

MONTREAL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In selecting the name of your beautiful City for the subject of my remarks to you this evening, I feel some explanation is due respecting the intended scope of this Lecture. By assuming so comprehensive a title, I by no means profess ability to do justice to the subject, nor is it possible, within the limits of an evening's Lecture, to discuss a tithe of the subjects which affect Montreal.

For the sake of the many fair faces who have honored us by their presence this evening, I regret that we are compelled to consider almost exclusively, the weightier matters which concern this goodly City. Not that I would by any means intimate that such topics have no interest for ladies—that they are unconcerned about the welfare of their City—in other words, the prosperity of their husbands, their fathers and brothers. However vulgar the observation, none know better than the ladies that it is the annual balance sheet which determines the concerts and pianos—the summer jaunts and the sea-side bath—the furs and the velvets—the silks and the satins—the parasols and the scent bottles, and all the innumerable and comprehensible elements which form a material basis for what is called domestic bliss.

The subject is familiar to you, and you may perhaps say to me, "tell us something that we do not know;" what have you, a comparative stranger, got to say about our City? we know all about Montreal.