

change in the appearance of the streets. True, they do not increase much in width, but the buildings change. You are now passing through a street lined on either side by large massive stone structures, all of which however wear rather a venerable appearance. But their solidity and strength are manifest at the first glance. In strength of build they seem in no way inferior to those used in St. John for similar purposes, but certainly they lack the tasteful finish and the symmetry of the latter.

And now you come to a most heterogeneous mixture of houses. Here is a large stone warehouse, there a wretched tumble-down hovel, here a leading provision and grocery store, there perhaps, under the same sign, a low looking grog shop. This mingling of the high and the low, the rich and the poor strikes forcibly on the mind of one accustomed to cities whose business quarter has been erected within late years. Suddenly we come upon two large stone buildings, side by side. These are two banks. The one the Bank of Nova Scotia and the other the Merchants' Bank of Halifax. The latter of these, which occupies a corner lot, is an edifice which would be an ornament to any city. Built of free-stone, its elegant finish attracts the eye of the most casual observer. This building, partly by its position and size, partly by its very color, overshadows the Bank of Nova Scotia which adjoins. The appearance of the latter is very unique. It is built of brown sand-stone. Examining it you naturally conclude that there has been an enormous amount of labour expended on it (I think) to very little purpose, for all its beauties are cast into the shade by its more favorably situated neighbour. The constructing of it in this style may however be accounted for by the fact that it was constructed at an earlier date than its near rival, and doubtless it had its day in which it shone supreme in solitary grandeur. Across the street—or I should say streets, for both are corner buildings—from the Merchants' Bank, is the Post Office. This is large, occupying a block. It is four stories high and contains within its walls a Museum, Savings Bank, &c., as well as the office proper. In a future paper I shall endeavour to treat of this establishment more fully. A short distance further on, nearly opposite in fact, we see the House of Assembly, an old stone building standing back from the street and containing the Legislative Hall, Government offices, &c. Such a building is of some little interest to a native of St. John, but I shall not here enter into a detailed account of its internal arrangement.

Passing onwards we see the Bank of Halifax, a fine stone structure, and some other well built establishments. After this we drive by some fine dwelling houses. Perhaps while in this street more than in any other a St. John man is struck by the solid built for use not for style of many Halifax domiciles. As the "bus" advances we probably catch a glimpse of the Young Men's Christian Association. The building has very much the appearance of that used for the same purpose in St. John. On the ground floor the Bank of Montreal has (or had) its agency. The upper floor is occupied as a reading-room, well supplied with the leading secular and evangelical periodicals of the Dominion, United States, and Great Britain. On this floor are also the dining-rooms and baths. The uppermost flat is devoted to the purposes of a large lecture room similar to that in St. John. We also catch sight of the Government House, one of the oldest buildings in the city. The mansion, which is surrounded with fairly extensive grounds, is the residence of the Lieutenant Governor. As travellers, taking one of the "bus" lines, our view of the city is somewhat restricted, so that during the remainder of our drive we see but little to

interest us beyond the glimpse that we catch of the gas house, and here and there a church spire. Some of the private houses along our route presented a fine appearance and occasionally show by their surroundings great good taste on the part of the inmates.

In a future sketch I will endeavour to describe at greater length the city and its inhabitants. Let me close by wishing the readers of the WOLLESTOCK GAZETTE a "Happy New Year."

W. A.

## ART CORNER.

Every Sunday, in his studio, Dore gives merry dinners in the Rue St. Dominique where are his violin, piano and harmonium and always some great actor, singer or composer.

The furniture of King Kalakua's palace was made in Boston. The library is in green, the music room in old gold, and the throne room in crimson.

The remains of John Howard Payne, author of *Home Sweet Home*, are to be brought from Tunis and reinterred in Washington, next spring, through the instrumentality of Mr. W. Corcoran.

A rare and costly orchid a *Cattlega exoniensis* with pale rose coloured petals and rich mauve tips was exhibited by H. H. Hunnewell at the recent exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Boston.

Two of Albert Bierstadt's paintings of the Yosemite Valley together with other invaluable things not to be replaced, were burned in his residence on the Hudson, called *Malkasten*, the German for "Painter's Box."

A statue of Bridge has been unveiled at Cambridge, Mass. It is by a son of the late Thomas Gould, sculptor, after designs by his father. According to trustworthy accounts, few cities of the Union contain a poorer piece of fine art than this statue.

The portrait sculptors are reaping golden harvests nowadays. A statue of Prince Louis Napoleon is to be unveiled at Woolwich by the Duke of Connaught. Mr. Boehm's bronze statue of Carlyle was lately unveiled in London. The Hungarian nightingale, Peto, has one at Buda. Pesth and Washington Irvine is to be honored with one in Central Park. A picture by Meissonier, measuring only six by four inches, *Pollinchele*, was lately bought by M. Sactetan, a Parisian amateur, for \$8,000.

The wife of the first secretary of the Spanish embassy in London, the Marquis del Moral, is the daughter of Mrs. Elliot, the wife of the Dean of Bristol. She has a genius for decorative art and for toilette, and is the author of *Jottings of an Idle Woman in Italy*, and a similar book of Sicilian notes.

It is thought by some of the critics that Mr. Wm. Sartains "Nonquitt Marsh" is one of the most skillfully painted and most attractive works in the art exhibit of the New England Manufacturer's and Mechanics' Institute lately opened in Boston.

Nearly eighty artists from Belgium, including painters, sculptors, architects and also archaeologists, members of a guild, whose object is the study of Christian art, have overrun England lately for the inspection of the churches and cathedrals there.