

CHARADE.

My head is a measure, and a number 'tis too,
It is also a liquid—and, strange 'tis but true,
That no angel scowls it. Tho' nor cold nor hot,
It glides through all lands, but the deep holds it not.
My tail, too, 's a fluid, but different quite,
In both old world and new it is quaffed with delight.
Without head or tail my body 's but slight,
Good sooth, it is barely the fourth of a mite.
In vain you may seek it all over the ground,
White in heaven and paradise surely 'tis found.
Tho' tedious the search, 'tis a fact as you please,
In the end you are certain to find it with ease.
Tho' but half a letter, I'm a word when entire,
Which now suffers all, and now hinders desire.

Ottawa.

E. A. M.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

HON. MR. LAURIER.—We have much pleasure in presenting our readers to-day with a full page portrait of the new Minister of Inland Revenue, whose advent to the Ministry has been received with satisfaction by men of both parties throughout the Dominion. Mr. Laurier was born in November, 1841, at St. Lin, and performed his studies at the College of L'Assomption, where he distinguished himself by his literary and oratorical talents. He was a diligent student who at once commanded the esteem of his professors and fellow-students, and, even at that early age, his deportment was characterized by that politeness and good breeding which have since made him so popular as a public man. On the conclusion of his college course, he came to Montreal and began the study of law under Hon. R. Lafamme, the present Minister of Justice. He applied himself to the profession with earnest zeal and a steady avoidance of the dissipation which are the usual stumbling blocks of young men in large cities. In 1864, he was admitted to the Bar and practised in Montreal for two years, but on finding his health declining—indeed the health of the hon. gentleman has never been strong—he removed to Arthabaska, and succeeded the late J. B. E. Dorion, the *enfant terrible*, in the editorial chair of the *Déficheur*. But a few months later, on the collapse of that paper, Mr. Laurier devoted himself entirely to his profession, and succeeded not only in building up a large and lucrative practice, but in attaining so much popularity that, in 1871, he was elected by an immense majority to the Provincial Legislature. It was at Quebec that he laid the foundations of his parliamentary fame, and in 1874, he was returned to represent the Counties of Drummond and Arthabaska in the House of Commons. His first speech in this new sphere, in seconding the address, at once placed him in the front of our orators, and from that time his fortune seemed to be secured. His success was all the greater that he is a perfect master of the English language, expressing himself in that language with almost as much fluency and rhetorical beauty as in his native French. For a year or two past, his name has been frequently mentioned in connection with Ministerial honours, and it was with general satisfaction that on the retirement of Mr. Cauchon from the Cabinet, Mr. Laurier was called to fill his place. Great hopes are centred in him, and we trust he will realize them to the full.

SCENES ON THE INTERCOLONIAL.—We publish four more of those sketches of scenery along the Intercolonial Railway, of which we have given a series during the summer, and which have served as perhaps the best possible guide to the beauties of that region.

BISHOP GREGG.—A biography of this prelate will be found accompanying his portrait.

RECEPTION OF SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD AT HAMILTON.—We are indebted to Mr. J. B. Anderson, of Hamilton, for this little sketch illustrative of the reception lately accorded to Sir John A. Macdonald and his friends in the ambitious City. A description of the event is in another column.

THE TORONTO BOAT RACE.—A full description of this rare nautical event appears in another column of the present issue.

THE EASTERN WAR PICTURES.—The events connected with the great battles of Shipka Pass, which our illustrations represent, have already been fully described in previous issues of this journal.

THE NEWFOUNDLAND DEVIL-FISH.—This remarkable fish will be found described in a separate column.

BALLOONS FOR THE NORTH POLE.—Our picture represents a portion of the equipment which Captain Howgate proposes to take with him in his expedition to the North Pole next year. The balloons, which form the main feature of this new departure, have already been ordered, and M. de Fonville, the distinguished French aeronaut, has been selected by Captain Howgate to join the scientific staff of the expedition for the express purpose of conducting the balloon work. According to the plan now proposed, the three balloons are to be connected together as shown in the picture, and are calculated to carry six men besides three tons weight of gear, boat-cars, stores, provisions, tents, sledges, dogs, compressed gas and ballast. The triangular framework connecting the balloons would be fitted with foot ropes, so that the occupants could go from one balloon to the other in the same way that sailors lie out upon the yards of a ship, and the balloons would be equipped by means of bags of ballast suspended from this framework, and hauled to the required positions by ropes. Trail ropes would be attached to the balloons so as to prevent their ascent above a certain height (about 500 feet), at which elevation they would be balanced in the air, the

spare ends of the ropes trailing over the ice. The boat-cars would be housed in for warmth, and telegraphic communication kept up with the ships by means of a wire uncoiled from a large wheel as the balloon moved forward. It is proposed to start the balloons about the end of May on the curve of a wind circle of known diameter, ascertained approximately by meteorological observations conducted on board the vessel and at two observatories some thirty miles distant in opposite directions. It is estimated that with a knowledge of the diameter of the wind circle, and the distance from the pole, the balloons could be landed within at most twenty miles of the long-sought goal. There the balloons would be securely moored, and when the necessary observations at the pole had been completed, a return wind would be secured for their return, the requisite full inflation being secured by means of the surplus gas taken out in a compressed condition. The returning voyagers would arrest their course to the southward on the parallel of latitude on which they left their ship, and the remainder of the journey East or West would be performed by means of the dogs and sledges conveyed in the balloons.

THE DEMONSTRATION IN HAMILTON.

The visit of the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald to Hamilton, on the 17th inst., was made the occasion of an immense Conservative demonstration. His admirers and supporters of the city, and county of Wentworth, turned out in full force, and extended to him a most magnificent ovation. The city was decorated in its holiday attire; a large triple arch was erected across King street, and another one, of smaller pretensions, was located on James street, near the Gore Park. Those arches were handsomely decorated with evergreens and flags, and a number of mottoes of welcome, &c., were entwined about them. A number of significant mottoes were also stretched across King and York streets.

Sir John was accompanied by Lady Macdonald. The procession through the principal streets of the city was the largest of anything of the kind that has taken place in Hamilton for many years. The total number of vehicles is variously estimated from 200 all the way up to 400, according to the color of the spectacles through which the procession was observed.

The Crystal Palace and Exhibition Grounds was the place of rendezvous, and the Palace was also appropriately decorated. A platform was arranged on the south side of the building for the speakers. The luncheon took place in the Agricultural shed.

The speaking began about 1 p.m., and upon the platform were seated Lady Macdonald, Mrs. Buchanan, and one or two other ladies. Sir John was supported by some of the principal men of the opposition, as well as by a number of the leading Conservatives of the district. Just before the proceedings began Lady Macdonald was presented, on behalf of the working men of Hamilton, with a handsome gold necklet and pendant.

Sir John was the recipient of an address from the citizens as well as one from the residents of Ancaster.

Sir John spoke for upwards of two hours, and was followed by Hon. Wm. Macdougall, Mr. J. B. Plumb, and others.

The speeches were of the usual political complexion, and were listened to by an audience (according to the *Spectator*) of 40,000 people.

This estimate, however, is greatly exaggerated (according to the *Times*), for that paper puts the attendance at about 8,000.

It might not be out of place to mention, also, that the *Spectator* regards the demonstration as a grand success, whereas the *Times* is inclined to speak of it as a huge fizzle. I also observe that the *Globe* can discover nothing of any consequence in the speeches, while the *Mail* is ecstatic over their masterly qualities.

There was a large attendance of people, at all events, and whether any of the free and intelligent voters were induced to change their allegiance, time alone can tell.

The proceedings were brought to a close in the evening by the usual display of fireworks.

I almost forgot to mention that there were no less than nine bands in the procession. Some of these bands were excellent while others were—well.

QUIT HAWTHORN.

THE GREAT BOAT RACE AT TORONTO.

The great boat race between Wallace Ross, champion of the Maritime Provinces, and Edward Hanlan, the victor in the Centennial race, came off on the bay on the afternoon of Monday, the 15th, having been postponed from the Saturday preceding, owing to the unfavourable condition of the weather. It was impossible to judge of the numbers on shore, but an extremely moderate estimate would be fifteen thousand. If those afloat be added, the spectators altogether could not have been under 25,000. Ross was the first to appear on the course, which he did at 3 p.m., and was received with an ovation. He sat in his wooden shell which had been repaired to his satisfaction. He was looking well, and in excellent condition. He would weigh about 172 lbs. as he sat. He wore a white jersey on the course, but doffed it for the race. He steered himself with a helm. Hanlan, on putting out from the boat-house, five minutes after his rival, was received with loud cheering.

He pulled down to the referee's boat wearing a pea jacket, which, of course, he left behind during the race, rowing, however, in a blue shirt. He was looking in excellent condition, and would weigh 152 lbs. as he sat. Previous to the start Ross rowed up to the referee's boat and complained of the water as being too rough, and quite unlike what he had been accustomed to pull on. The referee, however, having been over the course, was satisfied that the water was such as the articles stipulated for, and so ordered the race to be rowed. The wind was blowing about four knots from the east, and the water seemed to be as good as could be expected at this time of the year.

The boats having got into position, the referee gave the customary directions and cautions, and on the word "Go" from the starter, off the competitors sprang, Ross with a scarcely perceptible lead, of which he was speedily dispossessed by Hanlan, who soon settled down into an even, long, and powerful stroke of 34 to the minute. Ross started out with a stroke of 36 to the minute, but almost with the very first stroke commenced to drop astern. By the time the Market Elevator was reached Hanlan had gained a length, and in a few strokes more there was plenty of daylight between them. Just after passing this point Hanlan, who guided himself with his oar, began to steer badly, and between there and the stake boat he lost so much ground that if he had been at all evenly matched he would inevitably have lost the race. Off Yonge street Ross was a length and a half astern, and began to look over his shoulder doubtfully. He had now slackened his pace somewhat, but was still rowing up to thirty-four. At York street he had fallen to thirty-two, and the interval between the boats had increased to two lengths clear. Just then Hanlan was steering his worst, and got into the water of his opponent, but the distance between them was too great to allow a chance for a foul. At the Water-works Hanlan had a lead of two good lengths. The Northern Elevator was now reached, and Hanlan was three lengths ahead and going with a slow but strong twenty-eight to the minute. Ross was following in the rear, at the rate of thirty-two. When the Queen's Wharf was reached it began to dawn on Hanlan that he was out of his parish. The discovery did not disturb him, however. Deliberately he stopped pulling, and turning himself round, surveyed the position. With a few vigorous pulls with his right scull he laid the head of his craft for the inner stake boat. In the meantime Ross, who had been steering a splendid course, had seen Hanlan's mistake, and had let himself out. The Toronto champion must have been leading by a clear six lengths at the time he changed his course. A quick turn is supposed to be one of Hanlan's specialties, but clearly Ross can compete with him in this particular. Both men rounded their boats in splendid style, and then it was seen that Hanlan led but by a small part of his former gain. As they passed the press-boat on their return, Hanlan left Ross by three clear lengths, going with a thirty stroke, long and piston-like, but deeper now, for the race was against the grain of the waves and in the teeth of the wind. Ross was still pulling thirty-two, then thirty, below which latter figure he did not drop. On the return journey, passing the Queen's Wharf, Hanlan had increased his advantage to about six lengths, when he took a survey of the situation which lost him a stroke and a half easily. He then took a brief spurt and another rest, Ross, meantime, pegging away at a thirty-two pace. Coming up to the Northern Elevator, Ross sheered over into the water of Hanlan, who steered almost on to the outside edge of the course. The Toronto man had by this time increased his lead to about ten lengths, and took his work with perfect sangfroid. Being greeted with a hearty cheer from shore he stopped his boat, kissed his hand to his friends three times, took a look round and recommenced his journey home, pulling a stroke of an enormous length. Ross, who never stopped to fool, at this time gave the impression that he was rowing within himself, but subsequent events showed that he was doing his best. Passing the Water-works Hanlan seemed to be steering a very peculiar course, but nevertheless his lead by this time increased to twelve lengths. Hanlan stopped again for three strokes and contemplated the scene, and having satisfied himself, put in some heavy work at thirty-four, by which he made up his advantage. On the run to York street Wharf he had increased his lead to twenty lengths. From the manner in which he was comporting himself Hanlan appeared to be playing with his opponent, as he every now and then rested on his oars and took a look around. At Yonge street Wharf Hanlan and Ross were rowing a thirty stroke, but even then the former was leaving the latter as he liked. At the Market Elevator Hanlan had increased his distance to 30 lengths, and had Ross hopelessly beaten. From this to the finish Hanlan put in some good work, and rowed past an easy winner by somewhere between 150 and 200 yards. The time announced by the time-keeper was 38:09, but he said it was not official, as he had not received any signal when Hanlan's boat crossed the winning post.

THE MONSTER DEVIL FISH.

The latest addition to the remarkable collection in the New York Aquarium is by far the most curious of all specimens. It is a monster cuttle-fish, made familiar to the public by Victor Hugo as the devil-fish. The present one

is the largest that has ever been seen, and, while to the student it is a choice object of examination, to the uneducated public it is a most horrible-looking creature. On the 22nd September a heavy equinoctial gale swept the shores of St. John's, Newfoundland, and this wanderer was driven ashore in an exhausted condition at Catalina, on the northern shore of Trinity Bay. The tail had got fast on a rock as it was swimming backward, and it was rendered powerless. In its desperate efforts to escape, the ten arms darted about in all directions, lashing the water into foam, the thirty-foot tentacles in particular making lively play as it shot them out and endeavoured to get a "purchase" with their powerful suckers, so as to drag itself into deep water. It was only when it became exhausted and the tide receded that the fishermen ventured to approach it. It died soon after the ebb of the tide, which left it high and dry on the beach. Two fishermen took possession of the "treasure trove," and the whole settlement gathered to gaze in astonishment at the monster. The two men loaded their little craft with the body of the gigantic cuttle, and arrived with it at St. John's on the 26th ult., in a perfectly fresh condition. As soon as the news spread an eager desire to view the monster was awakened, and the fishermen were advised to exhibit it before the public. The Government granted the use of the drill-shed for the purpose, and on the floor, supported by boards, the creature was laid out in all its gigantic proportions. The lucky fishermen reaped a golden harvest and found the big squid by far the best catch they had ever made. The scene was very curious. There lay the cuttle with its ten arms stretched out, two of them 30 feet in length, having rows of powerful suckers an inch in diameter at their broadened extremities. The other arms, eight in number, were entirely covered with suckers on the under side, and were 11 feet in length. The body is 10 feet in length and nearly 7 feet in circumference, and terminates in a caudal fin 2 feet 9 inches across. When taken from the water the color of the squid was a dusky red, but that has disappeared, and the body and arms are now perfectly white. There is the usual horny beak, the parrot-like mandibles of which project from a membranous bag in the centre of the mass which constitutes the head, and from which the ten arms radiate. Certainly the idea of being clutched in those terrible arms, from which there could be no escape when once they had closed, and then torn and rent by the formidable beak, is enough to send a shuddering thrill through the stoutest heart. Posterior to the head were a pair of huge staring eyes, the sockets being eight inches in diameter. Their expression, when the creature was alive on the beach, is said by the fishermen to have been peculiarly ferocious. There was a strong competition for possession of the monster, but the managers of the Aquarium succeeded in purchasing it, and last week it was landed in good condition. A glass tank, twenty-five feet long, five feet wide and three feet and a half deep, is being made for the octopus, and it is expected that within a few days it will be ready for exhibition.

A PATRON OF ART.—The Chief of Police was visited by a sharp-nosed, keen-eyed woman, who carried a chromo, 10 in. by 14 in. in size, in her hand, and who placed it before him and asked, "Are you a judge of chromio and oil paintings?" "Well, I can tell what suits me," he replied. "Can you tell one from the other?" "Yes, m." "And what do you call this?" "That is a chromo." He wanted to say that it was the worst one he ever saw, but he didn't. "Now you are sure, are you?" she asked. "Certainly I am." "Well, that makes me feel a good deal better. I bought that yesterday of an agent for a chromio, and he had scarcely left the house when some of the neighbours came in and said he'd swindled me, and that it was nothing but an oil-painting. I thought I'd bring it down and get your opinion, and you say it's a chromio, do you?" "I do." "All right—thanks. I've always been an enthusiastic patron of art, and if that man had got four dollars out of me on false pretences it would have kind o' set me up against the old masters."

LITERARY.

JOHN T. DELANE, the retiring editor of the *London Times*, is sixty. He has been connected with the paper since 1839.

A NEW monthly magazine, of a humorous nature, with the title of *Mirth*, will shortly be issued by Messrs. Tinsley Brothers. Mr. Henry J. Byron is to be the editor.

MR. SPENCER, who is called Canada's greatest poet, lost all his poems, but one in the St. John fire. That one was pasted on the back of his daughter's picture, which he carried in his pocket.

HARRIET MARTINEAU wrote with singular facility, and never corrected her manuscript. She had no sympathy with Horace's plan of laying it by for future revision, nor with Macaulay's fastidiousness, which compelled the rewriting of a whole chapter of his history to improve the opening sentence. She claimed that all attempts at polishing the style impaired freshness of thought and naturalness of expression.

TOM MOORE was a clever rhymist at the age of fourteen years, and at twenty he had earned fame as a poet, and was "patronized" and flattered by the Prince of Wales, afterwards King George the Fourth. His face was small and intellectual in expression, sweet and gentle. His eyes were dark and brilliant; his mouth was delicately out and full-lipped; his nose was slightly upturned, giving an expression of fun to his face; his complexion was fair and somewhat ruddy; his hair was a rich, dark brown, and curled all over his head; his forehead was broad and strongly marked, and his voice, not powerful, was exquisitely sweet, especially when he was singing.