

It has been said that the temptation of the court is not to approve. There needs no malevolence or proneness to believe evil to account for this. The reason is simply that the whole pleasure of the process lying in the discussion and criticism, the tendency is inevitably to bring forward such points of the subject's character or conduct as are open to discussion and criticism—that is, as are more or less faulty.

To instance only the good deeds or indisputable virtues, would be to call forth only the short and simple interjections of praise, and there would be an end of the conversation. It would be all affirmative; and affirmative conversation dies of its own completeness. To have any life and lasting worth speaking of, conversation must be negative, must be full of doubts and gain-sayings, must be brisk with censure and profound with suspicion. And, therefore, even real affection cannot give a tone of tender faith to the conclaves of nearest and dearest who have learned to make need of family gossip; and well-grounded respect for approved good qualities cannot restrict ingenuity in discovering errors.

### —><<>— "What other Candidates?"

When asked as to the other candidates Mayor McShane replied—"What other candidates, I am the only candidate I've heard of." Vide Witness. "What other candidates?" says he. "Which other, don't you mean," says I. "Shure what or which is one to me. And rules of grammar I defy. For I'm the Mayor of Montreal. Possession's nine points of the law. I'll not retire at all, at all. So let them other ducks withdraw."

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"Do you believe in corporal punishment for stupid school children?"

"Yes a spanking always makes 'em smart."

—  
Adorer—When we are married, darling, we shall be one. Miss Ibsen—I'm aware of that Edward—but the question is, which one?

—  
Herbert—If she loves him why don't she marry him in spite of her father's objection?

Stella—Mercy, isn't it a good deal easier to give him up than to admit she is of age.

### Five Dollars (5) Reward.

Evening threw soberer hue  
Over the blue sky, and the few  
Poplars that grew just in the view  
Of the hall of Sir Hugo de Wyndle:  
"Answer me true," pleaded Sir Hugh,  
(Striving some hard-hearted maiden to woo.)

"What shall I do Lady for you?  
Twill be done ere your eye may twinkle.  
Shall I borrow the wand of a Moorish  
enchanter,  
And bid a decanter contain the Levant  
or

The brass from the face of a Mormonite  
ranter?

Shall I go for the mule of the Spanish  
Infanter—

(That r, for the sake of the line, we must  
grant her)—

And race with the foul fiend, and beat in  
a canter,

Like the first of equestrians Tam O Shan-  
ter?

I talk not mere banter—say not that I  
can't, or

By this my first—(a Virginia planter  
Sold it me to kill rats)—I will die in-  
stantly."

The Lady bended her ivory neck, and  
Whispered mournfully, "Go for my sec-  
ond."

She said and the red from Sir Hugo's  
cheek fled,

And "Nay," did he say, as he stalked away  
The fiercest of injured men:

"Twice have I humbled my haughty soul,  
And on bended knee have I pressed my  
whole—

But I never will press it again!"

The Editor of the "Antidote" will give  
five dollars to the person from whom he  
receives the first correct answer to the  
above charade.

### —><<>— Society and other Notes.

Miss Alice Boyd, St. Mark street had  
an afternoon tea on Thursday.

Miss Arnton had an afternoon tea on  
Wednesday.

Major and Mrs. Wilson of Quebec are  
visiting Mrs. Andrew Allan, Stanley street.

Mrs. Casgrain of Quebec, is visiting Mrs.  
Casgrain 1156 Dorchester street.

Mrs. McNab of Ottawa, is the guest of  
Mrs. Cassils, 708 Sherbrooke street.

The first dance of the season at the  
Kennels will take place on the 19th inst.

Mrs R. C. Jamieson, University street,  
will give a young people's dance on Thurs-  
day next.

Mrs. Edward Taylor, Sherbrooke street,  
is giving a young people's dance on Tues-  
day.

Mrs. R. E. Gault, Osborne street, will  
have an afternoon reception on Monday  
next.

Mr. B. Hal-Browne, manager of the Lon-  
don and Lancashire Life Ins. Co. has been  
elected a member of the St. James Club.

Mrs. F. Wolferstan Thomas, 733 Sher-  
brooke street, has cards out for a dance  
poudre on the 3rd February.

A great many entertainments are on the  
tapis for next week and cards are already  
out for some large dances in February.

Mrs. James O'P'ien, 846 Sherbrooke st.  
will have a progressive euchre party for  
ladies on Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Acer, Edgell avenue, will  
leave shortly to spend the winter in Ber-  
muda.

Mrs. Fred Fairman gave a large recep-  
tion in her new home on McGregor street  
on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Edwin Hanson, 1152 Dorchester st.  
gave a large party for children on Thurs-  
day.

Sir. John and Lady Thompson were en-  
tertained at the splendid residence of Hon.  
Geo. A. Drummond on their recent visit  
to Montreal.

Miss Emily Tiffin, daughter of the late  
Mr. Joseph Tiffin of Montreal was mar-  
ried in Freiburg-in-Baden to Mr. Wilfrid  
Banner.

Mr. and Mrs. John Warrington were in  
town for a few days the guests of Mayor  
McShane. They left for England on Wed-  
nesday.

Mr. G. J. Galt, of Winnipeg, son of Sir  
Thomas Galt is at the Windsor accom-  
panied by Mrs. Galt. Mr. Herbert Galt,  
Vancouver, is also in town.

Mr. J. Cradock Simpson has returned to  
town after leaving his family in Asheville  
for the winter. Mr. Simpson has rented  
his house in Kensington Block Sherbrooke  
street to Mr. Duncan McIntyre, Junior, for  
the winter.

The last concert of the Artistic Associa-  
tion was well attended despite the great  
storm. Real lovers of music will brave  
anything to hear Mr. F. Jehin Prume ac-  
companied by that truly brilliant pianist  
Madame Hymberg.

Speaking of Nicholas Flood Davin re-  
minds us that he has been asked to address  
the new Women's Club, which held its sec-  
ond meeting to-day. What it did and what  
it is going to do remains a mystery, but  
why it should wish that pairless, careless  
old bachelor to address it must be a still  
greater mystery. As usual when in Mon-  
treal Mr. Davin will be the guest of Mr.  
C. H. Dobbin.

It is not generally known that the novel-  
ist Mrs. Amelie Reeves Chandler, has two  
young cousins in Montreal. They are Mr.