canadian Secretary or Assistant Secretary. He wears the invariable "white choker," which is generally drawn very tightly around his neck as if in anticipation of, and preparation for, something closer still; and is supposed to have supplied himself with a silver-mounted whip, the right of possession to which it is said he will have some little difficulty to establish—a mere affair of *meum* and *tuum*.—*Communicated*.

THE TORRANCE AFFAIR.

A long discussion has taken place between the *Montreal Pilot* and *Gazette*, on the subject of certain unjust preferences said to have been given, by the Government, to the above house, above other competitors in the same branch of trade. From all we can gather, we should very much like to know who Messrs. John Torrance & Co. are, that they should enjoy the Executive favour to the exclusion of all other subjects of Her Majesty in this country? These persons, now wallowing in wealth, were, we believe, originally respectable grocers. Since then they have risen in the scale of colonial aggrandisement and are now merchants, but we are not aware that they have anything more than mere wealth to entitle them to a preference above other citizens of Montreal.