

Such are some of the scraps which we have gleaned from this third part of "Picturesque Canada," which, in our judgment are of sufficient interest to justify their extraction, and to render us "a little blind" to some of the minor faults of the writer.

THE DRESS OF THE PERIOD IN ITS RELATION TO HEALTH.

A lecture on the above-named subject has been delivered under the auspices of The National Health Society of Great Britain. Dr. Treves, who delivered it, has given us abundant food for reflection; the Doctor tells us that the costume of a people is to some extent a reflex of the national mind, so we may conclude that future generations will look back on the present era as an age in which their ancestors suffered from frizzes on the brain, from profusion of birds' feathers (or the imitations thereof), from elevated heels, from tight lacing, arsenic, powder, putty, and other addenda from the studio of the artist.

Fashion, the Doctor tells us, has at one time decreed that a woman should wear an excrescence on her head, and a lump on her back, and we might add, black patches on her skin. In quoting from a fashion-book, he says: "With this style of bonnet, the mouth is worn slightly open;" possibly the same book might direct that "the Grecian bond is worn with these heels, and the Alexandra limp with these." The edicts of a New York dress-maker or tailor will continue to command the fealty of the masses, spite of all considerations but those of fashion; it is therefore to little purpose, as we venture to opine, that a professional man, or any one else may deprecate tight-lacing or any other craze, so long as women cherish the delusion that men admire it; wasp-like waists, we should say, are about as abhorrent to most men as are waspish tempers. Dr. Treves' testimony with regard to the practice of tight lacing is that a lady who might elect to appear with one of her eyes closed with an ornamental plaster would be less insane than is the tightly laced, inasmuch as the plaster would obstruct but one organ, whereas the lacing injures many; the doctor also depicts a European lady lamenting the love of deformity of the Chinese, as manifested in their feet, and concludes that deformity of the waist is the greater evil, he even draws a comparison between the flattened heads of a certain Indian tribe and the flat heads which cherish deformed waists, and the comparison is not flattering to the civilized. The circumference of a waist in a perfectly developed woman is from 26 to 28 inches; "a perfect female waist," in the estimate of fashion, should not exceed 16, or about the circumference of the neck of an athletic man. In the majority of the models of the London costumiers, the waist measures from 20 to 21 inches; inasmuch as these models illustrate the sentiments of the dress-makers and their customers, they indicate a source of injury to the popular health which may help to account for the present rate of mortality. The natural waist is oval in outline (as seen in sections of the body); the deformed waist is round. It would doubtless be pronounced "uninteresting," were we to dilate at length on the variety of evils entailed by this ludicrous fashion; we must therefore be content to indicate that the malady styled gall-stones is said to be three times as common in women as it is in men; ulcer of the stomach also, colic, spasms, and affections of those organs from the derangement of which women exclusively suffer, are all largely attributable to the senseless practice of tight-lacing. It were easy to dwell at greater length on this form of suicide, but if women are incapable of concluding that they cannot contract the span of their waist without at the same time curtailing the span of their days,

it would be waste of time to enlarge further on the subject. We will therefore conclude with a quotation from Dr. Treves: "Of all means that the ingenuity of man could devise for preserving the youthfulness of the figure, there is perhaps none that will prove more useless, or that will more completely defeat its own purpose, than the persistent wearing of an arrangement of steel and whale-bones."

THE EXHIBITION.

It is a serious detraction from the supposed importance of the press notices of articles exhibited, when one knows that those notices rise and fall like a thermometer under the genial influence of the advertising columns. The exhibit of the Corn-cob Pipe Company and others found no place on the *Globe's* map, and no notice in its columns; the Company, however, relied on their wares advertising themselves, and were doubtless gratified at the acceptance by the Princess of their pipes on behalf of the Marquis of Lorne and Prince George of Wales.

The adjudication of prizes must needs present a chronic difficulty to those who desire that the awards should be distributed according to merit; for technical knowledge, involving as it may be said to involve, acquaintance with all the kinds of fraud which attach to the class of articles exhibited, is indispensable, integrity on the part of the judge is not less dispensable, and there are those who affirm that this latter qualification is not always present. We should say that when a Doctor-judge passes such a stench-destroying invention as that of Mr. Norman, and all electrical appliances without recognition, it evinces either gross ignorance on his part (at which one cannot be surprised) or corresponding disingenuousness, which is hardly less surprising.

We would suggest that the institutions which are restricted to "gentlemen only," be in future described as "for swine only."

An evangelist of this city who does not strike bargains to deliver essays at so much per quarter, but supports himself on the principle adopted by the Apostle Paul, found his faith rewarded in the following fashion on the 24th ult. A little dog which belongs to the neighbourhood in which this gentleman resides, and which had previously kept its distance from him when he had made advances to it, approached him with a dollar bill in its mouth, as the Evangelist's need of the bill exceeded that of the dog, he removed it, and no doubt bethought him of Elijah and the ravens.

"TWO MAGNIFICENT CONCERTS."

Such has been the entertainment said to have been provided by the caterers for the public at the Horticultural Gardens! Had they promised such a floral display as admitted of being seen, we could have recognized the application of their adjective; their next concerts will probably be announced as "beautiful."

EXAMPLE TO "ROOSTER" FIGHTERS.

A couple of roosters were recently engaged in hot encounter, when a peace-making brother stalked up, and stood between them until their wrath had abated, the three then went their several ways.

Is it to prevent a dog biting a second time, or to give him the privilege of so doing, that his owner is allowed by the law the alternative of paying a fine, in view of the diversion afforded the dog?