



SOME MONTREAL CONSERVATORIES.—If any of our readers will take the trouble to turn the pages of Bouchette's important work—"The British Dominions in North America"—they will discover that a great proportion of what is now the most fashionable part of Montreal once consisted mainly of fields and gardens. In his fine double-page engraving of the city, they will find that nearly two-thirds of the upper town of to-day is still unoccupied, and that the human figures which give life to the picture are made up in part of hunting parties with their dogs, in part of groups of men and maidens in the delightful occupation of fruit-gathering. The explanatory text reveals the same condition of things. "The space near the town," he writes, "and all round the lower part of the mountain, is chiefly occupied by orchards and garden-grounds; the latter producing vegetables of every description and excellent in quality, affording a profuse supply for the consumption of the city. All the usual garden fruits, as gooseberries, currants, strawberries, raspberries, peaches, apricots and plums, are produced in plenty, and it may be asserted truly, in as much or even greater perfection than in many southern climates. The orchards afford apples not surpassed in any country; among them the *pomme de neige* is remarkable for its exquisite whiteness and exquisite flavour; the sorts called by the inhabitants *fameuse*, *pomme grise*, *Bourassa*, and some others, are excellent for the table; the kinds proper for cyder (cider) are in such abundance that large quantities of it are annually made, which cannot be excelled for goodness anywhere." This description shows that some sixty or seventy years ago the vicinity of Montreal was well known as a fruit-growing district. If one go some years farther back, to the time of Weld's visit, for instance, we find that in the gardens of the Nor'-westers and other magnates there were not only all the indigenous plants, but also a large number of exotics, preserved in greenhouses. And if we trace the history of Montreal by backward steps up to the middle of the 17th century, we find all along the route indications of the same taste and the same fertility. It is, however, during the last fifty years, and especially during the last quarter of a century, that horticulture has been most effectively studied and practised in Montreal. The limitations of space have been compensated for by more scientific methods, and the management of conservatories has attained a perfection which in the older days was not even dreamed of. The examples of this branch of horticulture, which we have the pleasure of presenting to our readers in this issue would, we believe, do credit to any city in North America. They are those of Mr. H. Montague Allan, Mr. Andrew Allan, Mr. R. B. Angus, Mr. J. Molson, Mr. Burnett, the Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, Sir George Stephen and Mr. Robertson.

THE LATE CHARLES GIBB, ESQ., OF ABBOTTSFORD, P.Q.—The late Mr. Gibb, whose unexpected death at Cairo, on his return home from Japan, has already been mentioned in our columns, was born in Montreal in the year 1845. He was educated at Bishop's College School, Lennoxville, and at McGill University, where he graduated in arts. He then studied the profession of notary, which, however, he did not practise. Having spent some years in foreign travel, during which he visited some of the most noted scenes in the old world, Mr. Gibb determined to devote his attention to fruit-growing. He purchased a fine property at Abbotsford, P.Q., which became famous all over Canada for its successful experimentation, especially in apples. Some years ago Mr. Gibb visited Russia and other parts of northern Europe, and introduced into Canada a considerable variety of the hardy apples grown in Russian gardens. On his return, he prepared handbooks on the subject, which have become standard authorities to fruit-growers. His efforts gave an impulse, which is widely felt, to the study of pomology, especially from the standpoint of climate. The Montreal Horticultural Society and the Abbotsford Fruit-Growers' Association owed much to Mr. Gibb's initiative, and the whole of Canada, this province and city especially, is largely in his debt. In private life Mr. Gibb's character and demeanour were exemplary. He enjoyed the esteem and affection of all who knew him. Generous, unaffected and modest, he was a type, worthy to be followed, of the true man and the patriotic citizen. A great preacher was called the golden-mouthed; Mr. Gibb had a heart of gold.

THE LATE PROF. EDMOND LAREAU, Q.C., D.C.L., M.P.P.—Mr. E. Lareau, whose portrait we present to our readers in the present issue, was born at St. Grégoire, P.Q., on the 12th of March, 1848. Having passed through a course of preliminary study at the College of Ste. Marie de Monnoir, he entered McGill University, where in due time he received the degree of B.C.L. He also graduated in the

legal faculty of Victoria University, where he became a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) In 1870 he was called to the Bar, and was for many years one of the law professors of McGill College. Mr. Lareau was in early life connected with journalism, and won the reputation of a graceful and vigorous writer. He devoted much time to literature. Elsewhere reference is made to the products of his pen. At the last provincial election he was chosen to represent the Quebec Assembly in the County of Rouville. Though firmly attached to Liberal principles, Mr. Lareau was never an extremist, and he always retained his personal independence. In private life he was largely and deservedly esteemed, and his death is a subject of regret to many persons of both races and of all parties and creeds. He had been ill for some months before his death, which took place on the 22nd ult. His funeral, which took place on the 24th, was attended by a large circle of friends. The pall-bearers were the Hon. Mr. Mercier, Judge Jetté, Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, Mr. L. O. David, M.P.P., Mr. H. Archambault, Prof. M. Hutchison, Mr. F. L. Beique, Q.C., and Mr. P. Roy.

ALBERT EBENBECK, THE "HERO OF HESPELER."—Albert Ebenbeck, whose portrait we have the pleasure of laying before the readers of the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED,



ALBERT EBENBECK, HESPELER'S HERO.

(Smith, photo., Galt, Ont.)

was unknown to fame until last summer when, at the risk of his own life, he rescued Miss Rebecca Heath, of Woodstock, from drowning at Port Dover. He is a Canadian, of German parentage, and was born at Jordan, Ont., on the 26th of May, 1870. He attended the public schools at his native place, and in 1881, the family having removed to Hespeler, he obtained work in the spinning-room of the Upper Mill, where he is still engaged. He and his brothers have just completed a handsome new house, in which they live with their widowed mother, the father having died when Albert was a child. The circumstances under which he performed the deed which won him the recognition of the Royal Humane Society were first brought to light by Mr. Adam Brown, M.P., to whom they had been communicated by Mr. John Cunningham, of Hespeler. The young lady, whose name has been already mentioned, was, on the 20th of August last, in imminent danger of drowning, when Albert Ebenbeck gallantly swam to her succour and was instrumental in saving her. Col. Thompson, seeing that both rescuer and rescued were in peril, rendered prompt assistance, and they all reached the shore in safety. Sometime afterwards, Mr. Cunningham, believing that Ebenbeck's simple courage and humanity merited some acknowledgment, wrote to Mr. Brown on the subject, and the latter sent the particulars to Sir Charles Tupper, the Canadian High Commissioner in England. Sir Charles acted without delay on Mr. Brown's suggestion, and in due time Albert Ebenbeck received the vellum testimonial of the Royal Humane Society. The occasion of the presentation, which took place on the 14th ult., was a gala day for

the people of Hespeler. Mr. Reeve Kribs presided at the gathering, and on the platform were Mr. Adam Brown, M.P., of Hamilton; Mr. Thomas Cowan, of Galt; Mr. James P. Phin, Warden of Waterloo County; the Rev. Dr. Cornish, the Rev. J. White, Dr. McIntyre, Miss Heath, the rescued lady, and Mr. Albert Ebenbeck, the "hero of Hespeler." Letters of regret at inability to attend were received from the Hon. James Young; Mr. Lutz, Mayor of Galt; Mr. L. P. Kribs, of the *Empire*; Mr. Clarke, Mayor of Toronto; Mr. B. L. Frances, of Woodstock; Mr. W. Guggesberg, Reeve of Preston, and Mr. D. Guthrie, M.P.P. of Guelph. Mr. J. P. Phin, the Rev. Dr. Cornish, Mr. John Cunningham, the Rev. Mr. White, Dr. McIntyre and Mr. R. H. Knowles, principal of the school, Hespeler, having made remarks appropriate to the occasion, Mr. Adam Brown, M.P., was called upon to address the meeting. Having expressed the pleasure that it gave him to be present, Mr. Brown related the circumstances of the rescue, and Mr. J. Cunningham's, his own and Sir Charles Tupper's share in procuring for young Ebenbeck the recognition of the Royal Humane Society. He extolled the young man's heroism and modesty, and hoped that his life would be worthy of his young manhood. Mr. Ebenbeck briefly acknowledged the compliments that had been paid him, and said that he had risked his life, not for the sake of reward or honours, but of humanity and as his simple duty.

Mr. Cowan, of Galt, then made a stirring speech, at the conclusion of which Mr. John Cunningham, on behalf of Miss Heath, returned thanks to Mr. Ebenbeck. Three cheers were then given for Mr. Brown, Mr. Cowan and Mr. Cunningham, and Mr. Brown having proposed three cheers for the Queen, they were given with hearty good will. The meeting, which took place at Glück's Hall, was one of the largest ever known in Hespeler, scores failing to find even standing-room. Mr. Brown and the other visiting gentlemen were subsequently entertained at the Queen's Hotel by Mr. "Josh" Wayper, who, though a keen sportsman, is an enthusiastic admirer of Mr. Brown.

WRECKAGE OF WHARF AT SARNIA.—This engraving shows the scene and results of a singular, disastrous, but happily not fatal accident. On the morning of Saturday, April 19, the steam barge Roumania, laden with iron ore, entered the St. Clair river, abreast of the steam barge Green. As the Roumania neared Sarnia, the Green crowded her, and, to avoid mishap, the captain of the former gave the order to put the wheel over. While this was being done, the chains parted, and the big steamship ran bow on into Clarke's wharf, into which it cut some thirty feet, overturning and smashing warehouses, waiting room and custom house, and entirely blocking up the railway track. The crash attracted the attention of those who were in the neighbourhood, and, the news spreading, hundreds of persons had soon gathered at the scene of disaster, which, as one onlooker said, "looked more like the work of a Western tornado or a California earthquake than the result of a steamboat collision." The debris took hours to remove, and the trains were consequently delayed till the track was clear, locomotives being used to pull off the wrecked buildings. Strange to say, the hull of the barge was hardly scratched. The J. C. Clark had a narrow escape from being crushed. That she got off with some slight damage to her upper works was due to the promptness with which the engineer moved her forward. It was extremely fortunate that, contrary to usage, the custom house and waiting-room were entirely unoccupied at the time of the accident, as otherwise the disaster would have been accompanied with loss of life. Mr. Clarke lost no time in commencing proceedings against the owners of the barge, a Cleveland firm, but on the following day one of them, Mr. Richardson, with Mr. Goulder, a noted admiralty lawyer, arrived at Sarnia and gave the necessary security for the release of the Roumania, which at once left for her destination. The lawsuit will be watched with interest by shipowners. The proprietors of the boat have retained Messrs. Lister and Cowan and Messrs. Pardee and Garvey, while Messrs. Gurd and Kiltermaster are acting for Mr. Clarke. Captain Crowley, of the Roumania, claims that the Green was unnecessarily crowding him towards the Canadian side. Mr. Clarke lays his damage at \$15,000.

THE HON. JUDGE GAGNE.—The Hon. Mr. Justice Gagné, who has recently been appointed Judge of the Saguenay and Chicoutimi districts, and whose portrait may be seen on another page, was born at Malbaie on the 17th of April, 1842. After a brilliant course of study at the Quebec Seminary, he studied law under Mr. L. G. Baillarge, Q.C., of Quebec, and was admitted to the Bar on the 5th of October, 1864. He established himself at Chicoutimi, where in a short time he succeeded in obtaining an excellent practice, which his success at the Bar constantly increased. He was in 1882 elected member of Parliament for the Counties of Chicoutimi and Saguenay by a majority of 1100 votes. In the following year he organized the Saguenay and St. Lawrence Railway Company for the construction of a line to connect Chicoutimi and the lower portion of the county with the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway. This company transferred its rights to the Quebec and Lake St.