

Messire Compain, about twelve at midnight, when he had just gone through his breviary and beads and was seated down to study by the gleam of his lamp. He was further told to hurry down next morning to the east end of the island, where he would find a canoe waiting to convey him to Tadoussac, there to commit to earth the body of the devoted missionary. The news was rendered still more impressive by the immediate tolling of the bell of his own chapel, and, on his entering the church, the bell continued to toll, though he could discover no human agency, and that no person, in fact, except himself, was there. Though much startled, he recollected having heard that the bells of the different missions, where Father De La Brosse had ministered, would announce the hour of his death. The next morning he accordingly travelled to the lower end of the island, and, sure enough, a canoe was waiting his arrival.

His first words before embarking were to inform the amazed crew of his previous knowledge of the death of Father De La Brosse and the manner of his learning it. The Tadoussac mariners had details still more miraculous to communicate about the good missionary's death; how he had prophesied it long before—how he left instructions not to mind wind or weather, but to launch, without fear, the guaranteeing them against harm, a canoe, to fetch the pastor of Isle-aux-Coudres, Rev. Messire Compain, to commit to earth his remains which nobody else was to interfere with; how in fact they had ventured notwithstanding the south-easterly storm raging that morning; how, on the faith of his assurances, four expert canoe men had ventured out in their frail craft; that so soon as they were out of the bay a perfect calm reigned round them, whilst the waves ran mountains high close to them; how, conducted by an invisible hand, they soon weathered *Cap aux Pins*, (Goose Cape) and arrived safe at *Isle-aux-Coudres* at 11 o'clock in the morning to fulfil their errand. Father De La Brosse it was said, after predicting the hour of his death, was found at 12 o'clock, at midnight, dead, with his head resting on his hands, on the first step of the altar of his Tadoussac Chapel.

Rev. Messire Compain landed safely at Tadoussac that night.

It was currently stated afterwards, that at the churches of all the missions which had the benefit of Father De La Brosse's ministrations—Chicoutimi, Isle-Verte, Trois Pistoles, Riverview, Baie des Chaleurs—the bells, set in motion by invisible hands, had tolled at midnight, on the day of his death.

Such adds the annalist of the island, is the marvellous legend, which all the islanders repeat with some additions and variations to visitors and which now in its leading features dignifies beyond their home.

Despite the inscription on the cross aforementioned and the miraculous circumstances attending Father De La Brosse's demise, the privilege of having said the first mass on the island must revert to Jacques Cartier's almoner.

The origin of this singular island emerging from the waters, under the shadow of the stupendous and volcanic crags of the Laurentian range, has given rise to many conjectures.

Some have even asserted that at one time it formed part of the mainland, from which it was wrenched by a violent convulsion of the earth, and that the crevasse between was worn away by the action of the tides, until it formed the deep channel now existing to the north of it. If so, it could not have been produced by the great earthquake of 1663—as old writers mention the existence of the island prior to that year.

About one quarter of the island is yet a forest interested by sugar maple plantation, looked after with such care, by the inhabitants, on account of the sugar and fuel they annually furnish. A *serotinus* covers the centre of the island; these portions of the soil are not under culture.

Population about 750 souls, all Roman Catholics. The parish church stands at the west end; it is dedicated to St. Louis (Louis IX. of France).

Coudres Island is occasionally visited by violent wind and rain storms, which seem as if they dropped down from the lofty cape. Across the channel to the north of it the western extremity faces the Gouffre River, and the deep gap between the capes at Baie St. Paul acts like an outlet through which "rude Boreas" rulls and rushes across the narrow strait until his fury is spent on the green fields and sandy beaches of *Isle aux Coudres*. The annalist of the island, whilst dilating on the fertility of the soil, mentions the rich porpoise fisheries of *Point a la Prairie* which in 1875 yielded one hundred huge porpoises.

Coudres Island has also its whale story; but we do not wish to exhaust the subject and will leave it to the next chronicler.

We are also told that formerly the woods at the west end were infested by myriads of herons or bitterns, during the period of incubation.

This bird, which we take to be the night heron or *Qua* bird, from its peculiar note "Cnac" were called *Cnacks* by the Canadian peasantry; the young being juicy and tender, were made into pies—*quac* pies; hence the peculiar name the islanders go by to this day—*Mangeurs de Cnacs*. The heronry was called "Cnaerie"—this is the only species of Quackery which can be charged on the honest and hospitable islanders.

If the island produces in abundance sugar, grain, fish, game and oil, its sandy shores yield a produce highly objectionable to strangers, if not to the hardy islanders whose hide is perhaps

impregnated with porpoise oil; we allude to the robust breed of fleas for which, says Abbe Casgrain, the isle is famous.

Enough ancient this sweet Arcadia, though under the guidance of such a well informed cicero as Monsieur l'Abbe Casgrain*, one would not mind to follow him in his pilgrimage so as to view every spot so well described: *P. Lase a l'Attente, la Point a la Prairie and P. Lase a Ballonnet*, each the theatre of a shipwreck on the 27th November, 1832, where three Quebec home bound ships, the *Rosalind, Batek-foot* and another were stranded, the master and crew being most hospitably entertained. We promised to tell why the anchorage at the west end was called *Le Mouillage Anglais*. It was known under that name ever since the 23rd June, 1753, when the rear of the English fleet under Admiral Purrell anchored there. The Admiral had a good reason to remember the spot, as his grandson, a midshipman in the fleet and two other naval officers, were made prisoners at *Cap a la Branche*, whilst riding over the island, some accounts say in quest of game, others, to plant the British flag on an eminence. They had had their horses shot from under them, without being themselves in any wise hurt, by two Canadian militiamen, Francois Javard and Nicette Dufour, who had secreted themselves in an ambush planned under the directions of Capt. de Niverville, then stationed at St. Joachim or at Bay St. Paul, with a party of 60 Abenakis Indians and 60 Canadian militiamen. The gallant British youths praised the skill of the Canadian marksmen were sent to Quebec where they were closely questioned, then transferred to Three Rivers, and finally exchanged and released in the ensuing fall.

With Bayard Taylor we may safely say in closing: "The *Isle-aux-Coudres* is a beautiful pastoral mosaic in the pale emerald setting of the river."

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

Most of our engravings in the present number have separate descriptions of their own. We have, therefore, only to call attention to the sketch of Gen. Burke's lecture on Robert Emmet, given in the Royal Opera House, Toronto, in which the faces of those sitting on the platform are likenesses, so far as the size of the picture would allow. "Spring Freshets" is a beautiful sketch appropriate to the present unusually early season. The little squib on the last page is a pleasant travesty of *Punch's* cartoon on Marshal MacMahon, when that gentleman did precisely what the present Lieut.-Governor of this Province has been doing.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

IN consequence of the debate last session with reference to reporting in the House of Commons, Hansard has sent representatives into the gallery this session, who will report fully the speeches of all members who like to pay for that luxury. Mr. Latimer, formerly on the *Times*, and lately editor of the *Plymouth Mercury*, is at the head of the corps.

Is the performance of the taking of Plevna, which is represented at the Agricultural Hall, the manager apologizes for a slight inaccuracy in detail, namely, that the Turks take it from the Russians; he says this is necessary as a concession to popular feeling. It was tried in its historical truth the first night, and was received with yells of indignation; now it meets with the warmest approval.

A SMALL neatly-executed cartoon has been just circulated, representing the meetings of several well-known radicals with their distinguished chief. The scene, Parliament street, time, gas-light. The chief accosts them, thus, "Have you heard the news, friends? England has been degraded to a third-rate power!" at which there is a general chorus—"We're so glad—we're so glad."

HERE are two of the latest *nots* from the lobby. "Why don't you dissolve?" said Mr. Peter Rylands to a Conservative friend. "Because we don't want to lose you," was the prompt reply. Mr. Rylands, however, will not admit that Burnley means to cast him off. The other *not* is a hit against Lord Derby, against whom many sharp things of the kind are being said by men of his own party. "We want a firm man (firman) for our fleet."

The Radicals have agreed, like the Home Rulers, to form an independent party, and to kick over the faint semblance of alliance with Lord Hartington and the official Liberals which they have maintained. None but those who were among the 124 who went into the lobby against the Government and the Vote of Credit are to be found amongst its members. But there are two sides to a wrestle, and Lord Hartington may have flung over these Radical adherents, and will endeavour to form a party more in accordance with patriotic and constitutional Whig notions.

THE Pantomime amateurs of the Gaiety have consented to play once more in London for a

* *Pelerinage a l'Isle-aux-Coudres* par l'Abbe R. H. Casgrain—Cote & Co., printers, Quebec, 1877.

charity. The good cause has not yet been decided on. Subsequently, they will act three times more in the country, if arrangements permit; namely, at Manchester, where they have been specially invited by Mr. Alfred Thompson; at Liverpool, where they will be welcome; and at Brighton, where their success is assured. The cast of the Pantomime will be pretty much the same as before, except that a prominent part will be given to Mr. Archibald Stuart-Wortley, who played the small part of the Trumpeter so admirably, and so conspicuously wriggled his fantastic legs.

GLEANER.

PIUS IX. ordered that his tomb should not cost more than £80.

FRANCE smoked 150,000,000 cigars last year and 182 tons of cigarettes.

THE Countess d'Eu, the Crown Princess of Brazil, has been delivered of a son.

MR. GRANT DUFF proposes to give the throne of Bulgaria to the Duke of Edinburgh.

VICTOR EMMANUEL is to have statues erected to his memory in several Italian cities.

IN 1872 there were thirty-two circus shows on the road. This year there are but thirteen.

ONE of the latest fashions in hats is the Plevna. The idea is that it does not suffer by battering.

IT is stated that a church in memory of Pope Pius IX. will be built in the new quarter of Rome.

THERE is some talk of another batch of knights to be taken from the ranks of literature and science.

A REQUEST has been made to the Board of Works to permit sphinxes to be placed on each side of Cleopatra's Needle.

THE Mississippi Legislature has decided that there is such a thing as eternal damnation, and that hell shall witness it.

A REMOVAL has come from the Hague that the King of Holland is thinking of abdicating in favour of his son, the Prince of Orange.

THE unfortunate quaker who refused to be a soldier of France has been condemned to two years' imprisonment for disobedience.

A "GREAT Conservative song," entitled "Hurrah for Beaconsfield: or, God Defend the Right," is being sung in the London Music-halls.

THE *source* of the late King Victor Emmanuel, an elegant silver inkstand, has found a resting-place on the table in the large drawing room at Osborne.

WOMEN are doing work in the departments of Washington for \$900, while men for precisely the same work receive \$1,200, \$1,400 and \$1,600.

A GERMAN has invented a self-winding clock, in which the winding machinery is operated by the alternate expansion and contraction of glycerine, or other suitable liquid.

THE height of good taste in Paris this winter is to attend balls without dancing. So far has the fashion extended that people who give parties are now obliged to have hired dancers.

SOME meritment has been caused by a name just given by Lord Lansdale to one of his race-horses, "Tommy up a par tree" being the designation chosen.

IT has been already said that, if possible, the Emperor of Austria will visit the Paris Exposition. It is now announced that the King and Queen of Italy intend to come as well.

THE framework of the trophy tower for the Canadian Department of the Paris Exposition has been shipped from the Government shops at Ottawa.

NOTHING has yet been decided respecting the ultimate fate of Temple Bar, but it is not impossible that the structure will, at no distant period, be found forming the approach to Epping Forest from Loughton.

A COMPETITION for a monument to the sculptor David is open, and the exhibition of the model is now being held at the chapel of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. There are only twelve competitors, and four prizes will be awarded.

ALL the reports as to the resignation of Hobart Pasha and Colonel Baker are incorrect. The Colonel looks wonderfully well for a man who has been killed half-a-dozen times and wounded a score (by the newspapers) in the course of the last campaign.

FATHER GUILLAUME, a priest of Russell township, near Ottawa, recently arrived at the Canadian capital conveying a train of eighty-five cords of wood, the gift of his parishioners to the poor of the city without regard to nationality or creed.

A NOTLOW metallic ball which had been long used by the late Pope as a hand-warmer has been selected as an interesting relic to be forwarded to the Queen. This ball, when filled with warm water, was held in the Pope's hand, and gave some glow of comfort to his fingers.

THE Press of Vienna announces that the Chamber of Commerce of that city has opened a subscription to send workmen and small manufacturers of ability to the Paris Exhibition to purchase samples of new products, models of instruments, and machines of recent invention.

BRELOQUES POUR DAMES.

wear black kid buttoned boots without heels.

PAINTED pottery cannot be baked in an ordinary range.

"BELATED SISTERS" is the latest title for the old mails across the Atlantic.

SMALL round hats of lace or of soft white chip are worn by boys just in short clothes.

APPROPOS of the Lord-Hicks scandal: "The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away."

WEAR white kids, or silk, or satin slippers—not black—with a white satin bridal dress.

A FAMILY at Pawlet, Vt., recently had a quadruple wedding, marrying off four daughters at once.

GET brocaded gauze, either cream-colour or pink, to combine with your red silk for a stylish evening dress.

IT is now the comfortable fashion to keep children in shoes without heels until they are eight or ten years of age.

BIERSTADT, the artist, once proposed to Dr. Mary Walker. He proposed that she get out of his studio, and she agreed.

TWO long loops of braided hair in the back, with Montagne waves in front, will dress your hair stylishly for any occasion.

IT has been averred that a lady with a diamond ring will scratch her nose, in a given period, four times as often as any other woman.

GET striped summer silk, or else the small-figured damasse silks for summer. Choose it the shade of plain blue silk, or else gray, and make a Margherita polonaise.

THE Nevada man who had seven homely daughters, for a box of cigars got the local editor to publish a rumour that he was a desperate old miser, who had seven barrels of gold buried in his cellar, and all his daughters were married off in four months from that date.

LITERARY.

MR. SAMUEL L. CLEMENS ("Mark Twain") and family start for Germany, April 11th, and will remain abroad one or two years.

A POETESS weighing 160 pounds yearns "to twitter, as a bird on some lone spray." When she gets on a spray and begins to twitter there is going to be an item in the local paper, unless the spray is as thick as an underground gas pipe.

ONE American house has paid an English author \$10,000 on a single book. On the other hand, a small honorarium, \$100 at the most, is practically the limit of English payments in this country, even for books that sell abroad by the ten thousand, and a leading American author, whose many books are favourites and widely selling abroad, states that his returns from England have never reached a total of \$200.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

BRESSANT, the famous French comedian, is dying of paralysis.

OLD English and Irish songs and ballads are now the features of many of the concerts given in Great Britain.

IN the recent season of six weeks, at the theatre in New York bearing his name, Edwin Booth netted twenty thousand dollars.

MR. W. H. PENNINGTON, the well-known actor, announces an original play, in three acts, entitled *Baluchava*.

MISS ROSE GARIBALDI, the niece of General Garibaldi, is acquiring fame for herself and the General as a dancer on the stage.

THE success of *Hernani* is enormous at the Theatre Francaise. Last month the receipt nearly reached the sum of 200,000 francs (£8,320).

MR. ALBANI and MM. Capoul and Paudoussi have made a joint success in Paris in *La Traviata*. The amount cashed for four performances has been £2,600.

FLOROW, who has not produced a new opera since 1868, has brought two to Paris, of which one, *The Enchantress*, is to be played at the Italian Theatre forthwith, and the other, *Rosolana*, in the coming winter.

IN order to do the modern sprite business, like the Girards, the spine and three ribs on each side are extracted at an early period of life. When the sprites retire on their fortunes spine and ribs will be returned to their proper places.

ACCORDING to a letter from Naples, Patti, at her last performance at the San Carlo, received twenty-three recalls and was presented with 1,200 bouquets, six of which were three yards round, and a golden coronet on a velvet cushion.

THEATRE parties are the rage in New York. Whole blocks of seats are taken by a circle of friends, who make themselves as much at home as though in their own houses, and considerably annoy the remainder of the audience by carrying on animated conversation.

A YOUNG Englishman, Mr. Richard Coker, a native of Yarmouth, has made a brilliant debut at Lucan, as the King in *La Favorita*. He is said to possess a beautiful baritone voice, handsome person, finished and artistic style of singing, and exceptionally great dramatic talents.

A COLOSSAL bust of Wagner has been placed in the vestibule of the Opera House at Leipzig, which is said to be his native city. The bust, the work of the sculptor Zar Strasse, has been presented to the city by a wealthy admirer who prefers to remain anonymous.

WAGNER, who professes to read no papers, has started one for himself in which he very severely attacks Berlin, and says that all that is good in Germany is to be found away from the capital. His proposed Wagnerian Academy at Bayreuth has lapsed simultaneously with the establishment at Berlin of the new Academy of Music.

OVER £300 profit was made on the 1,000th night of *Our Boys* at the Vandeville Theatre, London, and the money will be divided between the Royal and Theatrical Fund and three Metropolitan hospitals. New scenery, new dresses, and new properties have been mounted, and there seems to be every chance of the play continuing to draw for another year and perhaps longer.