

coming when Canadians shall have a distinctive literature and distinguished literary men. We see with prophetic vision, the time when liberal encouragement will be given to native genius, and when honour will be showered upon the gifted and patriotic man of letters. And while we thus speak with confidence, we would not for a moment wish to conceal our honest convictions, that in the growth of civilization and the sciences, material considerations will come to have more effect upon men's minds, and that poetry and idealism must gradually melt away before the progress of the Arts. But true literature will never die out; and while it must be modified to meet the ruling sentiments of the age and nation, there will always be multitudes to admire the beautiful and the grand. And he who makes nature his study will never fail to awaken a strong chord in men's hearts, as long as they have any virtue or religion left. We wait with patience for the Augustan age of Canadian Literature—and it will come.

#### AN ADVERTISING EXPOSE.

The *American Newspaper Reporter*, in an article on objectionable advertising, gives the following *expose* of a class of advertisements that appear only too frequently in the columns of the press both on the other side of the line and in Canada. After speaking of several kinds of objectionable advertising it goes on to say:—

Besides these and many more, there is another class of advertising which, although not so vile as that alluded to, is nevertheless most pernicious in its effects, and the publishers who receive it are justly censurable. We refer now to advertisements which promise great wages for little service. The following advertisement, which we copy from George P. Rowell & Co.'s list of the past winter, omitting signature, and which was published in thousands of papers, is a fair illustration:

**\$425 A MONTH!** Horse and carriage furnished. Expenses paid.

Now let us inquire what is a fair interpretation of the above by the average newspaper reader. (We do not mean by publishers, advertising agents, and others who are always looking out for swindlers, but by the common reader.) Is it not this? The advertiser offers to pay \$425 a month, furnish horse and carriage, and pay the expenses of a certain number of men to work for him. What is the effect of its extended publication? Ten thousand persons from Maine to Texas, whose wages never averaged \$425 a year, and who go on foot at that, and pay their own expenses, apply to the advertiser for the situation. Probably ninety per cent. of the applicants enclose stamps for reply. They soon learn from a cheaply-printed circular that they entirely misapprehended the meaning of the advertisement; that the advertiser did not propose to hire on the above or any other salary, but that he had certain property in the shape of valuable receipts (or something else) which he will sell for the small sum of \$2.50, and the party who once becomes possessed of these has a mine of wealth—he can easily clear his \$425 a month, and ride in his carriage like a lord.

Perhaps seventy-five per cent. of these ten thousand applicants see they are sold, and so save being swindled. The other twenty-five per cent. conclude to try their luck and send on their money. You know the rest of the story. Twenty-five hundred poor people are swindled out of (in the aggregate) from five to ten thousand dollars, through the means of the newspapers whom they trusted, and one or two precious villains are enriched that amount.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

The restoration of the writing on manuscripts charred by fire may, it is said, be accomplished by separating the charred paper into single leaves, immersing them in a solution of nitrate of silver (forty grains to the ounce of water.) The operation is to be conducted in a dark room, and when the writing is sufficiently legible the excess of silver solution should be washed out with distilled water and dilute solution of hyposulphite of soda.—*American Artisan*.

The St. Gothard tunnel is now the great engineering project in Europe. The success of the Mount Cenis tunnel has aroused the fears of Switzerland and Germany regarding the future of the Asiatic trade. In order, therefore, to be on an equal footing in this respect with France, it is proposed to pierce the Alps near the St. Gothard Pass. The estimated cost is \$37,000,000; the tunnel will be twice as long as the Mount Cenis, and the rocks are much more difficult to manage, but it is thought that with the experience which has been gained in other works, it can be constructed in a much shorter time than was required for the Mount Cenis tunnel.

**SEXUALITY OF HEART DISEASE.**—Dr. Richard Quain reports that enlargement of the heart, one of the most distressing and fatal diseases, is more than twice as frequent in males as in females, the precise proportion being 8 to 3. This remarkable liability to enlargement of men's hearts, as compared with those of women, is, he thinks, unquestionably due to the greater amount of work and anxiety which, under the present dispensation, falls upon man. Ladies may take this fact to heart, and reflect whether, in claiming the rights of woman, they may not at the same time incur the risks of men, and with them a new and unexpected form of disability.

Linseed oil is now, by a newly discovered process, made the basis of a very useful manufacture. It has been discovered that the oil of flax seed may be solidified by oxidation into a resinous substance, which by combination with other materials becomes very similar to caoutchouc, and can be dissolved into a cement, wrought into sheets, or by the process of vulcanization be brought into the condition of a hard solid material. It can thus be formed into ornamental or useful articles of infinite variety, and is already mixed with ground cork and spread on canvas, made into water-proof floor-cloths, which are perfectly pliable, soft and noiseless to walk upon, and which are far more durable than the ordinary kinds.

The accounts relating to the whereabouts of Dr. Livingstone are of late of a rather contradictory character. At a recent meeting of the Royal Geographical Society in London, Sir H. Rawlinson remarked that the opinion of the council of the society was favorable to the authenticity of the intelligence received by telegram announcing the great explorer's safety;

but it was believed that if there had been any discovery, it was Dr. Livingstone who had discovered Mr. Stanley, and not Mr. Stanley who had discovered and relieved Dr. Livingstone. The reason given for taking this view of the subject was, that by the last accounts they knew that Mr. Stanley was without supplies, and must have undergone much difficulty in getting to Ujiji, whereas this place was Dr. Livingstone's headquarters.

**AN ANCIENT RECORD.**—Mr. Henry Fox Talbot has recently read, before the Society of Biblical Archaeology, a paper on a "Curious Myth respecting the birth of Sargina." Sargina the first was an ancient king in Babylonia, his capital being at Agani, in that country, at a date so far distant that the site of the city has never been discovered. The remarkable discovery of Mr. Talbot is that the account of his birth and infancy, recorded on a tablet in the British Museum, has many strange points of similarity to the history of Moses recorded in the Pentateuch. The following is a literal translation of the hieroglyphical inscription: "In a secret place, my mother brought me forth. She placed me in an ark of bulrushes; with bitumen she closed up the door. She threw me into the river, which did not enter into the ark. The river bore me up and brought me to the dwelling of a kind hearted fisherman. He saved my life and brought me up as his own son," etc. The original inscription was doubtless a long one, but only the commencement has been preserved.

The following is the report of the analysis made by the chemists of Naples on the mixture of ashes, cinders, and sand which have fallen so abundantly in Naples and neighbourhood during the past week:—"The ashes are of a dark grey colour, heavy, of a slightly acid taste, and grate between the teeth. Water dissolves but an infinitesimal portion of them and the solution derived therefrom is of a decidedly acid nature. Heated a bituminous odour is exhaled, and the presence of chloric acid gas denoted with condensed chloride of ammonia mixed with slight traces of chloride of iron. Traces of sulphuric acid, too, have been discovered, as also of pure sulphuric acid, which last is probably due to the exposure of the first to the humidity of the atmosphere. Not the least trace of sulphuretted hydrogen has been visible, and only a very small quantity of sulphuric acid, and no small portion of common sulphur. Notwithstanding that the different analyses have been made with the greatest precision no arsenical combination has been brought to light. The other components of the ashes constitute a silicate indissoluble in water."

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

A woman has been arrested in San Francisco for attempting to erase from the tombstone of her child that portion of its name which it took from her first husband. She had been divorced from that husband and had one now that suited her better, and she intended to substitute the name of the new beloved for that originally inscribed on the tablet. But number one, who had some claims on that child, stepped in and stopped the erasing process.

It is curious how great ideas will float about in the world. There is Mr. Darwin who, after extensive research and deep study, has hit upon the idea of the descent of man from animals. Now comes Mr. Poole, another Englishman, just from the Queen Charlotte Islands, who tells us that the natives claim their descent from the crow; they also give reverent form to the idea by protecting crow nests and never killing the birds.

**NEW USE FOR PAPER.**—In Pearl Street, New York, there is a mill which makes from paper such articles as milk-pans, cups, bread-pans, washbowls, etc., which are said to be superior to wood or metal. The paper, after being pulped, is pressed into a shape, dried, enameled, and subjected to a heat that would destroy some utensils of the kind; the material is light and easily handled, and does not rust, shrink, leak, or easily break.

A Scotch frog has caught a weasel napping, for we are told that a few days ago a frog was found swimming in a pond near Haggis Ha', with a dead weasel hanging by the teeth from one of its legs. The weasel had evidently endeavoured to make prey of the amphibious one, which, with something akin to presence of mind, took to the water to save itself, and, dragging the foe downwards, managed to drown it; the dentals of the weasel being so firmly fixed in the frog's limb that it could not extricate itself or be shaken off.

Boys of the annoying and troublesome sort had better give Doctors a wide berth, or, at any rate, manage to treat the learned men respectfully. At Dundee, in Scotland, lately, a Doctor being bothered by mischievous lads, seized one of them, carried him into the house, and pulled out one of his teeth! No fee was charged for this operation; on the contrary, it was the Doctor himself who was obliged to pay a fine of £1, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment. Good for the Doctor; but not, on the whole, bad for the boy.

The *Scotsman*, in an obituary notice of Bishop Terrot, mentions a story which he used to relate with great gusto. It befel a dignified clergyman, perhaps himself. An Irish beggar was imploring him for charity, and using an enormous number of sacred oburgations. The dignified clergyman looked him solemnly in the face: "No, I will not give relief to one who appeals to me so indecorously; but I will give you what will be of more value to you in your present state of mind—the advice not to take the name of God in vain." Irishman answers: "And is it in vain I've been taking it? And whose fault is that, I should like to know?"

**GARDENING FOR LADIES.**—I know one lady whose sensible doctor told her twenty years ago that she was half gone in consumption, and that her only chance of life was to be in the open air as much as possible. And a perfect bower of Paradise was her little yard. Was the soil poor? She enriched it. Were her varieties indifferent? She procured better. Nearly all the flowers were fragrant. Fifteen kinds of roses bloomed under her hands, and a succession of flowers filled out the summer. One side of the yard was covered with grapes. Peaches, plums, and raspberries were trained on espalier, and choice squashes ripened on the roofs of the out-houses. Tomatoes were trained to singe poles and yielded luxuriantly; and ruby strawberries peeped out even from the bleaching grass. She, herself, was as fresh and vigorous as

you could expect one to be whose half-decayed lung had left her with insufficient vitality. But her life was saved, and it has been a happiness to herself and a blessing to others.—*John Coleman*.

**SANITARY.**—In order to keep the lungs cool and equable in their action, the blood should never flow into their cells more rapidly than they are competent to aerate it, and for this reason the bed-quilt in the summer season should not be doubled above the chest of the sleeper, but simply brought up to the level of the throat, and the sheet turned over it. The warmth of the doubled fabric would generally be found too oppressive in warm weather—and it is a very important rule that if we wish to have healthy lungs and a clear brain, all unnecessary excitements of the system must be avoided.

**RAPID ADVANCEMENT.**—A little *empressment* and awkwardness on the part of Madame Thiers in the reception of a lady of moderate rank, with the belief that she was a du-hess of the *crème* of society, recalls to memory that an English lady, with a very fine, high-sounding French name, and probably the descendant of some political outlaw, went to a ball at the Tuileries during the reign of the Emperor Napoleon, and gave her name as Madame M—; on the first landing this was changed to Madame de M—; and by the time our fair compatriot (and she was very fair) reached the saloon where the Emperor was standing surrounded by his Court and the high dignitaries of the Empire, she found herself a duchess. Now the Emperor was always very anxious to get the old noblesse of the Faubourg St. Germain to come to the Tuileries, but with few exceptions—those of the Duc de Mouchy, the Duc de Gramont, the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, and a few others—he had not succeeded. When, therefore, the usher announced Madame la Duchesse de M—, he instantly left the Empress, to whom he was talking, stepped gallantly forward, and offered Mrs. M—his arm. The lady was very much astonished, not having paid any attention to the announcement, and it was only when the Emperor asked if her grace had come up to Paris from her chateau X—that she perceived the error, and undeceived His Majesty, who made her a bow, and returned rather crestfallen to the Empress. However, in the course of the evening Napoleon III. sought out Madame M—, and explaining the error, apologised for his seeming want of politeness, laughed over the mistake, asked Mrs. M—to dine, and was ever after most civil and kind to her and her family.

**LIEBIG ON LAGER.**—A correspondent has interviewed Baron Liebig, the celebrated German chemist, at his home in Munich, and gleaned his views upon the lager question. "Beer," said the Baron, "is better than brandy. Man must have a stimulant of some sort. Brandy is a great evil. We find that the consumption of beer is making great headway even in wine districts—for instance, in Stuttgart. As a nourishment, beer takes a very subordinate place, not higher, indeed, than potatoes; and we find that in no city is there such an amount of meat consumed as in Munich, where the greatest quantity of beer is also consumed. Beer must have meat or albumen. Before every beer cellar in Munich, you will find a cheese-stand. Why? Because in cheese you will find that albumen which in beer is lacking. Therefore you see that beer and cheese go together by a law of Nature! But as an article of nourishment, beer is very subordinate. Schnapps is a great misfortune, and destroys the working power. Through our late war, we have won great respect for tobacco, tea, coffee, and extract of meat. A physician told me that, when the wounded would take nothing else, they have grasped at cigars; their eyes glistening—they felt a lifting up of the sinking nerves. Tobacco must have this effect. We could not do our wounded, frequently, a greater service than by giving them cigars. And we came to the conclusion that tobacco was valuable to us." Baron Liebig evidently looks to America for an improvement in beer and the perfection of beer drinking. Said he: "It is a peculiarity of Americans that they make everything better than we do. I am convinced that American beer will, in time, be better than German. With us everything remains as it was. The worst beer brewers are in Bavaria—though it was earlier the best. And why? Look into our brewery system. The brewers are only ignorant people, who brew good beer from routine alone. They are incapable of helping themselves. But as soon as the Americans get anything from us they improve upon it, and we get it back again as an American discovery."

"Happy Thought."—Why not start a new Brotherhood? A social and sociable one. An order.

"What do I mean?" asks Milburd. Simplest thing possible.

Hosts are so often in want of some one to "fill up." A guest disappoints them at the last hour, and where are they to get another?

"Well," says Boodles, "how is another to be got?"

Easily; if, in a central situation, there were a house, a large house, where male guests of all sorts could be obtained. I explain myself more clearly.

A lady says, "Oh dear! Our ball will be overdone with ladies. I mean, we've got plenty of gentlemen, but I don't know what's the matter with the young men now-a-days, hardly any of them dance."

If my Happy Thought is carried out, why here's her remedy.

Down she goes to the Home. Rings, Enters, Sees the Brother Superior, or Manager.

"What sort of young men do you want?"

"Well, specially for dancing, and generally effective."

Good. Here is the very thing to suit you. "We've got only three of these in, as there's such a demand just now for this article, during the season."

Terms, so much an hour. Supper at lib. included. Break-ages not allowed as discount. Any complaints as to incivility, serious and compromising flirting, or of laziness, to be made to the Manager or Brother Superior.

I would call this order

"The little Brothers of the rich."

Evening flirtations upon the bank of the lake have commenced. It is a trifle early in the season, but he spreads his overcoat for a seat, and she lends him half of her shawl, which with a pound of peppermint drops serves to keep them warm and "wakes to ecstasy the living liar."

Were we to believe nothing but what we could perfectly comprehend, not only our stock of knowledge in all the branches of learning would be shrunk up to nothing, but even the affairs of common life could not be carried on.