

kind." The writer of the above very tersely puts it, when he says, "there are no compensating advantages of any kind." This is the truth, and is especially more so, when the victim has a professional to contend with. If there are no advantages to be gained in any case, what can be expected when an expert with his fixed gambling outfit, is tempting us to play. Young men, who believe everybody as honest as they are, will do well to avoid any person who would only play them for gain. Nor is gambling confined to the card table alone. In the commercial world we have speculations based on margins, or so-called, foundationless assets, which is nothing more or less than pure gambling. As the same writer very aptly sums up the sin of this favorite pastime, we cannot do better than quote from his article. He says: "As to cases where trials of strength or skill come into question, it must be said, that as a matter of fact, gambling is never a trial of skill; it is either an appeal to chance or a contest in judgments. In a contest in judgments, the victory falls to the sharper wits, and thus the whole system of competitive industry has arisen to supersede more barbarous methods of warfare. Competition is valuable only as a stimulus to industry. Gambling on the results of a contest of judgments is simply *competitive industry with the industry left out*. There can be no hesitation in condemning utterly all predatory tendencies when dissociated from industry. Gambling as an occupation is the modern form of civil war, or rather of primitive anarchy. Commercial speculation, though appar-

ently based upon a tangible and legitimate thing is simply gambling. The efforts of those engaged in it are of no value to the world and should by no means escape approbrium."

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SINCE our last issue we have had a very pleasant break in our ordinary summer's entertainments, for which the thanks of the public are due to the Historical Society of Manitoba, who conceived the idea, and to the distinguished gentleman whom they succeeded in securing for a lecture upon a subject possessing very great general and scientific interest, Prof. John Murray, LL.D., Ph.D., one of the naturalists on board H.M.S. Challenger, during the years 1873 to 1876, which vessel, our readers will remember, was under the command of Capt. George S. Nares, R.N., F.R.S., and Capt. Frank Tuorle Thompson, R.N.; and the expedition had a staff of scientific men under the direction of Sir C. W. Thompson, Knt., F.R.S.

It is needless to say that the hall secured for the lecture was packed to its utmost. The lecturer was introduced at the request of Mr. John McBeth, President of the Historical Society, by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, and although there was an entire absence of the usual modern lecture appliances in the shape of lime-light views and other aids, both to the lecturer and to his audience, we feel quite safe in saying that the interest in the subject was maintained throughout, and that the lecturer himself only sought to choose from the vast variety of subjects with which he was familiar, those which were most likely to interest his audience.