

bones, the skin, was cold and bloodless. The blood, however, had not yet left the face. I felt intense life and emotion in the photograph by one of the artists when the magnifying glass was turned upon it, one might have seen the face of Louise in her ecstasy. But then the best of photographs is always so dead. With those impressions some little time went naturally by ere I could collect my thoughts to take account of what was going on around me or turn my eyes elsewhere. I saw the thick blood oozing from the wounds in her hands, but it was well-nigh unconsciously.

MY EYES EVER TURNED TO THE RAPTURIZED FACE. Later in the day my companion told me that his first impression on entering the room was one of pain and commiseration. The intense agony of the poor frame lying on the poor uncertain bed filled him with the deepest compassion. My own feelings were somewhat different. I felt myself as it were in another atmosphere, and as if I had in one instant passed from one climate to another. The shock was like that of magnetism or electricity. And a hatred of all sin came over me so violent that I know not how I did not fall to the ground. A flood of tears would have relieved me. I saw dimly some religious at the foot of the bed looking at me and wondering what was the matter with me. I struggled to compose myself, and as I did so the *discreet* was ever the prayer that rose to my lips. I felt myself as if I were in the arms of a Lord who was suffering visibly for the sins of men in the tortured body that was stretched on the bed beside me. There were, perhaps, over twenty persons in the little apartment and in the doorway. Amongst them were several secular clergy and a Jesuit demagogue, who was giving a mission in the neighborhood, and who occupied the corner of the room opposite to that where Louise lay. Two Irish seminarians from Louvain knelt by the bedside before me. The foot of the bed stood the three or four nuns whom I have mentioned. The remainder was composed of lay gentlemen, some—who can tell whence? probably from distant countries—to see this marvellous work of God. I do not mean to tell over again the well-known history of Louise Lateau. My purpose has been to record my own first impressions, as I have done, and to mention the changes that have already taken place in her condition and the most recent phases of the mysterious dispensation by which God claims the sufferings of this guileless child to stay his vengeance on the wicked. Louise does not look her age. She was twenty-nine on the 30th of last January. He face is rather round than oval. She has the cheek-bone of the Celtic race—the race that has ever been nearer to God than the rough and coarse Teutonic nature. Bois d'Haine is in the Walloon country, and its people are unacquainted with Flemish. I cannot tell why the learned Dr. Lefevre, of Louvain, has said that Louise is utterly devoid of imagination. The features are those of a plain country girl, but the brow is not ill-developed. Every one knows how unpretending, single-minded, and innocent her life was in girlhood, and with what heroic courage she devoted herself to the care of the sick and dying, and to the burial of the dead when the cholera ravaged Bois d'Haine in 1866. It is now eleven years since God called her to a more terrible probation—that of suffering with His only Beloved Son for the iniquities of men. All these years has borne on her hands and feet, and side the same wounds Jesus bore on the Cross. I cannot now, while I write, recall without pain the sight of these wounds on the backs of her hands, clothed with dark, thick blood, which I saw so near to me but last Friday. From the back of her hand the blood flowed slowly and heavily down upon the bed-clothes. As she raised her right arm I saw on the palm of her right hand a black, thick clot of blood like the round head of a large nail. For the last three years the blood flows, but seldom from the temples—at least during the ecstasies that take place every Friday between 12 and 3 o'clock. I cannot as yet speak of what occurs when she receives Communion every morning. M. le Cure informed me that what is to seem to me most amazing than what I witnessed last Friday. Since the feast of the Epiphany,

LOUISE IS NO LONGER ABLE TO RISE FROM HER BED.

This and many other circumstances would appear to indicate that the term of her long precarious existence is drawing near. On Sunday, the 1st September, 1878, she experienced what is regarded as a higher degree of Divine contemplation and a closer union with God. With ecstasies she now is subject to what a mystic theology gives the name of rapture—rapture. On Saturday, the 7th September last, she experienced this in presence of her sister Addine and of four Sisters of Notre Dame de la Treille from Lille. So violent was the emotion that she was believed to be dead; yet, after the lapse of twenty minutes, she came to her herself. But her sufferings appeared to have sensibly increased. At present she is subject to this four times by day and four times at least by night; yet, strange to say, it never occurs in the presence of others. On all these occasions she no longer lives in this world of sense. Her body is, as it were, dead. Her soul is beyond the reach of matter or material influences. She is rapt into another sphere. In all her ex-cruciating pains Louise repeats that one might bear anything if one but loved God enough, and with that strange longing of the saints for what, alas! will never be, she wonders when men will cease to offend the God who made them. During the first few minutes that we all stood, or sat, or knelt in the little bed-room of Louise, everyone prayed in silence, overawed by the presence of one whose frame was the most helpless and feeble there; but whose soul was rapt so much nearer the awful presence of the Almighty. After some time M. le Cure began to recite Vespers aloud, the other ecclesiastics who were there taking up the alternate verses. Every word of the Psalmist that spoke of the Divine Mercy seemed to many to draw a radiant smile, or rather a radiant simply, from the immovable features of Louise. When she heard the "Magnificat" and the "Regina Coeli" instead she raised herself gently, and sat up as if drawn forward to gaze more intently on the object of her inward contemplation, as if she wished to make more sure of some new phase of what was happening before her eyes. And then most certainly she did not help looking forward with her, and feeling as if something awful were to happen there and then, and if what she saw by the eyes of her soul were to be at once rendered visible to our eyes of flesh. As, three o'clock struck the poor suffering, full, back heavily on her pillow, ex-terminated. And we were all ordered immediately to quit the room, so that no one might be there when Louise, returning to herself, would be sensible of what was taking place about her. And, as I retired with the others, I thought, within myself that if between twelve and three o'clock that day Louise Lateau had seen the awful tragedy that took place on Mount Calvary at the same period of the day on the first Good Friday

nearly 2,000 years ago, all that I had witnessed was in exact conformity with all that I should have expected to see in her. We accompanied the parish priest of Bois d'Haine home to the presbytery, and in the conversation of this good and prudent ecclesiastic we found much to increase our edification. Something, but very little, was said of the scoffing attitude of those who deny or deride the phenomena we had seen, because they imagine they may thus injure the cause of religion. Eleven years have gone by since these phenomena attracted public attention. During that time all that ingenuity could devise, all that watchfulness could effect, all that science could prescribe has been brought up into operation.

TO TEST THE REALITY OF THE FACTS.

The 25th of April last was the 575th Friday that they have been witnessed by a number of persons sufficient to establish any fact. Not one has been able to detect any imposition or deceit, or to suggest anything that could afford any grounds for suspicion worth a moment's notice. Common sense and science combined to establish them. Eleven years of excruciating boldy pain! Where is the young peasant girl that would endure all this for a whim, or a caprice, or a fancy? The family is as poor as ever, and occupies the same position in life as it did a dozen years ago. There are, however, people in the world who will go on denying facts if the denial will in their imagination injure religion—facts, too, which they have never examined, which they are unwilling or afraid to investigate. But it is as well to endeavor to deprive them of their imagination; for the cause of Christian faith and religion is not in any way dependent on the reality or unreality of the phenomena of Bois d'Haine. As far as the Church is concerned, it is a matter of no consequence whether they are real or the result of legendum. The question is simply one of common sense, of evidence of investigation. And for half a score of years all these attest their reality. As to their origin, science has long ago avowed itself baffled. And but the other week a letter from a distinguished physician of Brussels, who had visited Bois d'Haine on Good Friday, appeared in the public papers, and its author declares that the most advanced science of the day could ascribe no natural cause to what he had seen. We have no time to pursue these reflections further, or to go more in detail into the questions that may be raised. We have, of course, no desire to interfere with the authoritative action of the church. The church of God ever waits for that superabundance of testimony which can never be raised lightly. But private individuals have duties to fulfil to their own reason and their own convictions. Who can blame those who find it impossible to resist the varied and multitudinous evidence which declares the facts of Bois d'Haine miraculous? Common sense and common judgment will speak out, and cannot be silenced. Crowds will say what a crowd said two thousand years ago.

"WE HAVE SEEN THE WONDERFUL WORKS OF GOD." It is evident that the parish priest of Bois d'Haine could give many details which would strengthen the convictions that result from common sense and ordinary observation. We do not pry unduly or weary him with unnecessary questions. We bade the pious prudent, and worthy gentleman farewell with grateful hearts, and retraced our steps to Brussels, full of thoughts and reflections, that may easily be divined. This world is a strange place. Amongst the Jews many blasphemed; thousands were unmoved by the miracles of Christ. Nineteen centuries have gone and we witness the same terrible indifference. Thousands hear on good authority what takes place at Bois d'Haine, and are no more concerned about it than about any ordinary incident which they read of in the columns of the newspapers. Thousands see the village spire of Bois d'Haine every day as they are whirled along the railway, but take no thought of what God is doing in the poor cottage which they pass.

Curing Swine in Bond.

The governor-general on the recommendation of the minister of customs has made the following regulations for the slaughtering and curing of swine in bond:—  
1. Upon the importation of swine for the purpose of slaughtering, the importer shall enter the same for warehouse upon the usual form of such entries, stating upon its face, the number, sex, and value of the animals, and the rate and amount of duty as prescribed by the tariff in force at the time of making such entry. Such importer shall then execute a bond to the queen, with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the collector of customs at the port where such carcasses are imported or warehoused, in double the amount of such duty, the condition of which shall be that upon due exportation within one year of the products of the swine so imported, slaughtered and cured in the form of pork, bacon, hams, shoulders and lard, or any other articles, the importer shall pay to the collector of customs at the port of exportation the duty thereon, and shall become a full and valid bond, otherwise shall remain in full force and virtue.  
2. After the receipt of the swine into the bonding warehouse or slaughter house, it shall not be lawful to remove any of them all or in part, nor any part of the produce of such swine, without the sanction of the collector of customs, without the collector of duty having been duly notified, and as in case of all other bonded goods.  
3. The bond given by the importer before exportation shall be cancelled upon payment of the current rate of duty imposed upon swine imported into Canada, or upon exportation of seventy per cent of the actual live weight of the swine as slaughtered and cured, in the form of pork, bacon, hams, shoulders and lard, and if a quantity of more than seventy per cent is exported, then duty shall be paid upon the quantity deficient, at the rate imposed upon the live animal in proportion to value.  
4. Swine imported in the carcass to be cured and packed in bond may be entered in the warehouse and be so packed, and the premises established as a warehouse of this class for the special purpose of curing and packing. The weight and value of such carcasses shall be stated upon the face of the entry for warehouse, and the importer shall execute a bond to the queen, with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the collector of customs at the port where such carcasses are imported or warehoused, in double the amount of duty accruing thereupon, to be calculated according to the rate imposed upon the carcasses, and shall be paid upon the due exportation of the same, or payment of duty within one year from date of first entry.  
5. The meats being the produce of such carcasses, shall be calculated for exportation or duty, as the case may be, after allowing in reduction the weight of the bones of five per cent from the original weight, or weight for first entry, and these percentages may be deducted by compensation entries from the warehouse books at the time of each exportation, entry, in proper proportions, and if any less quantity is exported than the original weight, the allowance above specified, the duty shall be collected upon such deficiency at the rate of duty required at the time by law upon meats of the kind exported.

Miscellaneous.

Jenny Lind sang in the chorus at the first concert last season of the Bach Society of London.  
In Maine there is a new industry, for children—the picking of potato bugs at ten cents a thousand.  
An East Bridgeport (Conn.) woman, who is insane over the loss of her child, dived up a cat and carried it about as though it were a baby.  
The *Reformer*, a paper started in Paris with a view to converting Roman Catholics to Protestantism, suspended after the twentieth number.

TELEGRAMS.

**Pilgrimage.**  
London, June 23.—A Paris despatch says during a pilgrimage of 60,000 Poles to the miracle-working picture at Cremona, 15 pilgrims were killed by lightning during a heavy thunder-storm.

**Visit of Condolee.**  
London, June 23.—Queen Victoria, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, visited the ex-Empress Eugenie, at Chislehurst, to-day. The queen had an hour's interview with the ex-empress.

**Trade in Sheffield.**  
London, June 23.—Sheffield advises say it is a long time since such a feeling of uneasiness prevailed there. The local failures of the past week aggregate £200,000.

**The Queen in Danger.**  
London, June 23.—The government received anonymous letters on Wednesday last giving warning that an attempt would be made in Cheshire to upset the railway train conveying Queen Victoria and Prince Beatrice from Bulmar to Windsor Saturday. The railway line was consequently guarded by hundreds of constables. The journey, however, was uneventful. The letter, probably, was a hoax.

**Painted Beaten.**  
London, June 23.—Frederick A. Plaisted, of New York, and William Nicholson, of England, rowed a race to-day from Dunston to Scotswood suspension bridge, two miles, for a private wager of £50 and a purse. Nicholson won easily by more than a hundred yards.

**The Bonapartists.**  
PARIS, June 23.—The embarrasment of the Bonapartists is increasingly manifested. Cassagnac is reproached with indiscretion in putting forward the claim of Prince Victor, Bonapartist to the imperial succession. Cassagnac admits nothing has been officially decided upon, though a decision may be made in a few days. It is believed that Romber's affected ignorance will favor Prince Victor, because he considered his validity doubtful unless Prince Jerome Napoleon waived his claims. Prince Jerome is very reticent since his arrival at Paris. It is not believed that he will be a pretender or permit his son to become one. If Prince Victor endeavors to temporize in not distinctly accepting the Bonapartists, it will probably fall back on Prince Charles, president of the Corsican council. Prince Charles is forty years of age, has no sons or royal connections, and is a much less eligible candidate than Prince Victor.

**Crop Reports.**  
INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., June 23.—The *Journal*, of this city, prints crop reports from sixty counties of the state. It shows the wheat crop to be the finest ever raised, with the possible exception of 1864. The oat crop is a failure, and corn is backward.

**The Astley Belt.**  
NEW YORK, June 23.—A private cable from London says:—“Weston and Lowell are to pass £100 a side this week and sign articles to contend for the Astley belt in New York. Brown, Hazell, Ennis and Pencholt will also compete, and leave for America at an early date to train for the contest. Sir John Astley will visit America to witness the match. Ennis is to receive a gold medal from the Royal Humane Society for saving the lives of two ladies at Hampton court from drowning. Weston's victory over Brown, Harding and Ennis cost the bookmakers £800, of which amount Astley and a number of American gentlemen were the principal winners, having taken odds of £100 to £10 laid against Weston.”

**Matrimonial Society.**  
CINCINNATI, O., June 23.—On August 10th, 1877, a society for the promotion of marriage was organized here. The members claim that over two thousand marriages have taken place through its instrumentality, and on August 10th, this year, will be given a grand picnic at Inwood park, where one hundred marriages will take place.

The Hull Murderer Arrested.

New York, June 24.—A negro named Christian Cox was arrested in Boston, last night, for the murder of Mrs. Hull. He was employed in the Hull house, about eighteen months ago to wait on a private family who lived there; then after two months service he left, but returned afterwards and was re-engaged. He did not remain long, and for nearly a year he was not seen more than once or twice around the house. Recently he has only worked occasionally. About a month ago he applied by letter to Mrs. Hull for work. He said he understood she had carpets which needed shaking and cleaning, and he offered to do the work cheaply. Mrs. Hull did not answer his letter, and about a week before the murder he called at the house and had a personal interview with her in the back parlour. Here he had an opportunity to examine the little hall bedroom in which Mrs. Hull slept and its contents. What took place at that interview is not known yet, but as Cox was leaving the house after having been there a considerable time he said to one of the servants that the object of his visit was to talk about carpets with Mrs. Hull, and that he expected to get a job. It is not known whether he made any subsequent visits to the house. At any rate it is supposed he planned the robbery during this interview with Mrs. Hull. During the inquest evidence of a very positive character was taken, that the street windows of the house had been securely fastened the night before the murder; it now appears that those who testified to that effect were mistaken. Cox, according to his confession, found the window nearest the hall door open and entered the house without difficulty. Capt. Kealy says it is possible one of the servants in Hull's house might be arrested. Cox is supposed to be the man of whom Bristow Francis testified at the inquest yesterday that he was jealous because his wife Nancy, Mrs. Hull's cook, tried to find work for him. When Hull was informed that the murderer of his wife had been arrested, and that he had made a full confession, he was completely overcome, and remained for some time in a state of stupor. Upon recovering himself the first thing he said was, “Thank heaven; thank heaven; who is he; do I know him?” “It is Christian Cox, who was once head waiter in your house.” “It is he, then, the man to whom my wife was so kind. Well, it is a comfort to know he has been caught. That's the fellow they told me they wanted. I hope they will take good care of the fend.” At this point Dr. Hull became so overcome that it became necessary to leave him.

Wallace Ross—Fire.

St. John, N.B., June 24.—Wallace Ross expresses his intention of going to Australia in a few months, to take part in the regatta to be held there, and in which Trickett is to be engaged.  
Four hares, owned by Wm. Stanton, T. Froud, M. Foley and J. O'Brien, on Erin street, were burned this morning with their contents, the fire is believed to be of incendiary origin. Loss, \$2,000.

The Weber (New York) Piano.

INTERESTED agents engaged in selling other pianos are travelling through the country running down the great New York Weber piano, for the sale of which in this Dominion we are the agents. It has even come to our knowledge that parties have reported to the nuns who have enquired about the Weber piano, that the parties using them are trying to dispose of them. We thought it advisable to insert the following among a number of letters in our possession:—“This underhand depreciation of the noblest piano ever made may as well be given up; for the ALBERT WEBER PIANO is bound to take the leading position here as it has everywhere else. Convents and dealers supplied with the various styles at a liberal discount. Apply for catalogues to New York Piano Co., 183 St. James street, Montreal.”

WINDSOR HOTEL,  
Montreal, 20th June, 1879.

New York Piano Company:  
DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in testifying to the great satisfaction expressed by guests of the Windsor hotel with the grand Weber piano. Musicians from all parts of the world have declared the instrument to be unequalled by any other maker in point of richness and purity of tone. Although the piano has been in constant use since its purchase it remains as perfect as when it was quite new.

Yours very truly,  
JAS. WORTHINGTON.

New York Piano Company:  
DEAR SIR,—It is with pleasure I hasten to announce that I am perfectly satisfied with “The Weber (New York) Piano,” which I bought from you.

It gives every satisfaction, and I would be happy to have it introduced into all our establishments, as well as to all those who wish to buy a piano.

Yours respectfully,  
SISTER ST. ROMUALD, Superior.

CONGREGATION DE NOTRE DAME,  
Joliette, June, 1879.

A Native of South Africa.

In one of the cages in the house, close to where the kangaroos are kept, in the Zoological gardens of London, there is usually a heap of straw to be seen and an empty dish. Outside the cage is placed the name of the animal, “The Cape Ant-eater.” People look and wait, and as neither the animal nor the ants it eats are to be seen, they go away, supposing that the absence of the last named insects has caused the destruction of the animal, whose straw alone remains. But in the evening, and sometimes in the morning, when the food is placed in the cage—not ants, however—a long pair of stuck up ears, looking like those of a gigantic hare with a white-skin and little fur, may be seen peeped up above the straw; and, soon after, a long white muzzle, with small sharp eyes between it and the long ears, comes into view. Then a very fat and rather short-bodied animal with a long head and short neck, low fore and large hind quarters, with a bowed back, comes forth, and finally a moderately long fleshy tail is seen. It is very pig-like in the look of its skin, which is light-colored and has a few hairs on. Moreover, the snout is somewhat like that of a pig, but the mouth has a small opening only, and to make the difference between the animals decided, out comes a worm-shaped long tongue covered with mucus. The animal has to content itself with other fare than ants in England, but it seems to thrive, and as it walks slowly on the flat of its feet and hands to its food, they are seen to be armed with very powerful claws.—*Cassell's New Natural History.*

WESTON WINS.

550 Miles Covered, and Five Minutes to Spare.

LONDON, June 21, 11 p.m.—The great contest is finished. Weston is just being proclaimed, with shouts and cheers, champion of the world. He completed his 550th mile precisely at 11, thereby winning the bet—his bet of \$2,500—and the championship. From 2 p.m. until 8, Weston, after over five days upon the track, continued making five miles an hour. At 2 the score stood 507; during the next six hours he had piled up his miles to 536. The excitement was wonderful and plucky. The hero of the hour was greeted with shouts and cheers as he plodded along. From 8 the excitement steadily increased, and reached its culminating point just before the finish. At half-past nine Weston had made the highest score on record—543 miles 5 fms.—beating Blower Brown's great score of 542 miles made in the same hall in April. The hall was filled by an enthusiastic crowd, who seemed never to grow tired of cheering. Weston, though evidently suffering somewhat from fatigue, maintained a smiling face, and was the recipient of many friendly greetings in the great struggle to the end at 11 o'clock. Weston doing 550 miles, with five minutes to spare.

About 5,000 witnessed the finish. Weston was his bet with Sir John Astley, which was that he would make 550. Rowell, who brought away the belt from New York, says he will challenge Weston immediately.  
The profits of the pedestrian match will not exceed \$3,000. Weston, Brown and Rowell probably start for New York soon. Panchet returns immediately to arrange for the coming contest. Ennis returns in a fortnight \$2,500 out of pocket to enter for the contest at Madison square garden.

THE ZULU WAR.

The war office has supplied the following intelligence received from the Cape:—

CAPE TOWN.  
Lord Chelmsford telegraphs a reconnaissance by Creelock's division, and that the naval authorities give hope that stores may be landed at the mouth of the Umlazi. This will be great assistance. Lynton hopes to bring down 570 mounted burghers for the defence of the Transvaal frontier under Frederic. A reconnaissance ought to decide the best time for an advance for Nowagete, and Wood's advance should commence in ten days. General Clifford, Maritzburg, adds:—“Lord Chelmsford requires two months' supplies with force advancing, and one month's at advance depot at Conference Hill. No date can be fixed for completion. Want of transport drivers is the cause of the delay. Move of dragoons to Standerton proposed.”  
Lord Chelmsford telegraphs from Utrecht this day the following intelligence received from General Creelock, May 11th:—“King's messengers interviewed at eight this morning. Umdavheke chiefs to Dabulamanzi. He had delivered Gungolovo he went to his own kraal. Whilst there the second messenger came with the king's orders to go to Fort Chelmsford and see Dunn, and give the message. I telegraphed yesterday. He was requested, if possible, to intercede with him, saying the king was wrong; he had been deceived. He knew now he was.”  
NO MATCH FOR THE WHITE MAN.  
We had killed his young warriors, in whom he trusted. In private conversation after wards the second messenger said Cetywayo

had sent a message to the chief about here that the Zulus were not to fire on the white men. The chief asked to see the elephant tusk, the sign of being in earnest. Dunn says he believes they had the tusk. Sigiswella, a chief, would not permit this message to be published. None of the chiefs, it is believed, would give themselves up but for fear and jealousy of others.

MY REPLY TO CETYWAYO.

“If I return your second messenger, Umbutwadwe remains with me. I have heard your words, and have sent them to the great white chief, but I am sure he will say what I say, namely—that I could not understand the king's words, as he had not sent me one of his head men who were present at the ultimatum meeting at the Tugela, and none of the words now said by his head messenger referred in any way to the words spoken in the ultimatum. I would send the king the great white chief's answer.” All the great chiefs were still in council with Cetywayo. The three points discussed were giving up their firearms, giving up the prisoners demanded, collection of cattle to pay fine demanded. Dunn sent messages to all the chiefs. If they wished things settled they must come in at once, trusting

TO ENGLISH CLEMENCY.

and they would not be badly dealt with; but if they stay with the king, when I advanced all would be destroyed. My messengers from Umdavheke, and two from Clark had been with the king. Dunn thinks this is the result. The king hears we are going to cut his retreat to Lumdombi. Dunn told the messenger we are going to march further, even to the Swazi country. I have ordered redoubled precautions and vigilance everywhere. Colonel Reilly, R.A., has broken his wrist by a fall from his horse, and remains at Newcastle.”

A Significant Fact.

The Orangemen of Montreal are to have no procession on the approaching Twelfth. How is this? It is because they do not desire to embarrass their friends who are now in power at Ottawa? The procession in Montreal and the incorporation bill in Toronto, were two excellent cards in the hands of the Orange party manipulators. They have in past times worked them both to their own advantage. But the incorporation cry has landed them high and dry on the opposition heads in this province, and we trust that the procession scheme in the sister province will be seen through by the people in time to prevent its being again used for political purposes. It was a fine stroke of policy to impose upon the obligation of defending Orange processionists on the streets of the Catholic city of Montreal; but when the “brethren” carefully abstain from imposing the same duty upon the city government now in power any man with half an eye in his head can understand their motives. Why should they embarrass the government of brother John A. and ex-Grand Master Rowell?—*Toronto Tribune.*

BANK OF TORONTO.

The 23rd Annual Meeting of Stockholders—A Rather Favorable Report—Dividends Declared for the Eleventh Year.

At the annual general meeting of the bank of Toronto, held in Toronto city on Thursday last, a statement of the past year's business was submitted by the cashier. If not as satisfactory as could have been desired, still, considering the trade depression, and the large increase in the number of failures, and for unusually heavy amounts during the year which, as the directors state, have considerably diminished the ordinary profits of the bank, and caused more than average losses by bad debts, the report, on the whole, shows the bank to be in a favorable position for the future, and to take advantage of any improvement in business. The directors expressed their regret that in order to place the assets of the bank on a sound and satisfactory basis, they have been compelled to \$500,000 from the “past,” thereby enabling every ascertained bad debt to be written off, besides making a liberal provision for all doubtful and uncertain accounts. The net profits, after providing for the losses sustained during the year, have exceeded the dividends paid, but in view of the shrinkage in the value of certain assets carried forward from previous years, the directors have found it necessary to adopt the course above stated.

The net profit of the year after deducting cost of management, interest due depositors, rebate on current notes discounted, and making full provision for bad and doubtful debts, amounted to \$105,198 09. Balance brought forward from last year, 2,214 88.

Dividend—  
Dividend No. 45 three and one-half per cent. \$70,000 00  
Dividend No. 46, three and one-half per cent. 70,000 00 140,000 00  
Balance \$7,512 97  
Rest transferred 500,000 00  
\$507,512 97

Appropriated for bad and doubtful debts, \$273,378 07  
Placed in credit of contingent fund, 250,000 00 523,378 07  
Balance to new account, \$ 4,130 90  
The annual report was adopted and ordered to be distributed among the shareholders, and the following named directors were elected for the ensuing year: Wm. Gooderham, James G. Worts, Wm. Cawthra, Alex. T. Fulton, Geo. Gooderham and Henry Cawthra; Wm. Gooderham, Esq., was unanimously elected president, and James G. Worts, Esq., vice-president of the new board.

Monthly Bank Statement.

The statement for May of the banks doing business in Canada does not indicate a gratifying or healthy state of affairs commercially. Bankers generally are wisely avoiding all illegitimate trade. As compared with the month previous, discounts have fallen nearly two million, circulation eight hundred thousand, and specie two hundred thousand. Deposits are much the same, say \$100,000 over those of April. The difference, however, compared with a year ago is much more marked, discounts showing a shrinkage of four millions, circulation one and three-quarter millions, and deposits two millions. Specie remains about the same. The totals of the leading accounts at the close of May and April were, for banks whose head offices are in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec:—  
May. April.  
Discounts \$12,210,997 \$10,780,280  
Circulation 15,383,592 16,122,134  
Deposits 50,160,000 50,000,000  
Specie 13,198,793 13,354,811  
For the month of May in this and the previous year the accounts stood thus:—  
1878. 1879.  
Discounts \$102,148,997 \$106,788,663  
Circulation 15,383,592 17,024,215  
Deposits 50,160,000 50,000,000  
Specie 13,198,793 13,354,811  
The latter, it will be noticed, appears stronger than two months ago, a most excellent exhibit, but when we refer to the year in which we are, the great apparent prosperity of 1874, those accounts largely exceeded those given above. Placing the average of December, 1874, against May, we have the following:—  
May 1874. Dec. 1874.  
Discounts \$107,816,997 \$120,000,000  
Circulation 15,383,592 15,412,222  
Deposits 50,160,000 50,000,000  
Specie 13,198,793 13,354,811  
The current account appears to be in the hands of the government, and the deposits are only those of the general public.

ST. JEAN BAPTISTE DAY.

Our French-Canadian fellow-citizens should congratulate themselves that their patron saint's day falls on the 24th of June, for rarely does it happen that aught but auspicious weather greets the arrival of the day. To-day was no exception to the general rule. The morning was ushered in bright and glorious as the most enthusiastic votary of St. John could have wished in his heart, and if the rays of the sun shone ardently down, there was the finest of maple leaves everywhere to draw the zephyrs and fan the sultry air, even supposing the bronzed faces of the men in line could for a moment be affected by such trifles. From early morning the good city of Montreal was all astir, from the centre to the suburbs, which sent their detachments in martial order down to swell the mighty column that rendezvoused on the Champ de Mars. Contingents from Hochelaga, St. Jean Baptiste village, St. Cuneo, the Tanerries, Coteau St. Louis and other important outlying municipalities furnished their streams to the river, each vying with his neighbors as to which should display the most splendor of appearance. At seven o'clock the city was actually alive, and green branches waved everywhere in such profusion that one was forcibly reminded of “Bernard wood going down to Dunsinane.” The sidewalks were thronged by men, women and children, all through the route of the procession, the windows and vantage points were occupied by ladies in gay summer dress, and, to make a long story short, Montreal was robed in her brightest holiday attire to do honor to the occasion. The marshals kept the utmost regularity, and seldom have we witnessed such order preserved among such a vast concourse of people.

At eight o'clock precisely the procession commenced to move west along Craig street, and it was one hour and forty minutes passing the EXHIBITION Post office. The allegorical cars were more numerous this year than ever seen before, and not only more numerous, but gotten up in far finer style. The snowshoe car was really splendid, and amply carried out the idea of a cold, frosty day in mid-winter sought to be conveyed; but it was invincible to institute comparisons where all were so good. The butchers from St. Lawrence street market were a first-class body of young men, well mounted, and presenting a fine appearance.

THE PROCESSION.

was the largest of the kind ever witnessed in Montreal. The allegorical cars were numerous and ingeniously built. Great mechanical skill and many hours of labor had been expended in their construction, but the builders were amply rewarded for their pains by the brilliant display which they helped to increase.

Mme. Nilsson.

The *Pacifican* is the authority for this announcement: “Mme. Christine Nilsson has received offers from the royal theatres of Holland and Belgium to sing there in the months of December and January. She is to receive 50,000 francs for eight performances, besides all her expenses to be paid. Mme. Nilsson will not go to the United States before next spring, at which time she desires to visit California, not yet having seen that new and golden land.”

A Blunder.

The ignorance of the English about their colonial possessions equals that of French newspaper editors about England. Not long ago a member of the house of commons expressed his satisfaction that the line was soon to be completed between Melbourne and Hobart Town, some 150 miles distant by sea, and in the current number of the *Engineer* (London) appears the following statement: “Steps are being taken by the New South Wales government for carrying out the city deep drainage works—Melbourne—authorized by act of parliament.” New South Wales has, in fact, no more to do with works in Melbourne, the capital of Victoria, than with works in New York.

The Poor Man.

The Hamilton *Spectator* examines the “poor man” theory in re Sir John Macdonald. For a quarter of a century that personage has lived in what most people would consider luxury, with a large salary, and his expenses paid wherever he went, even when on pleasure trips to England. There is no evidence that he would ever have had as expensive a maintenance out of his business had he remained a private lawyer. Then his various friends who had received or who expected favors, including the man who handled Northern railway money not his own, clubbed together and raised him a fund of \$90,000 or \$100,000, the interest of which he is enjoying to-day, and the reversion of which lies with his family. There never was a more impudent fraud than the “poor man” cry as connected with Sir John Macdonald.—*London Advertiser.*

Mount Etna.

The present eruption of Mount Etna has not yet done anything like the amount of damage effected by former eruptions. One of these, which occurred in May, 1830, was peculiarly violent while it lasted. The *Annual Register* of that year states, on the authority of letters from Palermo, that seven different openings were formed on the sides of the mountain, and several villages were completely destroyed. The atmosphere of Palermo was so completely overcharged during two days that objects at twenty-five paces could hardly be discerned. The people, fearing an earthquake, went in crowds to the cathedral to bring out the image of the saint, but were dispersed by the magistracy. The cloud of ashes, borne away by a hurricane which at the time prevailed throughout the Mediterranean and destroyed several vessels, reached as far as Rome. It carried desolation into Calabria, where the olive trees suffered severely.

INTERESTING ITEMS.—Envelopes were first used in 1839. The first air-pump was made in 1654. The first steel pen was made in 1830. Amnesia was first discovered in 1844. The first balloon ascent was made in 1783. The Lucifer match was made in 1829. The first iron steamship was built in 1830. Coaches were first used in England in 1569. The entire Hebrew Bible was printed in 1488. The