

steady nerves, and therefore to sail clear of many rocks; she never brings ridicule upon herself in any flirtation (a girl cannot afford to make herself ridiculous under any circumstances); she keeps the allegiance of her lover, when she has one, in earnest; and, crowning and most difficult success for a woman, she retains her power over the respect and devotion of her husband.

As I write, news comes to me that Green, Worlock & Co's bank has suspended, with assets of some \$610,000 and liabilities \$444,000. The cause of the failure is said to be the recent American depression and the inability or "unwillingness of the chartered banks to render temporary assistance to the manager"—Mr. Worlock. That gentleman, I understand, in no way allowed it to be seen that there was any trouble brewing. He was in more than ordinarily good humor, at the close of business, on Thursday evening, saying, as he left the bank, that he had business to do after dinner in the office. That business now appears to have been the drafting of what may be described as a cleverly worded announcement of suspension and the fastening up of the doors and windows for the denouement of Friday. From what I can gather, and I have talked to a good many people, there are few important business interests in the city that will be seriously affected. Not a small number of people of small means are, however, for them, very materially interested, they having, owing to the higher rate of interest offered, deposited their hard earned savings in this generally considered exceptionally reliable institution. There are, it is true, one or two old time concerns which will lose heavily; still the principal effect will, it is stated, be felt among the working classes and people of small incomes who may be expected to be, in consequence, more economical in their outlays. It would appear that, if the Bank be economically liquidated, the delay caused by that process will ultimately be the worst feature of the case. There will, of course, be some actual loss, and to those who sustain it I extend my heartiest sympathy, as well as to Mr. Worlock, the popular and highly esteemed manager.

PERE GRINATOR.

The Countess of Derby, wife of the former Governor-General of Canada, presented last Thursday to the Duke and Duchess of York the wedding gift of the Canadian women. The gift consists of two fine horses and a sleigh. Sir Charles Tupper, Canadian High Commissioner, was absent from the presentation ceremony on account of illness.

Lord Aberdeen and his family occupied a box during the recent visit of Madame Patti to Montreal, and at the end of the first act he went behind the scenes to congratulate the sweet singer. When the curtain fell at the conclusion, however, the orchestra did not play, as usual, "God save the Queen." The audience stood in embarrassed silence for a few minutes, when Lord Aberdeen himself sang the national anthem, in which he was joined by the audience, who afterwards dispersed with cheers.

### SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

MISS HUNTER, the young lady who took the leading part in *Antigone*, the play recently presented in Greek in Toronto, is a sister of Crown Solicitor Hunter, of this city. His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Aberdeen occupied a box, and were very enthusiastic over the production. All the Toronto papers speak highly of the performance, the *Globe* having the following to say: "Miss Hunter, who plays the part of *Antigone*, is a beautiful girl with a mass of auburn hair, which is very effective when dressed in the Greek style." The same paper concludes a lengthy complimentary review thus: "Later on, when the womanly side of *Antigone's* nature comes to the front, as it does when the awful doom is pronounced by Creon that she shall be entombed alive, Miss Hunter fully throws herself into the situation. The pathos of her lament when, for the first time, the terrible nearness of death comes to her in its grim reality, and the heroism of her nature seems to waver a little, is most touching. It is in this part that *Antigone* is at her best." At the close of the performance the actors were called before the curtain in response to the repeated and tumultuous calls of the audience, and Miss Hunter received a garland of flowers. The paper from which we have quoted says: "Her regal beauty and magnificent bearing had won the audience almost as much as her interpretation of the part."

Readers of English magazines must have noticed brilliant articles bearing the signature of Madame Blaise de Bury. This remarkable woman died a few days ago, and was buried in France. She was of Scottish parentage and birth, having been born at Oban 80 years ago. Her father, also a Scotchman, was an officer in the English army, and her mother, an Edinburgh lady. She married a well-known critic of *The Revue des Deux Mondes*, who, however, predeceased her, but he brought her into association with all the cultivated minds of France. Her correspondence extended to most of the great men of Europe, statesmen like Bismarck as well as savans. In her brilliant salon assembled from time to time all the genius of France. Her broad sympathies enabled her to agree with the most diverse mental and moral movements, and her equal knowledge of the chief European languages was the mark of her interest in the intellectual phenomena of her time.

Mrs. E. J. Watkins, known from the Atlantic to the Pacific as "Kit," the talented lady writer of the *Toronto Mail*, is a visitor in this city on her way to the Midwinter Fair. Mrs. Watkins represented the *Mail* at the World's Fair, and her letters to her paper were read with interest by Canadians. As a writer on female topics, "Kit" stands unrivalled, and has been offered lucrative positions on several American newspapers, but prefers to remain on the publication with which she has won so much success. She has travelled extensively in Europe and Africa, and her acquaintance with the

countries of those two continents, together with her finished style of writing, render her contributions not only interesting but full of information for her readers, whose name is legion. Mrs. Watkins hopes to return to Victoria before long, and will write for her paper a chapter on so as a result of her observations while in our midst.

One of the most notable women speakers is the Countess of Aberdeen. She is the president of the Women's Liberal Federation of England, and remains in that position in spite of her absence in Canada. She is an admirable chairwoman, and it is something wonderful to see her manage the great meetings over which she has to preside every spring. Mrs. Gladstone was the president of the Women's Liberal Federation before the Countess of Aberdeen, when the Federation split over the suffrage question.

A snug little sum was realized at the sale of work held by the ladies of St. James' sewing circle, at St. James' school house, Tuesday afternoon. Though the weather was a little tempestuous, quite a number of the fair sex braved the elements to attend the sale, and purchasing was brisk throughout the afternoon. The tea table was well patronized.

Wellington is notable for its social gatherings. At a meeting held in Mr. W. G. Frazer's store on Tuesday evening, the Wellington Social Dancing Club was formed. It was then decided to give a series of five dances beginning last night and continuing on alternate Fridays. Some pleasant evenings are in store for its members.

The minstrel performance now being rehearsed by the young men of St. John's church is progressing favorably under the direction of Mr. Ernest Pauline. The company will number some twenty-five performers, and they promise a jolly minstrel show to their friends. The entertainment will be given shortly after Easter.

A full rehearsal of the *Mikado* was held Thursday evening, without books. Attention was given to studying the business, and the promoters are well satisfied with the progress already made. The date of production has been fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday evening, April 4 and 5.

Mr. Robert McPherson, a prominent official in St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Vancouver, and Miss Sinclair, also of that city, were united in marriage Thursday evening of last week.

Social events will be unusually numerous and brilliant at Ottawa during the forthcoming session.

Miss Clarke, of Nanaimo, was married last Thursday to Mr. Fred Low.

The Nanaimo bachelors will give a ball in the near future.

Hon. Justice Walkem has returned from the Mainland.