

hopefulness and their endurance that they find their chief power. Who is the last person to give up hope in the case of a member of the family who has apparently gone altogether to the bad? What mother or sister with deep and ardent love for such will ever cease to cherish hope or endure suffering on their account? The patience of women is proverbial, and their whole lives are bound up in their affections. Few people will deny that love in one form or another makes up the beauty of life to women. It enters into all she does. Any work outside her immediate circle is undertaken most often from pure desire to help some one else to know something of the mysterious happiness of love. Unlike men women chiefly look for personal intercourse with those for whom they are working. If their interest lies among the poor, they are desirous of sympathetic personal acquaintance with them; and very little good work of a lasting kind has been done by women without their own influence of love being brought to bear on the individual case. Without dwelling on the greater physical weakness of women in general, it is a fact that their brains are more easily deranged, and unless they change greatly they are apt to deteriorate in essential womanly qualities if thrown much or prominently before the world. They are seldom fitted to rule; emulation and jealousy being generally strong in character, while their feelings and judgments are often rapid in the extreme. It is in the heart, therefore, that a woman will more especially feel the effects of Agnosticism, whether those effects be for good or for evil. Her head may gain in grasp of logic and in clearness of view; but if her heart, with all its powers for good, is weakened and discouraged, she will gain little ultimately by the spread of the new views. When the heart is dispirited, or thrown back upon itself, the action that springs from it tends inevitably to fall lifeless to the ground.—*Ibid.*

GLASS.

As to the original discovery of glass, it is more than probable the tale handed down by Pliny has a larger spice of truth than is usual in such cases. The story has been challenged, but its probability is confirmed by the fact that Mr. Nesbitt possesses a lump of impure glass formed by the burning of a stack of wheat. And glass is often formed in the course of certain metallurgical operations. It is noteworthy that sand from the mouth of the river Belus, in Phœnicia, the site of the alleged discovery of glass-formation, was imported in later times to Venice, probably for the use of the glass factories. From Egypt a great trade in this manufacture was carried on for many ages, including murrhine vases made at Diospolis. Aurelian decreed that part of the Egyptian tribute to Rome should be paid in glass. The craft was so far developed in that country as to furnish an example now in the Slade Collection, being a small bust, with a lock of hair hanging over the forehead, "which is not much broader than a horsehair, yet when examined with a powerful lens seem to be composed of nine threads alternately transparent and opaque glass." On the other hand, records tell of obelisks and statues in Phœnicia and Egypt which are said to be of emerald, but were, doubtless, of green glass. Herodotus says that he saw in the Temple of Hercules at Tyre a statue or column of emerald, and Pliny cites Apion to the effect that in the Egyptian Labyrinth was a figure of Serapis, thirteen feet and a half high, and Theophrastus described an obelisk sixty feet high, made of four "emeralds." The so-called "aggry" heads which have been found in Ashantee may have been bartered for gold with Phœnician traders; and the "serpent stones" or "Druid's Beads," about which many legends have gathered in Wales and Ireland, seem to have been imported by the traders of Tyre and Sidon, and exchanged for Cornish tin or gold of Wales. As a bead of this kind was found in a British tumulus in Wiltshire, it could not have been derived from modern or mediæval Venice, whence such articles are even now exported to Africa and elsewhere. Many of the little vases found in tombs in countries bordering on the Mediterranean, and which, on account of their shapes, are generally called Greek, are supposed to have been made in Phœnicia, if not in Egypt. A large proportion of them, however, bear the characteristic chevrons of differing colours which, whether they occur in rude pottery or exquisitely finished glass, we are accustomed to associate with the Phœnicians in preference to the Egyptians, two manufacturing peoples between whose claims to these relics our author is unable to decide. Except that the chevrons occur in Egyptian hieroglyphics as symbols of water, we do not remember any unquestionable grounds for attributing this decoration to the craftsmen of the Nile in preference to their neighbours.—*Athenæum.*

NOTES OF NEWS.

The new Liberal Cabinet contains one more member than Earl Beaconsfield's, but one less than when Mr. Gladstone was previously in power. The united ages of the fourteen Cabinet ministers reach a total of 819, and their salaries amount to £28,925. First in years as in honour stands Mr. Gladstone, his age being 71, and salary £5,000; and then come Mr. Bright, 69, £2,000; Lord Selborne, 68, £10,000; Earl Granville, 65, £5,000; Earl Spencer, 65, £2,000; Mr. Forster, 62, £4,425; Duke of Argyll, 57, £2,000; Sir W. Harcourt, 55, £5,000; Mr. Dodson, 55, £2,000; Earl of Kimberley, 54, £5,000; Earl of Northbrook, 54, £4,500; Mr. Childers, 53, £5,000; Marquis of Hartington, 47, £5,000; and Mr. Chamberlain, 44, £2,000.

GOVERNORS OF CANADA.

Sir George Murray, an English General and statesman, died in London, at the age of 74, on the 28th of July, 1846. The following is an extract from the obituary notice in the *Annual Register* for that year:

"He was nominated a Knight of the Bath, Sept. 11, 1813, before the enlargement of that order. After serving for a short time as Adjutant-General in Ireland, he was appointed to the Government of the Canadas, and thither he proceeded without delay. A short time had only elapsed, when the Secretary of State announced to him that Napoleon had landed at Cannes. Sir George had the choice of either remaining in Canada or of returning to Europe. He preferred rejoining his old companions in arms," etc.

It is also recorded in the *Annual Register* for 1774, that Major-General James Johnson was named Governor of Quebec in the place of the Hon. Lieut.-General James Murray, on the 26th November, 1774; and in Haydn's "Book of Dignities" Johnson's name is on the list of Governors of Canada.

Were these two appointments actually made? The question is submitted to students of Canadian history.—*Canadian Illustrated News.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR.

SIR,—The object of my letter respecting *Art's* criticism has been attained, as Mr. J. W. Gray acknowledges its authorship.

I dismiss the matter by leaving the public to form its estimate of Mr. Gray's good taste in writing anonymously such severe comments upon pictures by his brother Canadian Artists; pictures, which, judging from his joint contribution, "*A Summer's Afternoon*" (*Essex*), No. 69, he has neither the genius to produce nor the ability to copy.

Mr. Gray's references to the picture by Coleman, and the Wedgwood plate are utterly irrelevant and devoid of truth.

Thos. D. King.

Montreal, May 22nd.

HURON AND ONTARIO SHIP CANAL.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR.

SIR,—I observed only to-day in your issue of the 1st inst. that "there is something very mysterious about the Huron and Ontario Canal business." In reply I would respectfully assert, the only mystery there is about it is, that it is useful in its construction, truthful in its organization as a Company, free from jobbery and fraud and for the real permanent development of the resources of this our great country "Canada"; by an amalgamation of the interest of water and rail which the great God has given us—the most unrivalled water communication in the world to be improved by art—Canada will secure the bulk of the trade of the great West and Northwest by the St. Lawrence, and in the end really become a Nation. Your insertion of this correction in your really independent paper will oblige,

Yours truly,

Fred. C. Copriol.

Toronto 26th May, 1880.

[HELD OVER FROM LAST WEEK.]

To the Editor of the CANADIAN SPECTATOR:

SIR,—I notice in the *Canadian Monthly Magazine* for May, page 538, a hymnal production over the initials "W. G.," and entitled (somewhat presumptuously, I think) "Luther's Hymn." Should the noble and valorous Luther re-visit these terrestrial regions, I am inclined to think that he would resent, with much indignation, the attempted improvement on the magnificent original, as given by our Torontonion friend. I do not object to the *tone* of the hymn, which is proper and commendable.

Now, a hymn for musical adaptation requires uniformity of metre, whereas in this case the author throws all measure to the winds, rendering it an impossibility to accommodate the words to music, unless each verse had a tune of its own, which, of course, would be highly inconvenient for the purposes of congregational singing.

The rhymes used by "W. G." appear to me to be somewhat strained, and in some cases highly improper. In verse 1 we have *abode* to rhyme with *God*, *harm us* with *arm us*; verse 2, *man* with *vain*, *deliver* with *ever*, and the last line of each verse rhymes with nothing at all, being intended evidently for ornament, or to give a sort of martial effect to the somewhat inharmonious whole. There is also in some parts a spirit of mystery that might somewhat perplex even the *Prince of Ill* himself should he *come* as so politely requested to do by "W. G."

On page 544 of the same number there is also an ode—or a poem, or a something—addressed to H. R. H. Princess Louise, by "Canada." No one can claim more loyalty to our good Queen or more fealty to her royal children than myself, but I doubt if H. R. H., whose known nobility of soul and devotion to all that is æsthetic and artistic, would experience much gratification in the perusal of the lines referred to. The reference to *danger* threatening