

THE FREE LANCE.

Brignoli weighs three hundred pounds, and yet he is a light tenor.

Henrietta Noval, the interesting heroine of the Barnack street story, may be "Franky," but she is not frank.

Franky, Franky, beautiful name
Beautiful name is Franky.
But really I'm not to blame
If your story has turned out cranky.

A sign of the *Times* (Hamilton). Independence.

The Premier persists in refusing to regard Mr. White as a knight rally worthy of his steel.

The Tories of Nova Scotia have classically inscribed Victoria on their banner.

Seeing that a part of the pretended bones of Tecumseh are those of a female, Professor Wilson decides that the report of the committee is squaw-sheh.

Have you heard of the lark?
No craps in the Park.
In the Park no craps.
Only lots of red tape.

The Recorder of Montreal had a handkerchief fished from his pocket, the other day, which did not prevent him from wiping out a lot of hard cases that morning.

Dante's Inferno lay open on the table.
What a grand inscription on the dread portal,
Lasciate Ahi!
"Trash!"
"How can you speak so?"
"Hell-Gate is exploded, man."

The journalists of Montreal have a club called the Kuklos. A vicious circle.

In a crockery store, on the Main street, two bottles for preserves bear this inscription: "Gien Jars."

That's right. Sell the "Countess." She sold us.

The Grits ought not to object to the words "Conservative Reaction." Is it not one of their favorite cries that the Tories are reactionists?

The Court has decided it. Mr. Workman must add another thousand to his election expenses.

A lady went to a kitchen gardener at the Tanerries, and asked for eggs.
"Sold them all," said the man, "but if you will wait till this evening, we'll see what the hens can do."

It is agreeable to report that the hens were equal to the occasion and did well.

During the recent stay of Aimée here, a gentleman took occasion to remark that Rouffe was a considerable man to have written so many operas. "Fact, I assure you."

Dead-heading at theatres is one of the fine arts. Lately an errand boy claimed a ticket on the ground that he had carried clothes to members of the company who had been measured by a leading tailor.

Somewhere in Ontario, lately, a Mr. Spann married a Miss King. That makes a spanking team.

An envious counter-jumper says the emblem of the newspaper profession is the *Lycopodium Gigantum* or puff-ball. This gentleman may be reminded that the toad-stool belongs to the same family and is venomous.

Which is right, insurance or assurance?
Assurance, of course.

The men who talk so coolly about driving the Turks out of Europe are so many turkey-gobblers.

Spain is rising in the world. She is exporting a heavy tweed to the United States.

Tchernayeff is the name of the Servian commander in chief. You can't pronounce it without sneezing. And yet it has no perceptible effect on the Turks.

The champion picknicker—Sir John.

A prize will be awarded to the man who will do the most harm to the city by spreading the small-pox panic.

The sheriffs of Ontario have received orders to clear out of the jails all the idiots, and place as many lunatics as there is room for in the different asylums. Ontario is a great Province, but I doubt its capacity to house all the lunatics.

LACLEDÉ.

Is it possible, Madame Albani? said the family physician, your children after their trip to the country, are still ailing, peevish, and looking so delicate; depend upon it, there is a cause, and that is "Worms!" Send for a box of Devins' Pastilles, the simplest, the safest and best of remedies, and your children will soon thrive and look healthy.

MODES OF COURTSHIP.

Taking it for granted, that the declaration of the sentiment of love is a privilege of the men, founded on nature, and sanctioned by custom, the various modes of making that declaration by them, and of accepting or refusing it by the women, were we able to give a perfect account of it, would make one of the most curious and entertaining parts of human history, and equally furnish matter of speculation for the fine lady and the philosopher. We can, however, exhibit but little of this entertainment, while we treat of the ancient inhabitants of the East, who, strangers to sentiment and delicacy of feeling, bought a bride with the same dispassionate coolness and deliberation as they would have done an ox or an ass; and even in the review of the other nations, historical information does not enable us to make it so complete as we could wish.

It is taken as a general rule, that the declaration of love was the peculiar privilege of the men; but as all general rules are liable to some exceptions, there are also a few to this. An Israelitish widow had, by law, a power of claiming in marriage the brother of her deceased husband; in which case, as the privilege of the male was transferred to the female, that of the female was likewise transferred to the male. He had the power of refusing; the refusal, however, was attended with some mortifying circumstances; the woman whom he had thus slighted was to come unto him in the presence of the elders of the city, and to loose the shoe from his foot, and spit in his face.

To man, by nature bold and intrepid, and invested with unlimited power of asking, a refusal was of little consequence; but to woman, morbid and modest, and whose power of asking was limited to the brethren of her deceased husband, it was not only an affront, but a real injury, as everyone would conclude that the refusal arose from some well-grounded cause, and would therefore despise the woman, that she could have but little chance of a future husband; hence, perhaps, it was thought necessary to fix some public stigma on the dastard who was so ungallant as not to comply with the addresses of a woman.

A custom somewhat similar to this remains at present among the Hurons and Iroquois. When a wife dies, the husband is obliged to marry the sister, or, in her stead, the woman whom the family of the deceased wife shall choose for him. A widow is also obliged to marry one of the brothers of the deceased husband, if he has died without children, and she is still of an age to have any. Exactly the same thing takes place in the Caroline Islands; and there, as well as among the Hurons, the woman may demand such brother to marry her, though we are not informed whether they ever execute that power.

In the Isthmus of Darien, we are told, the right of asking is promiscuously exerted by both sexes; who, when they feel the passion of love, declare it without the least embarrassment; and in the Ukraine the same thing is said to be carried still further, and the women more generally court than the men. When a young woman falls in love with a man, she is not in the least ashamed to go to his father's house, and reveal her passion in the most pathetic manner; and to promise submissive obedience, if he will accept of her for wife. Should the insensible man pretend any excuse, she tells him she is resolved never to go out of the house till he gives his consent; and, accordingly, taking up her lodging, remains there. If he still obstinately refuses her, his case becomes exceedingly distressing; the Church is commonly on her side, and to turn her out would provoke all her kindred to revenge her honour; so that he has no method left but to betake himself to flight, till she is otherwise disposed of.

As the two sexes in Greece had but little intercourse with each other, and a lover was seldom favoured with an opportunity of telling his passion to his mistress, he used to discover it by inscribing her name on the walls of his house, on the bark of the trees of a public walk, or the leaves of his book; it was customary for him also to deck the door of the house where his fair one lived with flowers and garlands; to make libations of wine before it, in the manner that was practised at the temple of Cupid.

Such were the common methods of discovering the passion of love: the methods of prosecuting it were still more extraordinary, and less reconcilable to civilization and good principles. When a love affair did not prosper in the hands of a Greek, he did not endeavour to become more engaging in his manner and person, he did not lavish his fortune in presents, or become more obliging and assiduous in his addresses, but immediately had recourse to incantations and philtres; in composing and dispensing of which the women of Thessaly were reckoned the most famous, and drove a traffic in them of no inconsiderable advantage. These potions were given by the women to the men, as well as by the men to the women, and were generally so violent in their operation, as for some time to deprive the person who took of sense, and not uncommonly of life.

HINTS TO GIRLS CONCERNING HOUSEKEEPING.

Don't keep going to your mother. You have every one of you probably some little independence of money, or some possibility of economizing it. Buy your own utensils; set up your own establishment, if only by slow degrees. You will know the good of it then; and you will be

setting up your character at the same time. There will be no sudden violent resolution and undertaking, which drafts aid and encouragement from everybody about you, getting up prospective virtue by subscription, and upsetting half the current order of the household for an uncertain experiment. Be in earnest enough to make your own way, and before you or anybody else thinks about it, you will have become a recognized force in the domestic community; you will have risen into your attitude without assumption, just as you are growing, by invisible hairbreadths, into your womanly stature. Then some day you may say to your mother: "Let me have charge of the china-closet and pantry, please," and you may enter upon a new realm, having fairly conquered your own queen-dom. And I can tell you this new one will be a pretty and pleasant realm to queen in; an epitome of the whole household practised in dainty, easy little ways. Shelves to be kept nice, wiped down with a soft, wet cloth wrung from the suds that cups and silver have come out bright from; cups and silver, plates and dishes, to be ranged in prettiest lines and piles and groups on the fresh shelves; cupboards to be regulated with light daily touches and replacements; yesterday's cake and cake basket fruit or jelly; custards or blanc-mange, to be overlooked and newly dressed for next table-setting; the nice remnant of morning cream to be transferred to a fresh jug and put in a cool clean corner; to-day's parcels, perhaps, to be bestowed and the doors closed, with a feeling of plenty and comfort that only the thrifty, delicate housewife—who knows and utilizes the resources that are but uncomfortable odds and ends to the disorderly, heedless, procrastinating one—ever has the pleasure of. In like manner, again, you can take up cooking. You can learn to make bread, until the fifteen minutes labor that it will be for you to toss up the dough for to-morrow's baking will not seem to you a terrible infliction, when it happens that you may have it to do, any more than the mending of a pair of gloves for to-morrow's wearing; simply because it will be an old accustomed thing that you know the beginning and the end of—not a vague, untold toil looming to indefinite proportions, that are always the awful ones.

THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

Everything that reflects credit upon this Canada of ours it gives us the utmost pleasure to make public. The *N. Y. Graphic* has the following—

Every lover of nature, every admirer of beauty in form or colour who visits the Centennial Exposition can scarcely avoid being charmed with the display of Canadian insects exhibited by the enterprising Entomological Society of the Province of Ontario. The collection is in the Canadian department in Agricultural Hall. It is arranged in eighty-six glazed cases laid in a double row upon a table over seventy-five feet in length. Forty-five of these cases are filled with butterflies and moths (Lepidoptera); twenty-seven with beetles (Coleoptera); and the remaining fourteen with insects of all other orders—viz: bees, wasps, hornets, and other stinging and piercing insects, cicadas and bugs (properly so-called) dragon flies, lace-winged flies, &c., grasshoppers, locusts, crickets, &c., the small two-winged flies and many others. Many of the specimens are so large and so gorgeously colored that they have the appearance of natives of some of the tropics rather than of the more northern Canada—a country which many are apt to imagine is a land of ice and snow. This display, combined with that of the Canadian Fruit-Growers Association near by, ought to do much to instruct the general public in regard to the vast resources and the excellent climate of the great Dominion.

The collection must not, however, be regarded merely as a display of curious or beautiful objects; it possesses a very high scientific value as well. The practised student of entomology will there find thousands of species of insects, all correctly named both as regards genus and species, and all scientifically arranged according to the best system of classification. Although the critic may find fault with the particular system of nomenclature that has been adopted in some special families, he must confess that there is given an excellent illustration of the progress of scientific zoology in Canada, and of the energy and skill of the members of the Canadian Entomological Society in particular. This society was first organized in 1863, and had few members and exceedingly limited resources. For five years it continued to make good progress in a quiet way, the labors of its members being chiefly confined to the collection and determination of species and the publication of lists of Canadian insects. A great deal of good work was thus done, and the way paved for other work of a more practical though not a more useful and scientific character. In August, 1868, the society issued the first number of the *Canadian Entomologist*, a small monthly publication, containing original papers on the classification, description, habits and general history of insects. This serial has been received with much favor by the leading entomologists of America, most of whom have from time to time contributed to its pages. It has now reached the middle of its eighth volume, and has increased to three times its original dimensions; it has also improved very much in style and typographical appearance, as well as in the

excellence of its illustrations. The editor of the first five volumes was the Rev. C. J. S. Bethune of Port Hope, who was succeeded by Mr. Wm. Saunders, of London, the present conductor of the journal. It is noteworthy, as an evidence of the persistent enterprise of the Canadians, that this is the only serial publication on insects in North America that has continued to exist for more than a few years; it has succeeded in outliving several contemporaries started about the same time. In 1870 the society first began to receive a small pecuniary grant from the public funds of the province, in return for which it annually presents to the Legislature an illustrated report on insects useful to agriculture, horticulture, and arboriculture. Five of these reports have thus far been issued, and have been widely distributed amongst the farmers, gardeners, and others of the province. The information and instruction thus afforded have done much to educate the people of the country and to save their crops and fruits from the pestilent ravages of destructive insects.

The present officers of the society are as follows: President, William Saunders, London; Vice-President, Rev. C. J. S. Bethune, Port Hope; Secretary and Treasurer, J. H. McMechan, London. Council—Wm. Conner, Montreal; R. V. Rogers, Kingston; J. Pettit, Grimsby; J. M. Denton and E. B. Reed, London. The headquarters of the society, with its library and cabinets, are at London. It has also flourishing branches in Montreal and Kingston.

LIFTING BARGE.

This vessel has been built by the Quebec Harbour Commission for the purpose of clearing the harbour of the numerous anchors and chains, lost from time to time, by vessels fouling their anchors so as to be obliged to slip. From the great depth of the water, ranging from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and sixty feet, it has been a task of no mean difficulty to catch hold of, and raise these nests (if we may so term them) of anchors and chains. The first raised consisted of some sixty anchors and eighteen hundred fathoms of chain cables, the approximate weight of the whole being about one hundred and forty tons. Our drawing represents the above and the lifting barge lying alongside, with a nest of seven large anchors and chains on her deck, they having having been hove up up through the well by the powerful steam windlass and winches with which this vessel is fitted.

ROUND THE DOMINION.

Fall shows are in progress all over the country.

Canada has taken 300 prizes at the Centennial.

BEARS are very troublesome in parts of Nova Scotia.

There is a prospect of the revival of the ship-building trade in New Brunswick.

THE result of the Newfoundland fisheries this season is below the catch of last year.

THE Toronto *Notion* has ceased to exist, having been commercially a losing speculation.

Piston shipped last week 5,570 tons of coal; the total shipments at that port amounting to 135,000 tons.

THE Bank of Montreal has made arrangements for the issue of circular notes, available in any part of the world.

A meeting of lumbermen has been held at Quebec, with the object of shipping lumber direct to England.

THE contract for the construction of the first section of the Quebec and Lake St. Johns Railway has been signed.

THE opposition to the Quebec Railway Bonds at the London Stock Exchange Board has been withdrawn or overpowered. These bonds will therefore now appear on the regular lists of quotable and negotiable stock.

THE Presbyterian Church in Canada has 4 synods, 33 presbyteries, 654 ministers, 82,180 communicants, and 55,949 Sabbath scholars. The aggregate collections for all purposes during the past year amounted to \$928,650 20.

SCIENTIFIC.

A gentleman from Bordeaux is now in Paris soliciting from the Prefect of Police the authorization to try an invention for moving street-carriages by electricity. It is claimed that through the aid of a mechanism which will occupy no more space than the ordinary driver's seat, a speed of six kilometres per hour is obtained with power to draw four persons.

THERE has been an interesting inquiry in Paris lately as to which trees stand town life best and it is decided that beyond all question no tree is so good for urban wants as the plane. The same verdict is returned in London. Smoke does not seem to affect them, and no finer specimens of this graceful and unobtrusive tree can be seen than those in Berkeley Square in that city.

A patent has been taken out in England for brown paper blankets as bed coverings. They compensate for their lightness by their density, and add materially to warmth. They are perforated at distances of about four inches, in order to promote ventilation and the small sizes, 48 by 31 inches, sell at about nine cents each. Several contracts have been made for hospitals and schools.

M. Saint Martin, of Madrid, has published some statistics which tend to prove that consanguineous marriages have but a very slight influence in producing the ill effects which are generally ascribed to them. The results of his figures are as follows:—Out of 101 consanguineous marriages 12 were children. The remaining 148 unions had produced 551 children, out of which 300 were in good health, 236 were dead, and 15 sickly. The latter showed the following affections:—5 deaf and dumb, 2 idiots, 6 scrofulous, rachitic, or tuberculous, and 2 hemiplegic.