

There is another matter which has not yet been brought to the notice of the Government but which will be doomed the moment Sir John sets his eagle eye on it. That is Main Street, Winnipeg. I am told it is the finest street in the Dominion—far ahead of anything in Toronto and Montreal. What right has Winnipeg to threaten the Dominion with such an enterprise as that? The Government will no doubt disallow it, and make the Winnipegers move their houses, on either side of the street, about ten feet forward on to the block pavement.

The only thing that will not be disallowed is any property of the C.P.R. All C.P.R. lands too in Manitoba or the Territories will be exempt, and immigrants intending to settle on those lands will be passed through.

Otherwise the disallowance policy must be carried out, unless the country should see fit to send Sir John and his cabinet to an asylum.

SOME WRITERS.

SOME men there are who write for fun,
And know not when they should be done ;
Some write upon the profit plan,
And spin it out as long as they can ;
While others write to air their views,
And others still to tell the news.
Some write and think, the world around,
Their writings have much favor found,
When they, in truth, were never seen ;
And others write because they're "green."
Some writers long for worldly praise,
And salt their work with foreign phrase ;
Their French and Latin never scanty,
They quote from Homer and from Dante,
Yet always find it necessary
To use a foreign dictionary :
Thus simple people think them wise,
And fools may carry off the prize.
'Twas ever thus with talent nil
Since people split the *goose's quill*.

W. H. T.

TALKING SHOP.

I was walking down street with Jawkins the other day when we met the Reverend William McSwagely. The Rev. gentleman, it is unnecessary to remind those who are acquainted with him, has a big brain but a diminutive body holding it up. Quite recently he had united himself for more or for less to a buxom widow. Jawkins blushed a little as he passed ; such an unusual display of emotion on Jawkins' part excited my curiosity. So I asked Jawkins the reason.

"Well you see," he said, "we had a tea fight at McSwagely's shortly after he was married. I was called on for a speech. You know you are expected to be humorous on such occasions. So I referred in a casual way to Mac. as the widow's mite. He has acted strangely ever since."

STUDIES IN SHAKESPEARE.

(Continued.)

II.—TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA.

WE have had many flattering letters from readers of GRIP referring to our entire crushing of Ignatius Donnelly, whose Bacon we have settled forever, and received numerous requests to proceed with the great work of interpretation we have undertaken regarding the great dramatist's plays. Our cipher was most carefully made before we tried it on any play, and the result has surpassed our

most sanguine anticipations. (Stubbs is snoring horribly. He is asleep under the 25 cent bust of the immortal bard which adorns our study.)

The story of the two gentlemen of Verona, when analyzed, presents nothing very remarkable. One can hardly understand how Shakespeare calls a fellow a gentleman who tries to take another fellow's sweetheart from him while he is away. But, of course, there are gentlemen and gentlemen—(Stubbs has knocked over and smashed beyond repair the treasured bust in his efforts to regain his feet.) That is all the plot of this play—We don't think this is one of Shakespeare's best ; in fact, Stubbs offers to bet a level \$500—that he can write a finer play himself on the same subject, founded on his own personal experience as a masher, to be called "The Two Gentlemen of Toronto." Perhaps Stubbs would not be able to find the other. There is something also about a rope ladder in this comedy, by which a fellow wants to get to his girl. Perhaps this sort of thing was uncommon in Verona, but in Toronto it is usual for the girls to rope the fellows in—especially to ice-cream parlors and Island concerts. Now with the aid of our cipher in the very opening speech we find a reference to itinerant showmen and the great Barnum himself could take no better motto than this :—"I would rather entreat my company to see the wonders of the world abroad." (Stubbs says interruptingly that the bard didn't know anything about dime shows anyway ; but future references will show that he did.)

How tenderly he anticipates the fate of many a foolhardy lover who trifles with the feelings of his prospective father-in-law :—

"That's a deep story of a deeper lore,
For he was more than *over shoes* in love,"



When Shakespeare gives the following advice, surely it must have been to boarders who are apportioned back rooms overlooking the garden, where the nocturnal adventures of the lively cat drive away sleep—"Give her no token but stones."

Baseball was undoubtedly played, both by men and women in the old days, for Lucetta says in this play :—"I bid the base for Proteus." Probably Proteus was taking off his shoe or something, and wasn't quite ready for the game.



A subtle reference to the game of curling is often reported by ignorant editors wrongly reading it thus—"I throw *thy name*" instead of "I throw thine aim against the bruising stones." There was nothing of the hog about Shakespeare, even in curling, which clearly proves he was not Bacon.

How beautifully he prophesies the time when women will be relieved of corsets when he says "No More of Stays"—Perhaps one of the most pathetic passages in the works