

in the same etymological outline, he would yield the question in favour of the English language. The result immediately followed:

The twain that, intertwining before in the twine, As twine were entwined, he doth now untwine; 'Twixt the twain intertwining, a twine more between, He, twirling his twister, makes a twist of the twine.

The triumph was complete, and our wonderful language acknowledged unparalleled in copious flexibility, though leaving the French language superior in musical, graceful inflections.

The story runs that Prof. Wallis afterward, by request, translated the above into Latin verses, requiring 144 Latin words from 20 different radicals, while only 109 were required in the English, and, with the exception of the participles, coming from the same derivatives.

BEECHER AND THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

"The Bible attacked," is the heading of an article in the News of January 10th. One would naturally suppose from these words that what follows relates to some attack which has been made on the Bible itself. The writer, however, confounds the common English translation with that of which it is a translation—two things quite distinct from each other. The subject of his remarks is what Henry Ward Beecher lately said about the common English Bible and the American Bible Society. The words are as follows: "For one, I won't give a dollar to a society that prints a Bible notoriously false in some parts, and which the society knows is false." On this, the writer of the article referred to, says: "We do not remember having ever read any stronger charge than that the Bible is 'notoriously false in some parts.' I acknowledge that the thermometer of my admiration of Mr. Beecher is very far below 212 degrees. I believe, however, that even the very worst should have fair play. Now, I maintain that Mr. Beecher has not attacked the Bible itself, but our common translation of it, and the American Bible Society which publishes it. His language in doing so, I shall presently criticize. The writer of 'The Bible attacked,' says, 'The Bible is so engrafted with the mental and moral traditions of millions that perhaps no revised edition will at all be accepted by them for generations to come.' These words are another proof of the truth of what I have already said—that he confounds two things quite distinct from each other, that is to say, the Bible itself, and the common English translation of it.

He says, "The Plymouth pastor's orthodoxy in essentials has never been seriously questioned." In reply, I would say that it has—(1) By many he is regarded as heretical on the subject of Christ's person. He is supposed to hold the Apollinarian view—one dating back to the early ages of the Church—according to which Christ, though He had a "true body," had not a "reasonable soul;" the absence of the latter being supplied by His Divinity. (2) He is regarded by many as opposed to the doctrine of endless punishment. I have not met with his own language on these points. I speak merely from hearsay.

I come now to what he says regarding the common English translation of the Bible and the American Bible Society. Better scholars than Mr. Beecher have pronounced that translation a most admirable one on the whole. It cannot be denied that it has defects. It was made by fallible men. They had not the advantages which we have. Still, the greatest defects in it are comparatively trifling. The terms in which Mr. Beecher speaks of them are, therefore, most shameful, especially in a minister of the Gospel. When he preached in Montreal last Queen's Birthday, he spoke very eloquently about Christian love. "Without it," he said, "I am only a big bass drum." Well, he shows an utter want of that grace in speaking of the common English translation of the Bible and of the American Bible Society as he has done. Suppose A tells B, thinking that he is correct, that C is getting \$2 a day. D, who is standing by, says to A, "You're a downright liar. He is getting \$2.12 a day." Again, A's little boy spills some tea at table. A, with a blow of his fist, fells him to the floor. In the one case, a mistake is corrected in the Beecher style; in the other, a fault is punished in the same.

Notwithstanding the bluster of the pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, the alterations in the common English translation of the Bible to be found in the forthcoming one, we are assured by those who are fully qualified to speak on the subject, will hardly even be seen by any except those who read it carefully.

Métis, Que.

T. F.

[Our readers need not be told that there was no misapprehension of Mr. Beecher's meaning as an attack on the recognized version of the Bible and not the Bible itself. The context showed that. For the rest, we are glad to find that our contributor confirms our view of Mr. Beecher.]

The electric light has been extended from Charing Cross to Victoria Station, a distance which, it is said, would have been ridiculed a twelvemonth ago, being over one and one-third of a mile from the source of power. The twenty-horse steam engine now maintains sixty lights, and bridges over a distance—end to end—of more than two and a half miles.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Miss Neilson will appear at the above house of entertainment for the week commencing 26th inst. The lady is so favourably known to Montreal play-goers—indeed, to the whole theatrical world, that nothing could be said to increase her popularity. She will assume the leading rôles in "As You Like It," "Romeo and Juliet," "Twelfth Night," and "The Lady of Lyons." An afternoon performance will close the week. It is to be hoped that such shining lights of the profession will meet with the encouragement they deserve, and that Montrealers will no longer suffer their fair city to be dubbed "the showman's graveyard."

The American press speaks as follows of her and her support:

"Miss Neilson received substantial assistance from Mr. Edward Compton, who appeared for the first time in this country in the rôle of Romeo. This young gentleman has the merit of sustaining well the perilous inheritance of a very conspicuous and honoured name. His father was one of the principal members of that admirable band of players which Mr. Buckstone gathered together in the London Haymarket, and which won for the performance of legitimate comedy in that remarkable house a world-wide fame. We can hardly suppose that Mr. Compton is following the true line of his profession when he appears in such a part as Romeo, but yet he brings to it pleasant methods, a manly bearing, some flashes of genuine power, and a desirable freedom from a certain gaucherie with which this rôle of all others is apt to discomfit the best intentions of a young actor."

"The return of Miss Adelaide Neilson to the American stage, the scene of many previous triumphs, is an event of considerable theatrical importance, and it was a foregone conclusion that the Brooklyn Park Theatre would be crowded last night on the occasion of her re-appearance. As a matter of fact, the audience was both large and enthusiastic, and the re-entry of the actress was effected under the happiest auspices. She acted Juliet, a character with which her name is most closely associated, and in which she has no living rival. It is not necessary to dilate upon the merits of a performance which was famous long ago, but it ought to be said that time has been powerless thus far to diminish its charm. In respect of youth and beauty, Miss Neilson is still an ideal Juliet, while the magic of her art has acquired additional potency in the lapse of years. Her acting, last night was inspired, as of old, with passionate warmth and earnestness. The balcony scene was full of witching grace, and the pathetic scene thrilled with anguish and horror. The impersonation was equally satisfying to eye and sense."

THE DUTY OF ENJOYMENT.

It is clear that people do not think enough of the simple pleasures of life. It may be added that, in order to realize in oneself and in others the full benefit of a pleasurable existence, it is necessary to pursue pleasure as something intrinsically desirable. It will not do to seek it merely as a means to an end beyond itself. Pleasure must be loved and sought in and for itself if it is to be the good which it is capable of becoming. A man should be steeped in the atmosphere of happiness if he is to realize the efficient and beneficent existence we have described, and this presupposes what may paradoxically be called a disinterested liking for pleasure. It is by no means easy to persons of a certain temperament to cultivate the spirit of enjoyment in this way. In truth, it may be said to be the result of a difficult art which will only be acquired by those who have reached a high pitch of moral culture. To foster and manifest a cheerful and gladsome mind often involves a considerable amount of self-restraint in repressing and banishing those gloomy reflections to which one may be constitutionally prone. There is further a certain moral sluggishness and inertia in some natures which make it a considerable effort to rise into the pleasurable strata of the emotional atmosphere. How often, for example, is a fit of mental depression only capable of being dissipated by a vigorous form of bodily exercise to the idea of which the feeling of the moment is strongly opposed? The creation and sustenance of a bright and joyous consciousness is thus often a matter of real difficulty, and deserves to be extolled as a moral triumph over natural inclination.

It may be well to add that this conscious pursuit of a happy tone of mind demands a good deal of individual self-assertion in the face of the claims of social custom. If a man is to succeed in being a radiant centre of happiness, he must, it is plain, be free to seek enjoyment in his own way. We do not mean merely that he will naturally disregard the force of example so far as to avoid the extreme heat of the struggle for existence. It is only too obvious that, if he desires a healthy, cheerful condition of mind, he must take life in a measure easily and abandon all excessive ambitions. What is less obvious is that he will have to hold aloof from many of the forms of fashionable enjoyment prescribed by society. These prescriptions are often exceedingly foolish, having no relation to individual tastes. For example, the late dinner-party, though supposed to be a source of enjoyment, is really adapted to induce in many persons a permanent feeling of depression and weariness. It would perhaps not be edifying to enquire how much of the chronic discontent and mental discomfort of people arises from a too ready con-

pliance with the demands of fashionable society with respect to amusements.

But the reader may object that we are here taking only one view of our subject. Is it not, he may ask, a dangerous doctrine that pleasure is a good thing, deserving to be cultivated with arduous assiduity? No doubt the pursuit of personal enjoyment must not be made the sole aim of life. To use Mr. Spencer's language, egoism must be balanced by altruism. Yet, while allowing this, we would contend that a wise and calm regard for a continuously happy existence is a much less inadequate guide to right living than many moralists are apt to think. They forget that the preservation of an habitual flow of pleasurable feeling is not possible where exciting indulgences are sought after as the chief thing in life. It is really a delamination of the idea of pleasure to call a sensual person, addicted to wild excesses of enjoyment, a man of pleasure. The true man of pleasure is rather he who tries to carry the atmosphere of enjoyment into all the circumstances and occupations of the day. Those who thus seek pleasure rationally, avoiding all fatiguing over-indulgence, and giving the highest value to the quieter and more expansive forms of enjoyment, will not perhaps greatly fail in a due consideration of others' interests. For, as Mr. Spencer has shown in the same volume, a considerable dash of altruism is a necessary condition of a full experience of personal gratification. This is true even in our present imperfect stage of social development. And if, as he thinks, and we would fain hope, things are tending to a complete formation of the social man with an adequate capacity of sympathy, it must happen by and by that the most thoughtful and judicious cultivator of personal happiness will at the same time be most serviceable to others. However this may be, Mr. Spencer has rendered a timely service in exposing the absurdity of an indiscriminating disparagement of the pleasurable disposition, and in showing how valuable an element in the economy of life, individual and social, is the instinctive impulse towards enjoyment.

THE GLEANER.

THERE is some talk of a great exhibition being held at Rome.

IN Paris animal and vegetable refuse of all kinds is converted into charcoal.

SLAVERY has been absolutely abolished at Constantinople, under the penalty of a year's imprisonment.

By the birth of a son the other day to the Countess Rantzen, only daughter of Prince Bismarck, His Highness has become a grandfather.

GENERAL Grant, when asked which city among all he had visited he liked the best, answered quickly: "Washington; I think it is the handsomest city in the world."

Up to the end of last year 81,841 miles of railway had been completed in the United States, of which 29,900 miles had been laid down within the last five years.

The celebration of the Robert Raikes Centenary, in commemoration of the 100th year of the establishment of Sunday-schools, is to be held in the week of June 23rd to July 4th.

MR. CARLE, Professor Huxley, Mr. Froude, Mr. Leslie Stephen, and other eminent men have placed their names on the committee to secure the election of the Liberal candidate for Westminster.

THE Prince of Wales is to inaugurate the new Literary and Mechanical Institution at Windsor, the building for which has just been erected at a cost of 5,000 as a memorial of the late Prince Consort.

NORRIS Castle, Isle of Wight, has been purchased by the Duke of Edinburgh as a marine residence. It is a handsome mansion in the modern castellated style, standing on high ground between Osborne and East Cowes, and commanding a fine view of the Solent and Southampton Water.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE Canadian Illustrated News published by the Barland Lithographic Company, Montreal, exhibits an enterprise in furnishing illustrations of leading recent events of interest in various parts of the Dominion, that bespeaks the support of all Canadians.—Aurifer Gazette, N.S.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.—Not alone because it is a Canadian enterprise, but that it is one worthy of support, we heartily commend the Canadian Illustrated News. In no other way can such accurate idea of "life in Canada" be conveyed to friends at a distance, as by the pictures of every day occurrences in the News. With the first number of January will begin the publication of an original romance, edited by the Rev. Dr. S. J. H. of Lindsay.—Oshawa Indicator.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.—We would direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the only illustrated and purely literary weekly paper published in the Dominion. Its artistic department is very neatly executed and is devoted to the illustrations of current events, both at home and abroad. It is intended to introduce some new features in the literary department, so as to make it the special exponent of Canadian literature.—Petroleum Advertiser.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.—Both the Christmas and New Year's numbers exhibit a good deal of enterprise and care. The paper is fast improving, and being the only illustrated paper in Canada distinctly such, it should receive generous support and encouragement. The illustrations are now a credit to any illustrated paper, being well executed as well as instructive, and in keeping with the season. It is also well edited by the enterprising managers, the Barland Lithographic Company, Montreal, and in every respect a first-class journal. Canadian enterprise in this line ought to be well patronized.—Brantford Express.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

MONDAY, January 12.—Friendly relations renewed between Layard and the Porte.—The Maine Republicans have organized a dual legislature, and intend to carry their cause to the Supreme Court.—Germany is beginning to look with an anxious eye upon affairs in France, an anxiety aggravated by the very precarious state of Bismarck's health.—In Edison's laboratory is an electric light, for submarine purposes, that has been submerged in a bath of water for several weeks.—In the churches of Western and Central Russia an ecclesiastical manifesto has been read excommunicating the revolutionary party. Simultaneously with this manifesto, many of the Jews have been expelled and sent back to the Polish provinces originally assigned to them. By this step the army will lose a great number of its most efficient surgeons.

TUESDAY, January 13.—All the German Bishops have been summoned to Rome.—The ex-Empress Eugenie will embark with a small retinue for the Cape of Good Hope on the 26th of March. Arrangements are to be made to expedite the voyage so as to enable the ex-Empress to arrive at the scene of the Prince Imperial's death by the 1st of June, the anniversary of the event.—The Afghan tribes are again threatening to attack the British forces.—Chief Victoria and a hundred warriors recently crossed the frontier into New Mexico, but were promptly driven back by Mexican troops. Reinforcements for the United States are being concentrated to effect Victoria's capture.

WEDNESDAY, January 14.—Russian and German officers engaged in a quarrel at a military banquet at Kalisch, in Poland, which nearly ended in bloodshed.—Distress in the West of Ireland is rapidly increasing, but Government works for unskilled laborers are to be commenced at once.—A terrible flood recently occurred on the island of St. Kitts, in the West Indies, by which 500 lives were lost and a quantity of property destroyed.—The British Government has demanded a satisfactory explanation, or the release of certain British subjects imprisoned by the Portuguese authorities at Delagoa Bay.—Cabul merchants have refused General Roberts' pressing application for pecuniary help. The British garrisons at Lundi, Kotah and Dacca are said to be in a very perilous position.—Italian emissaries are inciting Albanians to resist the cession of disputed territory to Montenegro.—The date of the Oxford and Cambridge boat race has been changed from the 26th to the 29th of March.

THURSDAY, January 15.—A despatch from Cairo says Ismail Ayoub Pasha has been made Governor of Soudan.—It is said that the Government intends to proceed with the trial of the four Irish agitators arrested for rebellion.—The exiled Bishop of Bologna believes that the day for a reconciliation between Church and State is as far distant as ever.—Dacca and Lundi Kotah are being reinforced in consequence of the gathering of the Kohistanis. It is said that an expedition is to be organized from Candahar against Herat and Ghuzni, to counteract the expected movement of Afghans against Cabul. Shipur is being reformed.

FRIDAY, January 16.—The reported quarrel between Russian and German army officers at Kalisch, ended a day or two since, never occurred.—Arrangements have been made for holding a meeting, in London, of representatives of all the revolutionary societies of Europe.—No improvement has taken place in the health of the Czar of Russia. No one is admitted to his presence except his physicians.—The Right Hon. W. H. Smith at a Conservative dinner, said a general election in England might be looked for within twelve months.—The Turcomans have inflicted another serious defeat on the Russians, compelling them to evacuate Tekikilar and abandon their stores.

SATURDAY, January 17.—Bismarck's physicians say there is no positive cause for alarm as to his health; rest and respite from public cares alone being required to restore him.—The Irish Land League demands more public works and reforms in the land laws.—A number of foreigners have been arrested for taking part in the recent disturbances in Perth.—Several disturbances have occurred in the Jellalabad district, resulting from dissensions among the Afghan chiefs.

PERSONAL.

THE rumor that Senator Fabre has resigned is without foundation.

SIR A. T. GALT had an interview with Sir John A. Macdonald on Wednesday.

REV. DR. O'CONNOR, though convalescent, is unable to leave his residence.

MR. J. M. LEMOINE has been elected President of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec.

MR. LOWE, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, has sailed from Liverpool. He accompanied the Scotch delegates home, and is said to have arranged for a large emigration of tenant farmers to Manitoba next spring.

It is stated that Mr. A. J. Light will be appointed by the Government Engineer-in-Chief for the Province. Mr. Light, adds the Chronicle, stands high in his profession, and is a man of considerable ability and experience.

IN consequence of the accident which Hon. R. D. Wilnot, Speaker of the Senate, met with some time ago it is doubtful whether he will be able to resume his parliamentary duties at the approaching session.

ACTING upon the injunction of his medical advisers Mr. Masson has deemed it expedient to resign his position as Minister of Militia. The following changes therefore ensue:—Hon. Mr. Masson, President of Council; Hon. Sir A. Campbell, Minister of Militia; Hon. John O'Connor, Postmaster General.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

GOUGH has just completed a "Mis-rere."

THERE are over 300 men employed at the Grand Opera House at Toronto.

It is said that Lester Wallack's terms, at the Grand Opera House, New York, are \$3,000 per week.

THE new Gilbert and Sullivan opera, "The Pirates of Penzance," has become a great popular success in New York.

M. OFFENBACH has won another success in his last opera "La Fille du Tambour Major," recently produced at the Folies Dramatiques in Paris.

MRS. SCOTT-SIMMONS has offended the Faculty of Ashbury University in Indiana, by wearing a low-necked dress at a reading before the students.

TWO two child-songs by Alfred Tennyson, written especially for St. Nicholas, are to appear in the February issue. Both songs have been set to music under Mr. Tennyson's supervision, and one of the musical accompaniments forwarded by him will also be given in the same number.