

Prominent Women.

No. 13.—Miss Bell.

Canadian art and literature, if they can be said to exist, are in their infancy. That every true Canadian should strive to encourage our young efforts to build up a natural art and literature is beyond question. Such efforts in the last few years have indeed been encouraged, though the movement is circumscribed and the chances of making a livelihood for the votaries of art and literature in Canada are small, as the picture-buyers of Montreal and Toronto go to the Old World for their art.

Miss Bell, the artist, is the daughter of Mr. Andrew Bell, C. E., of Almonte, Ontario. His brother, the late Dr. John Bell, will always be remembered in Montreal with respect and affection. All those interested in science appreciate Dr. Robert Bell, of Ottawa.

Mr. Bell's work on the dam at Carillon was the cause of his leaving the Province of Ontario and bringing his family to settle in St. Andrew's, a small village two miles from Carillon, where the dam across the Ottawa was to be built. Here Miss Bell lived for some time, showing always a great taste for drawing, amusing the little ones with wonderful pictures of fairies and giants, painting blue-eyed, rosy-cheeked paper dolls to delight the hearts of small friends and sisters. "When Min is a great artist," the children said.

Miss Bell entered the art school in Montreal, when she studied under Mr. Harris. She showed the most marked talent, and her masters felt when she left to join the Art League of New York that they were sending a pupil across the border who was to do them credit. Her progress here was rapid, she passed almost immediately from the antique to the life class. Miss Bell's delicate constitution could not stand the close and hard work of the school. She struggled bravely against this grave disadvantage, but was obliged to give in and return home. On the completion of the dam Mr. Bell returned to Almonte, Ontario.

Miss Bell remained at home for a year, recovering her strength in the hopes of continuing her studies in Paris, the Mecca of all art students. This wish was fulfilled, and in the spring of 1888 she joined Miss Houghton, who was studying there. They lived together going to the studios of Mr. Lagare, an American, and Carlo Rossa. As the spring advanced into summer, and the heat grew more intense they left Paris for Port Aven in Brittany.

The country life and the surroundings of the quaint old world-place so fascinated Miss Bell that she remained till the following spring, painting a picture for the salon, "La petite Malade." It was favorably criticised by Carolus, Durand, and Rocle said that with study and work there were qualities in the picture which promised that the young artist *should become a master*. The picture was hung in the salon, Miss Bell returning to Paris for the great event.

Miss Bell and Miss Houghton once more settled down together, but in the Luxembourg quarters, dear to the hearts of art students. They joined Cola Rosse's classes where Courtois, Dagnan Bouvert, Bixens and Blanc corrected.

This was the spring of the great exhibition at which collections from all parts of the civilized world were exhibited. Such great opportunities were eagerly seized, and delightful days were spent in the different galleries.

This summer Miss Bell and her friend crossed to England where they spent the summer and late autumn in St. Ives, Cornwall. Here Miss Bell painted her strongest picture "Twilight." Her knowledge of technique is clearly shown. Her power of seeing and depicting sentiment in the people about her, the feeling of rest and tranquility which pervades this hour combine to render this picture charming. The two artists returned to Paris for the New Year.

They took a studio apartment near their old quarters and once more returned into the delightful life of freedom and hard and interesting work, which makes the Bohemia of Paris so entrancing. At an exhibition of student's work held in one of Cola Rosse's classrooms, Courtois mentioned Miss Bell's name among the best workers in the school, adding he did not understand why the work of Marie Baskkerseff should be talked of in a school where there were students who worked as the ladies he had mentioned did.

After a summer spent at Montigny near Fountainbleau, another winter of hard work in Paris Miss Bell's and Miss Houghton's thoughts were turned homeward. Miss Bell did not return till the autumn of 1891. A delightful trip was taken through the Low Countries to wind up with three months painting in Etaples pas de Calais.

Miss Bell is now established in Montreal as a painter of children's portraits.

In appearance Miss Bell is small with quantities of brown hair and blue eyes. When one looks at her delicate physique, one wonders that so much will and determination could be contained in a body so fragile and delicate.

In this series have already appeared:

- No. 1—Lady Stanley.
- " 2—Hon. Mrs. Dewdney, Ottawa.
- " 3—Hon. Mrs. Herbert, Ottawa.
- " 4—Miss Marjorie Campbell, Toronto.
- " 5—Miss Pauline Johnson, Brantford.
- " 6—Agnes Maule Machar, Kingston.
- " 7—Hon. Mrs. Nelson, Victoria, B. C.
- " 8—Madame d'Auria, Toronto.
- " 9—Lady Tilley, Ottawa.
- " 10—Agnes Knox, Toronto.

- " 11—Maud Ogilvy.
- " 12—Mrs. Martha D. Lincoln, Washington.

A BRIGHT little four-year-old boy was lying in the grass and looking into the sky, when he spied the moon. He was astonished to see it in the daytime. Suddenly jumping up, he rushed into the house and cried:

"O mamma, God forgot to take his moon in last night!"

Society Doings.

"What the world of fashion is doing."

GENERAL.

HIS Excellency the Governor General and party left Ottawa last week for Metapodia, where he will spend the summer, except for a short visit to prorogue parliament.

CANADIAN ladies should bestir themselves with regard to the ladies' exhibit at the World's Fair next year. A committee of selection has been appointed, and the finest specimens of ladies' work shown at the principal exhibitions this fall will be chosen to represent Canada at Chicago. This will also lend an additional interest to our own exhibitions this year.

THE actress Adele Sandrock has been declared a bankrupt. Her liabilities are officially stated at 70,000 florins, mostly due to the persons who made the dresses worn in her recent American tour. Her assets consist of these dresses and a set of jewelry.

TORONTO.

SIR LEONARD AND LADY TILLEY are visiting the city. They are the guests of Lieut. Col. Toller.

MRS. BROUGHALL, wife of Rev. A. J. Broughall, and Miss Lloyd of Port Hope left on Tuesday for Europe, where they will travel some months.

ON Thursday evening the Heintzman Co. band serenaded Mr. Thomas Paddon, an old employee of the firm at his Villa on Bolton avenue.

THE hall of the College of Music was well filled on Thursday by the friends of the pupils when a very creditable programme was gone through.

THE season at Victoria park was opened last week when a large number visited this popular resort. A large picnic from Scarboro was also held there.



MISS BELL, ARTIST.

MRS. GERMAN entertained the members of the Stationing Committee of the Toronto Conference to an "At Home," at the parsonage, Parkdale, on Tuesday evening.

NEARLY \$600 was realized by the Public school children's concert in the Mutual street rink on the 3rd inst. The concert is to be repeated on the evening of Dominion Day.

PROF. JOHN D. LAWSON, son of Mr. J. Lawson, of King street, east, has this week had conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D., by the University of Columbia, Mo.

THE Warden of York's annual excursion took place on Tuesday, the Hamilton Steamboat Co. taking the party there. We go to press too soon to give a full account, but more next week.

MR. L. VANKOUGHNET Deputy-Superintendent of India affairs, has left for England at the bidding of his physician. There are some fears that he may not be able to resume duty, owing to his ill-health.

A LARGE party from Toronto went up to the new natural gas wells at New Toronto last Saturday. A demonstration of the large powers of the last well was given, and a capital little speech made on the subject by Mr. Wright, of Montreal.

MISS ALICE WOODWARD TURNER, of the Philadelphia School of Oratory, reader and teacher of the Delsarte system of expression and physical culture, will spend the summer in Toronto. She has studied with Mme. Gerald Delsarte, and comes very highly recommended.

WE regret to hear that Mr. G. E. Brame, the well-known musician is suffering from severe trouble with his throat. I hope it will be nothing lasting and that, with a long summer's rest before him, he will completely regain his usual strength. We cannot afford to lose this unassuming and genial worker. I have many recollections of some of his jokes, which only lack of space prevents my relating here.

THE Band Concerts commenced last Monday, the Q.O.R. band playing in the evening in Clarence Square. The forthcoming dates are as follows:—June 18th, afternoon, High Park, Q.O.R.; June 22nd, evening, Riverside Park, Grenadiers; June 24th, evening, Queen's Park, Q.O.R.; June 25th, afternoon, Island Park, Grenadiers.

THE marriage of Miss Mary Emmeline Biggar and Mr. George F. Burton, was solemnized at St. George's church last Thursday. The bridesmaids were Misses Mary and Isabel Biggar, Miss Gladys Burton and Misses Mary and Noah Casey. Mr. Hugh Langton was groomsmen, and Rev. Canon Cayley officiated. There was a reception afterwards at the house of the bride's father, 249 Simcoe street, at which a large number of friends and relatives were present.

PACKED or crammed is the only expression for the state of St. James Cathedral on the occasion of Miss Ella Gooderham's marriage to the Rev. E. C. Acheson last week. The bride's dress was of gros grain silk, trimmed with venetian point lace, the bouquet being of lilies of the valley. The bridesmaids, Misses Maggie, Lillie, Violet and Aileen Gooderham and Miss Mattie Lee wore dresses of Eau de Nile silk covered with cream spotted lisse and wool, large leghorn hats trimmed with white roses and green and white ribbons. Mr. Carter of New York was best man, and the ceremony was performed by Rev. Canon du Moulin, assisted by Rev. Canon Sanson. The happy couple left in the afternoon for the New England mountains, where they spend their honeymoon.

I CAN'T notice any more weddings this week. Their number has been simply appalling; every paper I pick up has accounts of a greater or less number, and if this goes on much longer—Well, I can't positively say—but I shall really begin to think of getting married myself.

THE annual commencement of the University was held in the Pavilion on Friday last. A large and fashionable audience was present to witness the ceremonies, but how did the geese, hens, etc., who made themselves so conspicuous by their cackling during one portion of the proceedings, manage to gain admittance. The few, however, gave a relief to proceedings which, much as I stand in awe of all dons and other magnates of our universities, might otherwise have been a trifle dull. Our sex were well to the fore, for Miss Lawler had the degree of M.A. conferred upon her, Miss L. D. Cummings took the William Mulock scholarship for Mathematics and to Miss J. A. Street was awarded the Morse Classical scholarship.

ONE of the largest audiences I have ever seen in the Pavilion assembled there on Friday last to witness the exercises in physical culture performed by 150 young ladies from our public schools. The stage was very prettily got up, and formed a very effective background to the pretty scenes formed as the various motions and exercises were gone through, under the able direction of Capt. J. T. Thompson. Mr. A. P. Perrin had charge of the musical programme, while Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay, the former as a vocalist, the latter at the piano, rendered effective service. We are well ahead in Canada as regards the physical culture of our young folks, and it is pleasing to see that when they come before the public their appearance is so well appreciated.

THE first concert of the Toronto Orchestral School was a decided success, and should encourage its promoters to go on in the good work. The School has now over sixty members, mostly young musicians and forms a free training for them. I fancy the best performance of the Orchestra was Gillet's "Lion du Bal" in which a fine pianissimo effect was obtained, and which was deservedly encored. The orchestral work all round was very good indeed, considering this is a new society, and does great credit to Mr. W. H. Torrington, its director. Among the soloists Miss Maud Snarr, Miss Lena Adamson, Miss Massey, Mr. Welsman, Mr. Chattoe and Master Bertie Plant all acquitted themselves creditably. Inspector Hughes presented Miss Adamson and Mr. Torrington with floral tributes, accompanied by a few appreciative words, to which Mr. Torrington suitably replied, claiming at the same time the support of the public for the new enterprise, Miss Massey was also presented with a fine bouquet.

HAMILTON.

MOST of the society people here were present last week at Senator Sanford's reception, at which the guests were invited for a double purpose, to meet Mrs. and Mr. E. Jackson Sanford, and to open his new residence, "Wesanford," which is now, after being for two years under the sway of the workmen, one of the most magnificent mansions in the Dominion. The decorations throughout are most artistic, the guest chambers being fitted up in Louis XV. style; and some of the paintings in the drawing-room, such as "The Child of Christ" by Hoffman, are a treat to witness.

EVERY arrangement had been made by the nurses at the Hospital for getting exercise in the intervals of rest from their arduous duties, by forming a Tennis Club to play on the lawn of the House of Refuge. Although strongly supported in their endeavor by the medical staff, through the apparently unreasonable opposition of the chairman of the Hospital committee they have been refused the simple privilege they asked for.

MR. J. M. GIBSON and Mrs. Gibson left last week for a three months' trip to the Rocky mountains and Pacific coast. Col. Gibson has long looked forward to this journey, and expects to return from the Rockies full of fresh health and vigor.