

Alexander Hall, law student of McGill and his sister Miss Bertha Hall, whose mother was a daughter of the late Judge Reeves of Virginia, and sister of Amelie Reeves (father, Mr. Neil W. Reeves, whose two young daughters are now playing in "Old Cronies" here is a first cousin of "Auntie" Miss de la Ramie.

A great many of our leading people called on Mr. and Mrs. George Grossmith while in Montreal and many hospitalities were offered them which they greatly regretted being unable to accept owing to the short time of their stay. However, they have almost been persuaded to take Montreal in on their return journey. New Yorkers also are clamoring to have Mr. Grossmith again before he returns to England.

Mr. E. A. Small gave a luncheon at the St. James Club in honor of Mr. Grossmith last Saturday, and in the evening he was the guest of honor at St. George's Club. Mr. Shorey and Mr. Harcourt, President and Secretary of St. George's Club, made Tuesday a ladies' night in honor of Mrs. Grossmith, but owing to the terrible storm she was unable to go out. On Wednesday Mrs. Grossmith attended a ladies' luncheon given in her honor by Mrs. Dobbin.

On Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Grossmith attended a large luncheon given in their honor by Mr. and Mrs. Seargeant. Other luncheons, dinners and receptions would have been arranged in their honor for Friday and Saturday had they been able to remain, but they had made their arrangements to be in Ottawa on Saturday. Mrs. Grossmith carried away many friendly messages to Albani. Mrs. Haweis and other mutual friends in England.

Madame Louis Frechette, wife of our poet laureate, met Mrs. George Grossmith at a reception, and was delighted to find that the English woman was a warm friend of our own Albani. Madame Frechette sent Mr. Grossmith a handsomely bound volume of her husband's poems, with which the great comedian was greatly pleased and which he regards as a valued souvenir of his visit to Montreal.

A young contemporary undertakes to fill a long felt want when it attempts to make the Mayor understand that he owes a good deal to the influence of his wife. This soft impeachment the doughty Mayor has always vehemently denied, declaring that he owed all his success in life to James McShane alone. The susceptible young editors advise our electing "Jimmy" simply because he has a charming wife, and is as the editor puts it her "worser half."



### MUSICAL NEIGHBOURS.

Many householders in London, says the "Spectator," followed with a lively, even with a painful, interest the case of "Christie v. Davey," which was concluded lately by a verdict for the plaintiff, and few people who have followed the case will not, we fancy, have received that verdict with a slight sense of disappointment. It is true that the defendant, in his first efforts at self-defence, had so far taken the law into his own hands and put himself in the wrong, that it was difficult for him to expect any redress through the proper and legal channel; but the provocation under which he laboured was so great, and is so common, that his case must have excited the sympathy of everybody who has been subjected to similar sufferings.

As it was, the defendant had evidently met annoyance by counter-annoyance; and not until his tormentors sought an injunction to restrain him did he put in a counter-claim for an injunction himself, based upon affidavits which possibly deserved the doubt with which the Judge appeared to receive them. And yet, even admitting that the defendant's complaints were exaggerated, it was obvious that the musical proclivities of his neighbour were sufficiently obtrusive as to constitute a nuisance, against which it would seem that there is no legal remedy whatever.

Many who have suffered in the same fashion as Mr. Davey, and with greater patience, must have awaited the result of his protest with considerable anxiety, and learnt its failure with a feeling of despair. What is an unfortunate man to do—short of abandoning his house and home—when he is afflicted with musical neighbours, who combine continual practice upon the piano with a yearning to master the wayward tones of the violoncello?

We cannot afford to quarrel with the law for its refusal to interfere: such an interference, except upon altogether extraordinary grounds, would dangerously compromise the liberty of the subject, and the case we have quoted is a very ordinary one. Either, then, it would appear, we must revise "our duty towards our neighbour," and strive to make its moral obligation a little more binding, or we must give up living in cheaply built houses. For that is the real cause of our distress. The 'fons et origo' of neighbours' quarrels, the sower of dissensions, the demon of discord, is the Jerry-builder, who separates two families with what he calls a "party-wall," and pockets rents from both sides of it with the most perfect indifference to the thinness of the partition and the complaints of his victims. Why it is called a "party-wall," we do not know, except it be because it becomes a party to the noise