



THE COUNTESS OF ELGIN RECEIVING THE BOUQUETS AND CREST OF THE UPPER CANADA COLLEGE, 20th OCTOBER, 1847.

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE, TORONTO.
(From a contemporary engraving—J. Bruce, photo.)

One of the pregnant statements of this "circular to school managers," issued by the House of Lords, dated Education Department, 12th October, 1891, will bear considering by ourselves.

"To learn how to economise slender resources, how to resist temptation to heedless expense, and how to make reasonable provision for future contingencies," is an important part of education. Such knowledge is calculated to protect its possessor from much trouble and humiliation, and to help him greatly in leading an honourable and independent life."

Golden words these, and quite as applicable to us in the newer as to them in the older country. Our children are surrounded by constant temptation to spend money unnecessarily. Prize candies, "nickel-in-the-slot," cigarette smoking, and a host of other temptations of the same kind, all lead to the formation of innumerable bad habits that bear their bitter fruit in after life, while to the practice of self-denial, economy, and provision for the future, there is absolutely no incentive. It would be well if the authorities of our education departments were to take up the idea of school savings banks and inform themselves upon it with a view to action. The circular (No. 308) is one which will bear examination, and is full of information of the most practical kind with regard to the working out of the suggestion.

As showing what has already been done in this direction, France is cited favourably, and also Belgium, where, "out of a total number of 622,929 scholars in the primary schools, 171,589 have banking accounts," and "the sum standing to their credit amounts to 2,930,359 francs, or £117,214, the average deposit rather exceeding sixteen francs per head," and that "during the months of an exceptional crisis seriously affecting the industry and agriculture of the country."

Referring to what has been done in England for many years by penny banks and provident clubs, founded in numbers of schools taking the parliamentary grant (for a

certain degree of attainment) and also by shoe clubs, clothing clubs, &c., "My Lords" submit that "devices which merely aim at supplying a particular want have the disadvantage that they do not last after that want is once satisfied, and are of little service in the formation of a permanent habit. What is to be desired is that the scholars should become early familiar with the practice of saving, in view of any possible future need." All of which is certainly worthy of careful consideration, although it is to be confessed that the fleeting nature of boots and clothing and the therefore constant renewal of the need seems to have escaped "My Lords" attention. However, their contention is in the main a correct one.

I was glad to see the paragraph from the *Hamilton Spectator* in the *DOMINION ILLUSTRATED*, recent issue, relating the heroism of Mrs. John Winer when a child in the war of 1812. It will be mournful news that the aged lady fell ill within a day or two of her birthday and died very shortly afterwards. In a private letter one of her daughters says: "Her father was at a loss how to get the news (of an invasion) to the officer beyond, but bethought him that his little daughter Sarah had a bad hand which would be the better of doctor's advice, so mounting her upon her horse, she no ways unwilling, he sent her through the enemy's lines to see the regimental surgeon—and carry a message." Brave child and brave father!

A very attractive programme has reached me of the "Third Annual Series of Shakespearian Readings and Popular Lectures" issued by the Presbyterian Ladies College in this city.

"A Talk on Elocution," by Miss Martha Smith, forms one of the series. Miss Smith is a daughter of the late Rev. John Smith, of Erskine Church in this city, an able and respected divine.

S. A. CURZON.

Jack: "There seems to be an air of distrust about Ethel."

Maud: "Yes. Her father was a tailor, you know."

The Autocrat of Bath.

In the last century English persons of fashion went to Bath at the close of the London season. And in Bath, Beau Nash, reformer of manners and social customs, ruled autocratically as master of the ceremonies. In general his principles of government were excellent, as is indicated by the "Rules to be Observed in Bath," which he had hung up for the instruction of visitors. Among these were "That no person take it that any one goes to another's play or breakfast, and not theirs, except captious by nature. That all repeaters of lies and scandals be shunned by all company except such as have been guilty of the same crime." He was a brave man who appeared at the assemblies booted and spurred. Nash would survey him from head to foot, and tell him to go back, as he had forgotten to bring his horse. Although the wearing of white aprons was a bygone fashion, and was at this time contrary to etiquette, the Duchess of Queensberry, rather than part with her white apron, had refused to pay homage to her sovereign at court; and she attended a Bath ball wearing the garment which had been condemned by the master of the ceremonies. Mr. Nash courteously deplored his inability to make an exception in her favour. He reminded her that only domestics now wore aprons, and that he had no alternatives to offer her but to abandon her apron or the ball. The duchess hesitated. This was Nash's court. Any one seeking admittance to it must conform to his laws. Finally she yielded. "It was only Nash! She would humour him." So she untied her apron and gave it to her attendant. "One more dance, Mr. Nash; remember I am a princess," once entreated the Princess Amelia, then a lady of twenty-five. The hour of eleven, when Nash had ruled that the ball should cease, had struck. He was inexorable. "Yes, madam," he replied, "but I reign here, and my laws must be kept." Nash was again triumphant.—*Churchman*.