



OUR PET AND HER PETS.—What could heart desire more than this picture—save the original of it? And who is this charming young lady? Well, reader, she is the grandchild of a poet—the little “Ethel” whom Mr. George Martin has immortalized in his “Marguerite and other Poems.” We cannot do better than give, as a meet companion to our engraving, that delicious piece of word painting. Here it is:

ETHEL.

Little sky-waif, come astray
Twice twelve months ago to-day!
What a world of joy is thine!
What a glow of summer shine
Cheers the house wherein thou art,
Sly magician of the heart.

In those large, those azure eyes,
All the splendour of the skies,
All the beauty that belongs
To the poet's sweetest songs,
All the wisdom known and lost
That the wisest sage could boast,
Beam and lure and half reveal
Secrets that the gods conceal.

See those ringlets all unshorn
That her pretty neck adorn:—
Golden hues and silken gloss
On the charmed air they toss
Sun-gleams in a starry spray.—
Dearest little laughing fay!

See her tiny feet beat time,
In an ecstasy of rhyme,
To the pearly notes that win
From the speaking violin.
See her fingers, dimpled, white,
Mimic with a grave delight
Those that wonderingly she sees
Race along the ivory keys.

Hear her prattle, indistinct:—
Much we guess at, still we think
It may be some long lost speech
That she fondly strives to teach,—
Language known to airy things,
It may chance, whose spirit wings
In a merry mischief keep
Little human elves from sleep.

Ask her father, ask her mother,
They will vouch there is no other,
Never was on land or sea
Such a charming girl as she.
Surely they who know her best
Must the simple truth attest:
But if further proof you seek
Let her solemn grandpa speak.—
He a mighty oath will swear,
By the silver in his hair!
By his sober-sided muse!
All good people needs must choose
Make confession, that for grace,
Loveliness of form and face,
Ways so simple, yet so wise,
Large-eyed Ethel takes the prize.

MR. EDWARD MIALI.—Mr. Edward Miall, Deputy Minister and Commissioner of Inland Revenue and Commissioner of Standards, is the son of the late Mr. Edward Miall, for many years representative of Bradford in the British House of Commons, and a Nonconformist leader. He was born in England in 1838, and was educated there. He married Miss Arkell, of Oshawa, Ont. He entered the Civil Service of Canada in 1870, and five years later was appointed to a position on the Fishery Commission at Halifax. He was a member of the Pacific Railway Commission, 1880-81. On the 29th January, 1883, he was appointed to his present office.

MOVING DAY.—In this picture of young life our readers will recognize a not unseasonable reminder of what to many is a source of anxiety and trouble and to few a source of pleasure. “Moving Day,” though fixed by custom for the first week in May, is itself one of the moveable festivals. In our engraving we have represented one of the two great “moving days” which all humanity, like the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air, may count upon as its only certain heritage. We come into the world—that is the first moving, and we leave the world—that is the final moving. Apart from allegory, the artist (Lengo) has really dealt effectively with his subject.

THE WESTERN DEPARTMENTAL BUILDINGS, OTTAWA.—In continuation of the views that we have already given of the chief architectural features in our Dominion Capital, we publish in this issue an engraving of the Western Departmental Buildings. The grand blocks that constitute the public buildings of Ottawa have every advantage of site and environment to set off their architectural beauties. What these are we have already, with the aid of Mr. Dixon, Mr. S. E. Dawson and other experts in description, tried to set forth worthily. To many of our readers they are more familiar than “household words,” nor are there any of them (we believe) whom the fame of this grand pile has not reached.

CHAUDIERE FALLS AND C.P.R. BRIDGE.—This engraving shows in a good light and from an effective standpoint one of those famous cataracts which give a peculiar character to so many of our Canadian rivers. Of these the Chaudiere, of which a different view was presented in a former issue of this journal, is one of the best known. The bridge in our picture is one of those imposing structures which have added so much to the convenience of the districts traversed by the Canadian Pacific Railway.

BIG PIC RIVER BRIDGE, CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY, NORTH OF LAKE SUPERIOR.—The region traversed by the Canadian Pacific Railway from Sudbury to Port Arthur has an interest of its own. As our readers are aware, a branch railway leaves the main line at Sudbury, reaching Algoma Mills on Lake Huron and then pursuing its way to Sault Ste. Marie at the outlet of Lake Superior, where an immense iron bridge affords connection with two American lines—one extending to Duluth, the other to St. Paul and Minneapolis. In summer transcontinental passengers can leave Montreal at ten o'clock in the forenoon on Tuesdays and Fridays, and reaching this historic point (the Sault), take the lake steamship for Port Arthur, without losing a moment's time. Continuing from Sudbury, along the north shore of Lake Superior, the tourist soon comes to two short branch lines leading to the famous copper and nickel deposits. Smelting furnaces have been erected at Sudbury to reduce the ores on the spot. Many rivers flowing into the great lake are crossed by the railway, and the bridges are mostly structures well worth examining. Near Onaping the falls of the Vermilion are seen, and from this point to Biscotasing the scenery is especially fine. Biscotasing, situated on an irregularly shaped lake of the same name, has a considerable trade in timber and furs. Dog Lake is crossed near Missinabie. A short portage connects the waters flowing southward into Lake Superior with those flowing northward into Hudson Bay. Furs are brought for shipment from the far north. For sixty miles westward there are many rock cuttings. At White River, besides the usual equipment of divisional stations, there are yards for resting cattle *en route* to the eastern market. The line follows the river of the same name to Round Lake, and then, after crossing a generally level tract, reaches the Big Pic River, which flows southward into Lake Superior, not far from Middleton Station. Here there is a fine high iron bridge, as shown in our engraving. These bridges are well worthy of study and have won the admiration of scientific tourists from Europe and the States. This spot is also of interest as the starting-point of a region some sixty miles in extent, which comprises some of the boldest scenery east of the Rocky Mountains. Rock cuttings, viaducts and tunnels are for this distance of constant recurrence, and some fine glimpses are obtained of the Lake and its rugged northern shore. Every feature in this scenery deserves careful observation both from the lover of the sublime and the man of science.

THE WALKER OF THE SNOW.—This engraving is from a painting by Mr. Blair Bruce, who was born in Hamilton, where he served his time in an architect's office. At the end of his apprenticeship he felt more disposed to paint than design, and finally left for France in 1881. He entered the studio of Bouguereau and Fleury at Paris. In his first year he had a picture accepted at the Salon of 1882. He has also exhibited at the Royal Academy of Stockholm, Sweden, and the Royal Academy of Great Britain. Among his best paintings are the following: “Border of the Forest,” “The Poacher,” “The Walker of the Snow,” and the “Temps Passe,” the last of which was purchased for the permanent Art Gallery at St. John, N.B. He spent the winter in Rome. He is about 28 years old.

CASCADE OF THE COLUMBIA, SELKIRKS.—This is one of a number of western mountain scenes with which our untravelled readers have been made fairly familiar from our previous illustrations. Our engraving presents a characteristic view of one of the most interesting features in the physical aspect of this part of British Columbia. Writing of this portion of the transcontinental route, one tourist, who has recorded his experience, says: “A wide, deep forest-covered valley intervenes, holding a broad and rapid river. This is the Columbia. The new mountains before us are the Selkirks, and we have now crossed the Rockies, Sweeping around into the Columbia valley, we have a glorious mountain view. To the north and south, as far as the eye can reach, we have the Rockies on the one hand and the Selkirks on the other, widely differing in aspect, but each indescribably grand.”

MEMORY PICTURES.

On memory's wall what pictures hang
Of scenes, and friends, of days gone by;
They hang with faces to the wall,
And just a tinting of the sky—

A daffodil,
A song's refrain,
A rippling rill,
Will turn again

The pictures to our inward view,
Dim in the mists of long ago,
Or with the tints as fresh as though
’Twas yesterday the scenes were new.

And who, although some scenes are sad,
Would drink of Lethe, and lose them all?
Who, though at some the teardrops start,
Would lose the scenes on Memory's wall?

So dear they are,
For they bring nigh
Friends that are far,
Days long gone by,
Scenes that are far away from us,
O'er miles of land, o'er miles of sea;
And long-missed faces, full of glee,
Start from the pictures dim with dust.

THE BRITANNIC EMPIRE.

DEVELOPMENT AND DESTINY OF ITS VARIOUS STATES—CANADA (*continued*).

III.

Annexation to the United States as a possible future for the Dominion may be safely dismissed, with the few remarks made in a previous article, and the further observation that, while certain tendencies in that direction are visible the feeling at present in the country as a whole is to the effect that we have a better and more popular system of government, superior constitution and laws, a more equitable distribution of wealth and fewer internal dangers than has the United States, and that such a solution of the difficulties which we experience from time to time, in common with all other nations, would be disgraceful, as well as disastrous to our best interests as a people. Canadian development has, however, produced a sentiment amongst a number of our young men which is in many respects a noble one: which has arisen from events beyond our control as a people, and which may in the future become stronger if not dealt with in a way that will place before the young Canadian a loftier object for his patriotism than that of which he now occasionally dreams. Two causes have led to the growth of this feeling, both due, in a large degree, to the effects of the American revolution. The loss of these colonies led England, in the first place, to entirely change her method of colonial government, and to go, in fact, from one extreme to the other. Instead of regarding them as integral parts of the Empire, subject to taxation and representation as much as were the citizens at home, it gradually became the custom to think and speak of the colonies as the dependencies which would, when strong enough, seek separation of their own accord and have it willingly granted them. The statement that “colonies were like fruit which, when ripe, fell from the parent tree,” became an adage and formed the staple upon which writers theorized and dwelt, until they made the public believe it was almost an indisputable fact.

This, of course, had a certain effect in the colonies, and though our writers and politicians have, until a very recent date, protested their loyalty and disbelief in the theory, it cannot be denied that this line of thought and argument, which was, up to ten years ago, so largely followed in the mother country, has been the cause of the growth of a limited independence sentiment in Canada to-day.

Then, in the second place, the United States is to the superficial student of material progress, a living example of what may be achieved by an independent Anglo-Saxon community and the contiguity of that country has undoubtedly had its effect in developing this feeling in Canada.

What, then, would independence mean for the Dominion, and how would it affect the mass of the people, who are, as yet, so largely in favour of maintaining their present position? It must be pointed out, in the first place, that a certain grave doubt underlies the discussion of all these questions. It is usually said, and the writer of these lines has himself made the statement that certain possibilities lie before Canada, and that she can as a nation choose between them. Such is the inference to be drawn from the policy of the mother country in the past. When, however, we glance at the great interests which Britain now has in Canada; the capital invested; the absolute necessity of Halifax and Esquimaux to the Atlantic and Pacific fleets; the advantages of the C. P. R. as an imperial highway; the immense privilege which it would be in time of war to have free use of our coal-beds in Nova Scotia and British Columbia; the loss of prestige which would accrue from the separation of Canada from the Empire, it really becomes a matter of serious doubt whether we could effect a peaceful secession from the Crown. Moreover, in considering this question, it must be remembered that a large number of Canadians are as loyal as even the men of a century ago who came to Ontario from the United States and would fight rather than sacrifice their allegiance to Crown and Empire.