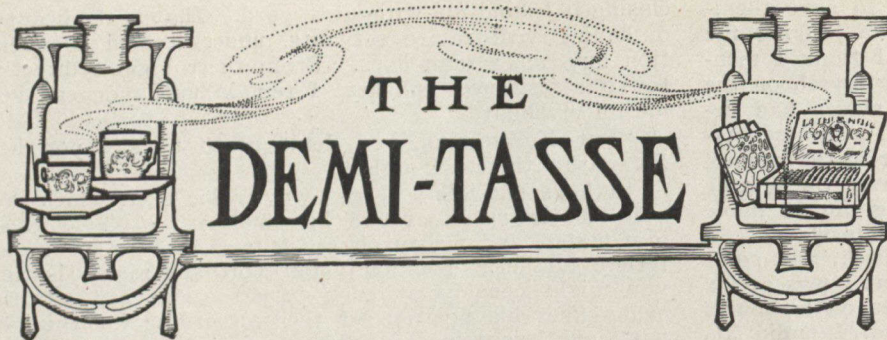




A FIT PHRASE.

"The skidway to destruction"
Is a gentle little phrase—
It means where we are going
If we do not mend our ways.

'Twas thus that G. T. Blackstock
Addressed the worthy chaps
Who form the Club Canadian
And like to get such raps.

"I wish that I had thought of it,"
George Graham regretful said;
"I would have hurled those lovely words
At J. P. Whitney's head."

"How nice it sounds," said Colonel Sam,
"Twill do for me to use
The next time that I feel impelled
Dear Henri to abuse."

* *

SUFFICIENT CAUSE.

He—"What a sad expression Mrs. Willie-
boy wears! I wonder why?"
She—"Didn't you know? She married a
jolly good fellow."

* *

A CHANCE FOR ALL.

There was once a sporting parson at
Eastington, a place on the English coast,
which was a favourite landing place for
woodcocks at the time of their immigra-
tion to England. When the birds arrived,
exhausted by their long flight, everybody
in the parish, including the parson, at once
turned out to join in the sport of knocking
them down with sticks. One Sunday the
people were in church and the parson in the
pulpit, when the church door was cautiously
opened and a head appeared, also a beckon-
ing finger.

"Well, what is it?" asked the parson.
"Cocks is coom!"

The parson hurriedly shut up his ser-
mon case. "Shut the door and lock it!" he
cried to the clerk. "Keep the people in
church till I've got my surprise off. Let's
all have a fair chance."

* *



A Cold Bottle and a Small Bird. Result: A
Cold Bird and a Small Bottle.—N.Y. Life.

A PREDICAMENT.

A story was told recently at a St. Pat-
rick's Day dinner of an Irishman who was
talking about the case of Mr. S. Baring
Gould, whose obituary was recently printed
by mistake, Mr. Gould still being without
the land o' the leal.

"So," said the Irishman, "they've printed
the funeral notice av a man that ain't dead
yet, have they? Faith, an' it's a nice fix
he'd be in now if he was wan o' thim people
that belaves iverything they see in the
papers."

* *

ENGLAND AND THE COLONIAL
PREMIERS.

(After Lewis Carroll.)

"You are old, Mother England," the Pre-
miers said—

"Yet you stick to Free Trade very tight,
"And will not consent by your sons to be
led—

"Do you really consider that right?"

"I am old, I admit," Mother England re-
plied—

"But I once was as youthful as you;
"That's why, though I like you to state
your own side,

"I prefer to consider mine too."

—The Bystander.

* *

THE USUAL ADJECTIVE.

A distinguished Canadian recently gave
an address in one of the great cities of the
United States. The speaker naturally dwelt
on the many qualities shared by his native
land and the American Republic, emphasising
their common faith, common language
and common aspirations.

"That is just what is the matter," said
a cynical listener; "we're desperately com-
mon."

* *

WITHDRAWN.

Toronto has its troubles;
But now a smile doth spread
Across the city's worried brow,
For thus the news hath sped:

"I cannot come to talk to you,"

The famous lecturer said;

"I've got so many scraps on hand"—

He cometh not—dear Stead!

* *

CAUSE FOR ENVY.

A lady, visiting in a clergyman's family,
where the parents were very strict with re-
gard to the children's Sunday deportment,
was confidentially informed by one of the
little girls that she would like to be a
clergyman.

"Why?" inquired the visitor, rather
puzzled to know what had given the child
so sudden an admiration for the calling.

She was quickly enlightened by the reply,
"So I could holler on Sunday."

* *

EXPLAINED.

In a rural district of England during the
performance of a duet at a concert, a yokel
said to his son: "D'ye see, Tom, now it's
getting late, they're singing two at a time,
so as to get done sooner."

* *

EFFECTIVE ADVERTISING.

The United States is supposed to be the
country in which the gentle art of adver-
tising is brought nearly to perfection. But
the publishers of a German novel have
scored a hit in the matter of advertising.

They have inserted in most of the papers a
notice stating that a certain nobleman of
means, anxious to obtain a wife, desired one
who resembled the heroine in the novel
named. Of course, every marriageable wo-
man who saw this announcement bought
the novel to see how closely she resembled
the imaginary beauty referred to.

* *

A LOUD CALL.

When Prince Bismarck first went as the
representative of Prussia to the Federal
Diet at Frankfort, Prussia was of very
small account compared with Austria, and
Bismarck found that he was treated with
indifference at his hotel. He was given a
room which had not even a bell, and when
he complained he was told that what was
good enough for other travellers was good
enough for the Prussian delegate. Bismarck
said no more, but early the next
morning the hotel was startled by a tre-
mendous explosion. The landlord came
rushing into Bismarck's room to know what
was the matter, and was told that as there
was no bell, the Prussian delegate had ar-
ranged with his valet to fire a pistol when-
ever he required his services. Bismarck
got his bell without delay.

* *

CLEOPATRA.

When Marcus attempted to Caesar,
By her smile she showed it would please;
When he swore by his honour
He doted upon her,
She coyly allowed him to squaezar.

—Life.

* *



"We carry a full line."

Drawn for Canadian Courier.

* *

THE REASON.

The coach-dog's face was sad,
The coach-dog's sides were thin;
He looked as though some doctor had
Appendixated him.

"Poor dog," said I, "why smile
In that despondent way?
Why sit dejected while
The other doglets play?"

He turned his sunken eyes
On me and shook his head;
"Do you see any flies
On me, kind sir?" he said.

"I'm waiting now to chase
My mistress' coach all day;
That's why I'm sad of face,
That's why I cannot play."

"And that's the reason why
I look so sad and thin;
The Lenten season's by,
The bonnet season's in."

Archie P. McKishnie.

* *

A REASON FOR REFRAINING.

The Persians possess a sense of humour
with which they are not always credited.
Almost modern is the anecdote of the man
whose disagreeable voice in reciting his
prayers in the mosque was annoying to
every one. One day some one asked him
how much he was paid for reciting.

"Paid!" he replied. "I'm not paid. I re-
cite for the sake of Allah."

"Then," replied the other, "for Allah's
sake don't."—The Argonaut.