The Philatelic Kindergarten.

BY GUY W. GREEN.

THE word "kindergarten" comes from two German words meaning "children's garden" or playgrounds Froebel, who first conceived the idea of such an institution, realized with Bacon that education should be carried forward by means of natural developing processes, and not by a mere "imparting method." In short, the child should play, said they, at the things which demand his more serious attention in later life. By so doing he not only occupies himself, but he acquires a love for and a familiarity with certain occupations which always remains with him. The kindergarten has been astonishingly successful and it has become an important feature of our American school system.

In considering our kindergarten system, several important analogies between the teachings of the men who founded it and the plans which are daily followed out by our young collectors have suggested themselves to me; and I have wondered if we could not with great propriety apply some of the precepts of those old instructors to the philatelic world of the present. A great many of us are wont to decry the prominence which the youthful members of our little community bring themselves into, and to lament the fact that mere boys are oftentimes as active in stamp collecting affairs as the most experienced and mature men. The fears which we feel, or pretend to feel, are for the most part groundless, and even if we do suffer some temporary loss or inconvenience by reason of the great ubiquitariness of Young America in our affairs, we should remember that the ultimate good to be realized will be far in excess of any present puny evil.

Our permanent loves and hates, our likes and dislikes, are often implanted in us when we are very young. Oliver Wendell Holmes says that when he was so young as to be trotted on his father's knees he learned to hate the smell of marigold and that he has disliked it ever since. This is but one of many instances that might be mentioned. We should be very careful of our young collectors, therefore, and make their first years with us pleasant ones, that they may look back to them with increasing delight as the days go by. For this reason, no portion of our philatelic world should be more carefully looked after than our kindergarten. How many men there are who when immersed in the cares of trade or business, are lead to take up some hobby or recreation solely by reason of the pleasant memories connected with it? If the individual who at twelve years of age has dabbled in stamps and has been kindly treated, has philately called to his attention twenty years later, he is very apt to think with delight of his former experience and to wish to renew it. In this manner many scores of aged recruits may be, and I doubt not, are added to our ranks, and lend great strength and dignity to our pursuit. It is these men who spend money on their collections and who aid in a very large degree in the support of our dealers and of our more worthy publications. It is these men who come back to their first love after years of wandering, and ardently renew their interrupted devotions at Philatelia's shrine. It is these men who have drunk deeply at sweet springs and who wish a still heavier draught that they may refresh their tired brain and weary bodies. These are the men, however, who will not re-enter our ranks, or spend their money with us or come back to Philatelia if their former sojourn has been made unpleasant for them. They will not again drink of the waters that have once been embittered for them. Let us see to it, that no one has any cause either present or associated with distasteful memories to hold himself aloof from us. Let us implant such a love for Philately in the young collector's breast that it will remain with him, and like the early kindergarten training of our schools, have a constant influence on his after life and continually keep alive his interest in our hobby. We can all do this. A thoughtful act or a kind word now and then will bear good fruit, and perhaps in coming years some collector will "rise up and call us blessed."

On Trial For His Life.

JOHN REGINALD HOOPER, THE WELL-KNOWN PHILATELIST, FACES THE JURY.

The Jurors Equally Divided Between English and French—Dr. Corbett Tells of Alleged "Embalming Fluid."

JOLIETTE, Que., January 3.—Twelve good men and true have sworn "to well and truly try and a true deliverance make between our Sovereign Lady the Queen and the prisoner at the bar." And the life of John Reginald Hooper depends on their verdict.

The jury is composed entirely of farmers from this district, seven of whom are English-speaking and five French speaking. One of the latter was accepted by the defence, however, as being English-speaking although he admitted that his English vocabulary was practically limited to the words "Yes" and "No." The jury was not secured without some trouble. The special panel of twenty English and twenty French, which Sheriff Rivard had been instructed to summon, was exhausted when only nine jurors had been sworn, but by taking in some of those who had been stood aside in the first call, the number was made up.

It was nearly three o'clock when the crier demanded silence and Judge Delormier took his seat on the bench. The lawyers engaged in the case are: For the Crown, Messrs. C. A. Cornellier, Q.C., and Donald MacMaster, Q.C., and the defence Messrs. J. N. Greenshields, Q.C., H. A. Ward, J. A. Renaud.

The court room was crowded to its utmost capacity. Citizens present declared that never since the erection of the building, in 1862, had there been such a crowd. Hooper was brought in by Mr. Gervais, and given a seat in the prisoner's dock. He was attired as carefully as ever, in a neat black suit, with double-breasted jacket, which he wore unbuttoned, displaying the massive gold chain strung across the vest from pocket to pocket. The spotless purity of his white puff tie was relieved by a small gold pin and surrounded by a stand up collar, with turned corners.

PERHAPS HE WAS A TRIFLE PALER and thinner than when before the magistrate, but his cool self-possession has not deserted him, though a more serious demeanor has succeeded the jaunty air which sat so lightly on him then. His favorite position was leaning slightly on the front of the dock, with his hands tightly clasped together. As the process of choosing a jury to decide the momentous question went on, he carefully scrutinized the countenance of each juryman. But of course they were all strangers to him, and he had no communication with his counsel regarding the *personnel* of the jury. Mr Renaud attended to this, for he knew them all.

Before the case began, Mr. Greenshiels stated that a member of the bar of the province of Ontario, Mr. Ward, was present as one of the counsel for the defence, and applied for his recognition by the Court. The Crown assenting, Judge Delormier declared that he gladly acceded, as he was always willing to receive barristers from sister provinces.

Then the swearing in of the jurors went on, and the list of forty was exhausted and there were still three vacant seats in the jury box. Those who had been ordered to stand aside by the Crown were again called, and two more were obtained. But the great trouble was in selecting the last one. The jury as then constituted was composed of six French and five English-speaking men. Joseph Labreche was called and the Crown challenged him for cause. Michael Delancy and Joseph Dubeau were sworn as triers, and Mr. Cornellier proved by Labreche himself that he did not understand very much English, that he was married to a cousin of Mr. Renaud, one of the counsel for the defence, and that the Crown Prosecutor was the attorney in a lawsuit against him. But he denied that any of these things would influence him, and triers found him qualified to act. Mr. MacMaster attempted to show that as there were already six Frenchmen on the jury, according to the application granted to the defence, there should be an equal number of Englishmen. But Judge Delormier stated that had the defence realized that point, he would have had no hesitation in allowing them that right. They had expressed their willingness to allow Mr. Labreche to serve however, and His Honor received the verdict of the triers. Then the Crown challenged the juror peremptorily, but the defence claimed that they had no right to do so, after having exhausted the panel by standing so many aside and the Court ruled in their favor. So in the face of such opposition on the part of the Crown, Mr. Labreche was sworn.

THE JURORS THEN CONSISTED OF

Hormidas Mireau, Napoleon Piotte, Robt. Smith, Aristide Morgin, John Kirkwood, Narcisse Lachapelle, Hugh Cassidy, Koch Lemire, Charles Copping, Joseph Dubeau, Michael Delaney and Joseph Labreche.

The indictment was read over to them:

"The jury of Our, Lady the Queen present that John Reginald Hooper, on the 18th day of September, 1893, while passing in transit from Lamoraie through the district of Joliette by a train of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., did murder his wife, Georgiana Leblanc.'

Then the Crown Prosecutors outlined the case in both languages to the jury, and the Clerk of the Crown, J. J. Desroches, was sworn and produced a bottle and a paper parcel which had been filed by Coroner Corbett, Port Hope, before the magistrate.

Dr. R. A. Corbett, coroner, of Port Hope, was sworn, and testified that he had received the exhibits from Clegg, an employee of the undertaker. Clegg alleged at the time that Hooper had given him them when he told him to exhume the body with instructions to use the contents to embalm the body. One is an ordinary black, square-shouldered gin bottle, and the other is a parcel about six inches long and two inches wide and deep, evidently containing another bottle. The Crown applied for an order of the Court to have the contents analyzed, and Coroner Corbett was instructed to take the packages to Montreal and there have them analyzed by Prof. Ellis, Dr G. P. Girdwood and Prof. Pfister at once.

JOLIETTE, Que., January 4.—To-day was the second day of the Hooper trial and some sensational and important evidence was introduced by the prosecution. The evidence given was mainly in reference to Hooper's suspicious actions and many different stories that he told in regard to his unfortunate wife. Mr. Donald MacMaster, the leading counsel for the Crown, is presenting his case in a masterly manner, and were it not for the fact that Hooper had secured such an able man to defend him his chances of getting off were few indeed.

Personal.

Mr. N. E. Carter, of Minneapolis, a prominent collector, joined the benedicts recently.

We regret to chronicle the death of the mother of Mr. John K. Tiffany, the President of *The American Philatelic Association.*

Mr. C. T. Randall has resigned his position of counterfeit collector for the *Sons of Philately.*

J. P. Glass, the well-known Chicago philatelist, was recently married to Miss Maude Morris.

Mr. R. A. Smith, the associate editor of the *Southern Philatelist*, is just recovering from an attack of *la grippe.*

Mr. E. T. Parker, of Bethlehem, Pa., has opened another branch office: this time in New York.

Mr. I. A. Mekeel has just returned from Europe.

Dr. R. Locke, a Chicago collector, is leaving for Cairo, Egypt, his future home.

We regret to chronicle the death of the Duke of Leinster, a leading English advanced collector.

Mr. J. B. Moens, of Brussels, Belgium, is the oldest stamp dealer in the world, his present large business was established in 1852.

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