



MARY AND ELIZABETH.—If the stars of the heavens are without number, we might almost say more so are the so-called sacred pictures with which, from all time, artists great and small have sought distinction or notoriety. Visitors to the continent of Europe especially are more than shocked at the infinite variety of daubs and crudes everywhere apparent; meant to do justice no doubt to those we all revere. Raphael, Gu'do, Corregio, and others of the old school; Hunt, Munkacsy, Selon and others, of the modern school, have, of course, given us sacred subjects that we are almost compelled to reverence and respect; but we question if any of them—including even the painter of the picture we are now discussing—ever excelled the sublime beauty of "Mary and Elizabeth." His "Holy Family" and "Nativity" are, as it is well known, amongst the foremost Biblical pictures of the day, but do not surpass this one. Thinking this, we have engraved it and feel proud in being the very first, as we believe, to publish it. No description is required; the veriest child of grace knows all about the subject, or else where to find it. Carl Müller was born at Darmstadt, Germany, in 1818. His works of art are numerous, and as he is still at the easel more may be expected from him before his distinguished career closes.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER FOSTER, Q.C.—Having already given the main events and dates of the late Mr. Foster, we shall accompany his portrait by some notes gathered from an article in the *Ottawa Citizen*. In addition to a distinguished place at the bar, Mr. Foster won a high position as a literary man. While yet a student at the University of Toronto (of whose Senate he became a member), he, together with the late Thomas Moss, Chief Justice of Ontario, W. J. Rattray, author of the "Scot in Canada," and others, contributed to a humorous weekly called the *Grumbler*, published in Toronto by Erastus Wiman, the now famous capitalist of New York. At a later period he was a contributor to the *Toronto Leader*, the *Hamilton Spectator* and the *Toronto Telegraph*. He was also editor of the *Monetary Times*. When the project for a Confederation of the B.N.A. Provinces came before the people, Mr. Foster wrote two able papers for the *Westminster Review*, and in both articles he warmly supported the scheme of union. He also favoured a renewal of the old Reciprocity Treaty, negotiated by Lord Elgin. Other contributions from his pen on Canadian affairs appeared in the *London Spectator*, the *London Athenæum* and the *London Times*, and for some years he was the Canadian correspondent of the latter paper. Like Thomas D'Arcy McGee and others, he was a sincere believer in the future destiny of Canada as a distinct nationality, and lost no opportunity of preaching the doctrine in season and out of season. This belief found notable and eloquent utterance in his well known essay entitled, "Canada First, or a New Nationality," published in pamphlet form shortly after the Red River insurrection of 1869, a work much admired by the young Ontarians of the day for its lofty tone and patriotic sentiment. The publication of this essay led to the formation of what was known as the "Canada First" party, of which Mr. Foster was the acknowledged leader, and among whose members were many young Canadians who have since attained distinction, in their respective walks of life, Wm. H. Howland, late Mayor of Toronto; George T. Denison, now Police Magistrate of Toronto; Joseph Easton Macdougall, now Judge of York; Charles Mair, the author of "Tecumseh;" John Schultz, now Lieut.-Governor of Manitoba; Robert Grant Haliburton, the scientist and litterateur; Frederick C. Denison, now M.P. for West Toronto; Wm. B. McMurrich, late Mayor of Toronto; James H. Morris, Q.C., and Hugh Scott, insurance agent, being of the number. The party controlled one or two organs of public opinion and erected a club house—the National—which became the rallying place of "Canada First" adherents and disciples living in and visiting the Ontario Capital. "Canada First," however, ceased to exist, as a separate organization, with the birth of the National Policy in 1878. From that time Mr. Foster devoted himself almost exclusively to his law business, and some years since obtained a silk gown from the present Government in recognition of his legal talent. Had he been spared to his country a few years longer, we think there cannot be any doubt of his succeeding to higher rewards in a profession of which he was for many years so distinguished an ornament.

HON. JOHN NORQUAY.—This well known man is prairie born, a native Manitoban, and has done his full share of service in public life. He is the only member who has held his seat in the Legislative Assembly of his Province, without a break, since the union, in 1870. He was born on the 8th May, 1841, and educated at St. John's Academy, where he took a scholarship in 1854. He is a member of Council of Manitoba University. He first made his mark, in the dark and dangerous days of the Red River Rebellion, in 1870; was Minister of Public Works and Agriculture from December 1871 to July 1874, Provincial Secretary in 1875, and at the head of Public Works again in 1876. In 1878 he was called on to form a Government, and held on to power for several years, amid a very stormy time. He sits in the Legislature for St. Andrews, and although in opposition now, with only a small following, is still one of the strong men of the North-West.

BABES IN THE WOOD.—We would like our readers to look at this picture. It is not an ideal one, nor is it a copy from a painting. The scene is recent and Canadian, in a wood near Quebec, and was photographed from nature by Captain Imlah, R.C.A. Three points are characteristic and give a smack of originality to the picture. First, it is a sultry fall day, the dress of the two children showing that in its scantiness and whiteness, to say nothing of the bare legs. There is no mistake about one thing—the young ones are sleeping soundly, like true Babes in the Wood. Look at the fat, rounded legs, and the upheld arm, and the big full face in the repose of health and sleep. Then the three stories of Canadian forests—silver birches—with trunks as white as snow, and as an artist would like to have them. Finally, feel the depth of that floor, the extraordinary spread of the leaves, and the size thereof, most of them from our national maple.

THE STANDARD BUILDING.—This may be called the pioneer of the modern era of office building in Montreal. The foundations were laid in 1883, and the edifice was completed in 1885. Its dimensions are 60 feet front by 100 feet depth, and five stories in height, besides basement and sub-basement. The material is brown sandstone. Is it to-day one of the handsomest buildings in Montreal, and will always be one of those pointed to with pride by the citizen cicerone. Mr. Wm. Miller Ramsay, the popular Manager of The Standard Life Assurance Company in Canada, presides over the large business of this institution and has his offices on the second floor. The first floor of the building is occupied by the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Royal Insurance Company. The Standard Life Assurance Company was established at Edinburgh in 1825. Its success has been uninterrupted, and the Standard claims to have done, during the five years just closed, a larger aggregate business than any other British Life Office confining its operations within the Queen's Dominions. This result may be attributed not only to the wide and influential connections of the Company, combined with a long course of able and careful management in the past, but also in no small measure to the liberality of its dealings, and the constant adoption by the Directors of all improvements and facilities bearing on the contract of Life Assurance. This Company has been established and honourably known in the Dominion of Canada for a long number of years. Persons assuring with the Standard have thus the advantage of dealing with an office which has stood the test of time, and to persons resident in the Dominion the Standard offers the combined advantages of a local Canadian Office and of a large British Institution of world-wide connection. As a Local Office it affords all the advantages which are conferred by Resident Secretaries and Agents assisted by Local Boards of Directors, who have authority to accept proposals, collect premiums, settle claims, carry out surrenders of policies, etc., while, as an old and influential British company, it is in the position of possessing immense funds and extended opportunity of investing them throughout the British dominions, as well as that greater experience in conducting business which can only be acquired by a company having a wide area of operations. The returns of the Standard show that it has: Subsisting assurances, \$100,000,000; invested funds, \$3,000,000; an annual income of \$4,450,000; investments in Canada, \$4,000,000; deposited with Government, \$1,000,000. It can evidently afford to own a handsome place of business, which, moreover, yields in rental a fair interest on the outlay.

JACQUES CARTIER SQUARE.—This is a scene, during the week before Easter, when the snow had not yet disappeared, but the produce trade was brisk all the same. Jacques Cartier leads to, and on big days is part of, Bonsecours Market, the greatest retail field of its kind in Canada, and where the French-Canadian huckster and the Montreal-born huckster-woman can be studied in all their glory. The pillar and statue, at the head of the square, are there to the memory of Nelson, and they have been there some eighty years, being perhaps the most artistic statuary in Canada.

BONSECOURS MARKET.—This is a scene on the eve of Christmas. The snow has come and trade is brisk. Every mortal, eating or spectacular, is there for bargain, and the Babel that goes on, with women's tongues above the din, is phenomenal. If you are shrewd, you can drive sharpest bargains there; if not, you are sure to pay a twofold price. Of meats, the chief sale is in pork and turkeys, of which the French are specially fond.

MASONIC TEMPLE AND GRAND OPERA HOUSE, LONDON.—The Masonic Temple, located at the corner of King and Richmond streets, is one of the most imposing structures in the City of London. It was dedicated in 1881 and occupied in 1883. The building is of three storeys and basement, the front on Richmond and King streets being occupied as offices and stores. The westerly half of the building is an opera house (the Grand), capable of seating 1,400 persons comfortably. The Lodge rooms of the different Masonic bodies are on the third and fourth floors and handsomely fitted up. The building was erected under the auspices of the Masonic Fraternity, and half of its cost (over \$60,000) was secured by means of the Gift Enterprise (or lottery) set afoot by the Masonry of London. It is managed by a directorate of five of the Brethren, R. W. Bro. Geo. S. Birrel being the president. Its total cost was over \$120,000.

THE MCCLARY FIRE, LONDON.—On the night of the 30th November, the McClary Manufacturing Company's stove foundry, of London, Ont., caught fire and burned furiously. The brigade, aided by volunteers from the military school, fought the flames, and finally got them under control. The fire was confined to the stamping and japan-

ning departments and the storehouse. Some 150 tons of tinware were destroyed. Two firemen were knocked from a ladder, but not seriously hurt, by a falling cornice. The cause of the fire is supposed to have been spontaneous combustion in the varnish room. The company employ about 400 hands, of whom 100 worked in the burned department.

A PICNIC ON THE ST. FRANCIS.—This picnic was held on the River St. Francis, three miles above the Village of Melbourne, and among those present were the Right Hon. Lord Aylmer, of Melbourne; His Honour Judge Tait, of Sweetsburg; Mayor Hart, of Richmond; Captains Brown and Harkom, of the 54th Battalion, and J. G. Lloyd, assistant engineer of the Grand Trunk Railway. The picnic was held in one of the favourite spots out of the many to be found on this river, and it may be mentioned that Melbourne is getting to be quite a summer resort for people from Montreal. Mr. James R. Miller, of Melbourne, will please accept our thanks for the photograph.

CAMP AT ISLE-AUX-NOIX.—The historical part of Isle-aux-Noix, twelve miles from St. Johns, P.Q., is a favourite resort for picnics and camping expeditions, and hardly a day passes without some gay party or other going to enjoy the cool breeze and picturesque view of this charming place. Fishing is good, pickerel, bass, etc., being abundant, especially as you round the south channel of the island. Ducks, snipes, plovers, blackbirds, find there an easy shelter in the long grass along the shore. Our engraving shows the camp after a short siesta. The big log has already served as a bonfire the previous night, and is still capable of holding out another "nocturnal." The fish caught in the morning was plentiful, and the spoils are hanging on the log. The campers have given an "airing" to their wet blankets, whilst the organ by the "maestro" is silent until the spasm of the photo's stare is over. The tent is planted on a rising ground, at the entrance of the "officers' walk" leading to the officers' "old mess quarters." The old poplars, standing there as two "unrelieved sentinels of yore," shelter the camp effectively from sun and rain. The campers are, probably, still thinking of the hail-storm that occurred the day previous, when one of the party secured enough "hail" to make *punches glacks* for two days; of the "clay pipe of peace" offered to strangers; or of the modern way of photographing groups. We are indebted for the photos to a band of St. Johns boys, several of whom figure in the foreground—Aldermen Arpin, Boucher and others.

DALHOUSIE GATE, QUEBEC CITADEL.—Of all the historic monuments connecting modern Quebec with its eventful and heroic past, none have deservedly held a higher place in the estimation of the antiquarian, the scholar, and the curious stranger, than the gates of the renowned fortress. Of the gates, as originally built, there only remains to-day the Dalhousie Gate, forming the entrance to the Citadel, built in 1827, and the Chaingate. St. Louis, St. John and Palace Gates, raised under French dominion, together with Hope and Prescott Gates, provided by the British Government since the Conquest, have long since disappeared. The present St. Johns Gate was built in 1865, and St. Louis and Kent Gates in 1880.

CHRISTMAS MORN ACQUAINTANCE.—Our cover has a little engraving suited to the holiday season. The child awakes to the echoes of the Christmas chimes, pealing from the parish steeple, and the first thing it sees, on opening its eyes, is the Punchinello which was laid upon his bed. Then the string begins to play, the manikin will be hauled up and down all day, and the chances are that, by night, the whole machinery will have been thrown out of gear.

DR. H. P. WRIGHT.—Last week, after waiting up to the last moment for the letter, and when it was too late to make a change, we had to let the portrait of Dr. Wright go, without any biographical notice. Since then these notes were received and we are happy to publish them. Dr. H. P. Wright, of Ottawa, is the chosen president of the Canada Medical Association, having been elected at their last meeting in Ottawa. His term of office does not begin until August next, the acting president being Dr. Geo. Ross, so favourably known in Montreal. Dr. Wright is a Canadian, having been born in Toronto in 1851. Graduating in the spring of 1870, at McGill College, Montreal, with honours as final prizeman, he entered upon the practice of his profession at St. Clair River. A large country practice, built up in eighteen years, presaged his present enviable position. As previously contemplated by him, he removed to Ottawa in 1872, partially led to choose the Capital as his permanent home by the fact that his father held a responsible position in the Civil Service. Up to the present, his work has been that of an untiring practitioner, quietly but laboriously pursuing his noble profession; and now, through the combined influence of an ability that commands respect, and social qualities that transform the physician into a friend, we find him, at the early age of 38, at the head of his profession, elected to fill the chair of what is our National Medical Association. Although this is his first appearance in public in any official capacity, he has held several professional appointments, such as examiner in physiology in the College of Physicians and Surgeon of Ontario, etc. He is one of the promoters of the local Medical Association, was its first secretary, and afterward president, and has served for over twelve years on the staff of the County of Carleton Protestant Hospital.

Mr. Baldasano y Toptete, who succeeds the late Count de Premio Real as Spanish Consul-General, has arrived at Quebec with his family and will make that city his headquarters.