

# THE WEEK

## A JOURNAL FOR MEN AND WOMEN

JUNE 28th, 1895.

### Dominion Day Number.



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# THE WEEK.

Vol. XII.

Toronto, Friday, June 28th, 1895.

No. 31.

## Current Topics.

Dominion Day.

On Monday next, the 1st July, we Canadians will celebrate the twenty-eighth anniversary of the birthday of the great Dominion. It has been the privilege of THE WEEK to hail the glad day with all honour now for twelve successive years. During that time this journal has noted with interest how great has been the progress of the country from year to year, and how marked has been the development of national sentiment in the hearts of the people. The growth of this sentiment is quite compatible with loyalty to the British Crown and all it signifies. Indeed, as we but recently remarked in these columns, the fact that the Dominion forms part of the British Empire was never so vividly realized nor so highly prized as it is to-day. Even those to whom worldly gain is everything and public spirit and national sentiment nothing recognize that the Dominion has little to gain and much to lose by any change in Canada's allegiance. Especially is the thought of annexation to the United States as a possible future for the Dominion viewed with great and intensifying dislike. If such a catastrophe were once deemed a possibility, it is no longer deemed so. It is never even the subject of an academic discussion save as a joke. As Mr. George Hague remarked the other day, in a speech published elsewhere in this number, "with all the defects of our Government and our institutions, there cannot be a question in the minds of any who have impartially considered the subject, that the Dominion of Canada is the best governed portion of the American continent, having the best Constitution, the most equitable laws, the best judicial system, the most solid prosperity, and the most rational liberty." The only trouble with Canada is that her people do not think enough of the Dominion or of themselves. They want more active faith in the country and more national pride.

The Canadian Flag.

In response to many and repeated requests we reproduce to-day the striking design suggested by Dr. Sandford Fleming for the national flag of Canada. We were the more ready to accede to these requests inasmuch as it gives THE WEEK an opportunity of recognizing and observing in a definite and pleasing manner our great national anniversary, Dominion Day, which in a few more hours all Canada will be joyously celebrating. The publication by THE WEEK of Dr. Fleming's design for our national flag attracted great attention, and has started a discussion, the importance of which cannot be easily overestimated. We have welcomed to our columns letters from all parts of the Dominion on this subject, and to-day publish several more, regretting that our limited space forces us to exclude a number of others of quite equal interest. Though these letters differ widely in opinion it is most gratifying to note that in one great essential—the chiefest—they are all strictly in accord: intense love of country animates and informs everyone of them. The letters in to-day's issue will provoke further discussion. All will welcome another communication from Dr. Sandford Fleming. He has something fresh to say. He points out, among other things, that while the maple leaf is the accepted floral em-

blem of Ontario it has erroneously assumed to be peculiarly Canadian; that six, and eventually nine, other Provinces have to be considered, and that to meet their legitimate claims to representation on the flag, some new emblem has to be found.

Downfall of the Rosebery Administration

Once more the unexpected has happened. Perhaps we should rather say the expected has happened in an unexpected manner. It has been manifest for many weeks past that the end of the Rosebery Government was near, but that end was not expected to come in a fashion so unimpressive, one might almost say, for both parties, ignominious. We looked for a pitched battle on some great issue, skilfully chosen by the leaders of the Opposition, on which the Government forces would finally meet defeat, and thereupon, in a spirit of dignified resignation, dissolve Parliament and appeal to the people. Instead, we have the Government whips caught napping and its forces defeated by a vote snatched, whether by accident or as the result of a shrewd but not very magnanimous artifice, on a mere side issue. Then, further, we have, instead of the expected dissolution, resignation of office, with the result of handing over the reins to a leader who is obliged at the outset to stipulate for the forbearance of his opponents. Nevertheless, the members generally, and the leaders of the defeated Government in particular, must be heartily glad that the long struggle is at an end. We assume, though the fact is not definitely known at the time of writing, that Lord Rosebery and his colleagues will grant the desired pledges of assistance in passing the estimates and facilitating other necessary legislation, preliminary to adjournment or dissolution. They have so much to gain by shifting the responsibilities of administration to the shoulders of their opponents, pending the electoral struggle, that they can scarcely afford to be contentious in regard to the matter.

The Retiring Cabinet

Whether the existence of the Liberal Government would have been prolonged, and more of its measures carried, had its veteran leader remained in office is a question upon which it would be idle to speculate. It can hardly be denied that Lord Rosebery's leadership has not, for various reasons, fulfilled the expectations of his friends. In the first place, he was handicapped from the outset by the misfortune of being a peer. This has never been forgiven or forgotten by the Radical wing of the Liberal party. Then, again, it cannot be denied that a tinge of seeming superciliousness in his style, and some grave blunders in speech at the outset of his career, seriously injured his prestige, or rather prevented him from gaining that prestige which is a *sine qua non* of the highest success in a political leader. Add to these that his fondness for fast horses and his connection with the race courses have fatally discredited him with the Non-conformists, who are becoming increasingly influential as a factor in politics, and whose semi-Puritanic conscience is making itself felt in a corresponding degree, and we have an array of self-caused hindrances sufficient of themselves to mar the prospects of the most brilliant statesman in the position of Premier. When to these faults is added the very serious misfortune of bad health, which has prevented him from demonstrating his undoubted ability as a leader for weeks

past, we have an array of causes more than sufficient to hinder the success of any man or body of men liable to be influenced by such considerations. But, on the other hand, the consummate skill and capacity for leadership which have been shown by Sir William Harcourt in his capacity of Premier, and the excellent records which have been made by several of the younger members of the now defunct Administration, must have gone a long way to counteract the effects of any deficiencies in the aristocratic Premier. But whatever may be thought of the Newcastle programme on its merits, on which opinions will vary according to the political faith of the individual, it cannot be denied that the career of the Rosebery Cabinet has been a brave one. The ghosts of the reforms they have failed to carry will be perpetually rising to plague their successors.

The Keil  
Demonstration.

The great naval display to celebrate the completion of the canal by which direct communication is opened between the North Sea and the Baltic, must have for some minds a suggestion of incongruity in that it seems like a great warlike demonstration to celebrate a work of science and industry in the interests of peaceful commerce. It is, we may assume, this semi-warlike aspect of the affair which has caused so strenuous an objection on the part of French patriots of a certain class against the presence of French ships at the *fete*. A great gathering of representative merchant ships of all nationalities would have seemed, in some respects, more appropriate, but that would have been, probably, impracticable. Certainly it would not have commended itself to the tastes of the German Emperor, whose ambitions are always deeply tinged with militarism. It is to his credit, however, that on this, as on other occasions, he shows himself ready to make advances toward more friendly relations between Germany and her powerful but not very placable neighbour. It would be too much to expect, we suppose, from any conqueror, that he should make advances towards reconciliation with the conquered on the basis of friendly negotiations for a rearrangement of the boundary line laid down on the field of victory. Apart from any such impossible magnanimity, it is, no doubt, much easier for the victor than for the proud, but vanquished nation to forgive and forget. Nevertheless, such mutual courtesies as those which are reported to have taken place between the commanders of the German and French warships, as the result of the French Government having consented to take part in the display, indicate that a gradual healing process is going on which may lead to the eventual toning down of French animosity, and the bringing in of something better than a perpetual state of ruinous rivalry in land and sea armaments between the two nations.

The Leak in the  
Barrel.

Few men are better qualified to speak with authority upon the merits and demerits of organized charities than Mr. Goldwin Smith and we have read with attention his brief comments in our last number upon a paragraph in these columns. Those comments suggest that there are two distinct points of view from which the question of the importation of pauper children should be regarded, and that, in order to gain clear conclusions, these should be carefully distinguished. These are the charitable or philanthropic, and the patriotic. It may be that on the whole "the immigration of pauper children is, except where there is extreme need of population, more certainly beneficial to the children themselves than to the country to which they are brought." Whether this is so, in a given case, would depend in a large degree, we should think, upon the kind and extent of the training received by the children before distribution through-

out the country into which they are brought. But, so long as their presence cannot be shown to be the cause of positive harm to the country, their importation seems to us, from the philanthropic point of view, to be worthy of commendation and encouragement. We return to the question, however, with no controversial purpose, but because we would gladly add any emphasis which it may be in our power to give to Mr. Goldwin Smith's remarks upon the exodus of many of our Canadian youth, which is, we believe, still going on, though in greatly diminished proportions. We have not the faith that most of our governments seem to have in the Royal Commission as a panacea for all political ills, but this exodus, be it small or large, is a question eminently worthy of being enquired into by a non-partisan, or, if that is unattainable, a mixed, committee of the wisest and best men the Dominion can supply. Such a commission could investigate both the question of fact and that of cause and cure. Why not?

That Railway  
Transaction.

The directors of the Atlantic & Lake Superior Railway Company have done well to order the return to those persons who have subscribed for the bonds of the Company, of the amounts they have paid on account of their subscriptions. If their intentions in the matter were honourable they could do no less than decline to retain money subscribed under a misapprehension as to the nature of the guarantee which was relied on in making the subscription. The Finance Minister was certainly caught napping, as he himself virtually and with commendable frankness admits, when he accepted a loan under such peculiar conditions. Without impugning the good faith of those who offered the loan, it is clear that the circumstances were such as would most readily lend themselves to misrepresentation. In fact, misapprehension, under such circumstances, would be almost unavoidable, and it is not easy to see how Mr. Foster could have failed to foresee the consequences of placing the Government in such relations to a doubtful enterprise. Were the Government to make a practice of accepting loans on such conditions it would be comparatively easy for any company which could manage to raise two or three hundred thousand dollars to start with, to put its bonds upon the market in such shape as to lead the unwary into believing that they were actually endorsed and guaranteed by the Government, and so obtain any desired sum on the strength of that supposed guarantee. Indeed, it would be difficult to prevent such an impression being conveyed. The Finance Minister could scarcely hesitate to cancel the contract and refund the loan once his blunder was made clear to him. On the other side, it is evident that, assuming the *bona fides* of the Company, a very serious injury will have been done them by the cancellation of the contract, after a Parliamentary and mainly hostile discussion.

Religious  
Education.

Not long ago we directed attention to this subject, and the recent Synods of the Anglican Church and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church show that the subject is deeply moving the public mind. The conviction is growing that whilst no education can be satisfactory which excludes or ignores religion, the instruction in religion given in our public schools is of no value whatever; and there seems to be a very general resolution to see whether some means may not be taken for introducing some more effective religious instruction into the schools. Of course opinions widely differ as to the best means to be adopted; but the most hopeful feature of the present movement is the general readiness to adopt any method which may open up a prospect of

an improved state of things. If children can be taught the history of the Old and New Testament, and the formularies accepted by all Christians—the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments—this will be something, and a great deal more than we have at present. Of course there would be a conscience clause exempting from religious instruction those children whose parents may object to the same. Surely the most susceptible of the unbelievers in Christianity can hardly object to religious instruction provided with these safe-guards.

\* \* \*

### Divorce.

THE resignation of the larger number of the Divorce Committee of the Dominion Senate has drawn more than ordinary attention to the anomalous state of law in Canada on this subject. There are two theories on the subject of divorce, the one is, that no divorce should be allowed for any reason, the other is, that divorce should be allowed for reasons defined by law.

Undoubtedly the former of these theories represents what may be called the ideal state of things. When man and woman are united in matrimony, they take each other for the term of their natural life; and it would seem to follow from this that, if for any reason they decided that they could not live together, they should agree to live apart in the single state. This is the theory of the Church of Rome. Divorce is not allowed on any grounds. Only the Pope has the right to dissolve the marriage bond, and even he does not profess to have this right. He separates so-called married people, and gives them a right to marry again; but he does so on the ground that the previous marriage was invalid, and therefore no marriage at all. To outsiders this may seem to be an evasion; but it is a way of maintaining the theory of the indissolubility of the marriage tie.

Some such theory seems to underlie the law as it was in England until the last few years, and as it is in Canada at the present moment. Formerly a divorce could be obtained, in England only through the House of Lords, just as at present, in Canada, it can be obtained only through the Senate.

The consequence of the former law in England was that only rich men or women could obtain divorces. Now, however beneficial such a system may have been in preventing divorces, it is quite evident that it was inequitable and unjust. If it was right for a rich man to obtain a divorce, it could not be wrong for a poor man. Nor could that law be maintained which practically made the rich man to have rights which were denied to the poor. Consequently the law in England was changed; and a Divorce Court was established. It is very likely that the number of divorces has been increased; but the inferences deducible from this result do not all lie in one direction.

We have, then, come to this pass in Canada that something like a deadlock has occurred; and this because of the conflicting sentiments prevailing in the different provinces of the Dominion. Quebec would probably forbid divorces altogether. Ontario would probably adopt the system of having a Divorce Court as one of the regular courts of law. The maintenance of the present system is, therefore, of the nature of a compromise. And this compromise seems to be breaking down.

Now the question that will soon have to be decided is, whether we are going to continue the present system with all its inconveniences—or whether we are to abolish divorce altogether—or whether some different system should be adopted, for example, that each Province should manage the matter in its own way.

We are in presence of two opposite dangers—the danger of having no divorce allowed at all and the danger of having divorce made too easy. We say that both are dangers. From the downfall of the first Napoleon until some time after the downfall of his nephew, France had no law of divorce. Does any one imagine that, during that time, the morality of France was higher? And, after all, from the point of view of the State, this is a practical question. The Churches may make any laws they please, and enforce them on their own members; but the State must consider the well-being of the community.

The danger which lies in the other direction is illustrated in Germany and in some of the American States, where a divorce can be obtained for almost any reason or for no reason at all. The result of such a system is almost to destroy the sacredness of the marriage bond. In some places it is almost as easy for unmarried people to get divorced as for celibates to get married. We are informed that, in some of these places, it is not unusual for people to be divorced two or three or four times. There is no great fear of any such state of things prevailing among ourselves; but it is well to be forewarned. It might come about in two different ways—from the gradual relaxing of public opinion on the subject of divorce, or by a reaction from rigorist opinions on the subject. It may be well for us to keep these dangers in view.

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### The Unsolved Educational Problem.

SOME members of the Toronto Public School Board have been stirred by the aspersions cast upon the Public School system at many of the denominational anniversaries, in respect to the alleged want of moral and religious training in the schools, and are girding on their armour for the defence of the system, especially as wrought out in the city schools. At a recent meeting of the Board, Dr. Hunter proposed a series of resolutions, of which the following are the second and third:—

“That the fundamental principles of Christianity are just as consistently recognized and practiced by the teachers and pupils of our Public Schools as they are by the clergy and laity of any branch of the Church.”

“That the very orderly and becoming manner in which the present religious exercises are conducted, the influence of the teachers' example, and the thorough discipline of our Public Schools are potent factors in building up moral and religious character.”

These are brave assertions. The first is either a serious reflection upon the clergy and laity of the Christian churches, or a most remarkable tribute to the teachers and scholars of the Toronto schools. Leaving, however, the parties to the controversy to settle these and other questions raised by them, we venture to remark that we are amazed by the singular faith the Board seem to have in the efficacy of the perfunctory reading of a few verses of the Bible—for it is too much to expect that this exercise should be anything better than perfunctory in the majority of cases, unless and until the Department can take upon itself to examine into and guarantee the religious as well as the scholarly qualifications of all its licentiates—as a means of producing high moral and religious character. But how is the conduct of any more elaborate religious exercise to be prevented from becoming equally perfunctory and spiritually lifeless if similarly prescribed? For our own part, we are persuaded that a great good would be done should some influential clergyman or layman follow up the challenge of the Toronto Board by showing how little effect upon the average boy or girl's character such exercises are fitted to produce. Setting

out from this point, he might show the great necessity there is for some systematic and regular study of the principles of morality, in order to accustom the boys and girls to regard the question of moral quality as the very first and most important characteristic of every action.

Under existing circumstances it would be useless to hope that the majority of the Public School teachers would be able to conduct such a course effectively without a suitable text-book to put into the hands of the pupils, or at least without a carefully prepared manual for their own guidance. Surely there is sufficient unanimity of opinion among Christians of all denominations, and even among all men of good morals, whether Christians by profession or not, as to the underlying principles of right conduct, to make it practicable to adopt such a book with the approval of all parties. It will be admitted, we think, on a little reflection, that what is wanted in this direction is not so much specific or dogmatic instruction as to what is right and what is wrong in given cases, as a series of exercises adapted to lead every boy and girl to reflect upon the right and wrong of actions, and thus to form that habit of moral thoughtfulness on which Arnold of Rugby set so high a value. We do not suppose that there is any Canadian book suitable for the purpose, or that there is likely to be, with our present system, under which school-books are made to order of the Education Department, and that only by special workmen who may succeed in obtaining appointment as authorized book-makers for the Department. But we have seen several little works which are in use in some of the schools of the United States, which seem to us admirably suggestive and helpful to the teacher who may have the desire and the permission to use a small portion of the school hours for the supremely important purpose indicated. The general method of these books, unquestionably the true educational method, whether in practical ethics or in any other branch of study, is to start from incidents within the knowledge of the pupils and lead them Socratically, step by step, to think about the right or wrong of the acts under consideration, until they shall have individually reached clear conclusions in each case. From this point of vantage the next step will be comparatively easy. When a sufficient number of incidents, real or imaginary, belonging to a certain class, have been talked over and thought about, there will not often be much difficulty in drawing a general inference which may take shape as a principle, governing all cases which can be seen to have the same general characteristics. In other words, an ethical law will have been reached by the pupils themselves, following the inductive or true educational method. We venture to say that the teacher must be singularly lacking in real teaching ability if he cannot succeed in getting the majority of the members of a class or of a school intensely interested in such a discussion. No thoughtful teacher will doubt that in point of genuine educational value, such an exercise would be second to none—so that there could be no question of loss of time from school work proper, while morally the habit which would soon be formed of looking at questions of conduct from the standpoint of right and wrong could scarcely fail to become of inestimable value in its influence upon the character and conduct in all the future life.

Of course we know the ready objection. In order to reach sound conclusions in regard to particular questions of right and wrong we must, it will be said, have an universal, infallible standard by which to test them, and this standard religion alone can supply. Grant it. But we must be governed by our limitations. Despairing, as we are compelled to do, of any common agreement being reached between Christian and non-Christian parents, or even between Christian parents of conflicting creeds, in virtue of which definite

religious principles may be laid down as having infallible supernatural sanction, we must do the next best thing. We must assume, as surely we may safely do in most cases, that these principles have already been instilled in the homes, the Churches, the Sunday Schools, etc., and proceed on that assumption. For the prior question of Divine authority, as well as the metaphysical difficulties which would from time to time arise, the pupil would have to be referred to his parents, or to his religious instructors, and left to work them out for himself with such help as he might be able to obtain from these and other sources.

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### The Pan-American Congress.

THE success of the Parliament of Religions at Chicago led to the belief that similar gatherings of a practical character might be successfully undertaken. And hence arose the plan of the Pan-American Congress of Religion and Education. But there is an important difference. In the Parliament the doctrines of the various religions of the world were expounded: in the approaching Congress only practical questions will be considered, and there will be no discussion of the doctrines of the different communities. In this way, it will be possible for many persons, who, rightly or wrongly, found themselves unable to take part in the Parliament at Chicago, to join in the debates of the Congress.

The programme which now lies before us displays a Bill of Fare which can hardly fail to be attractive whether we consider the comprehensive character of the subjects to be discussed or the variety of religious communions represented or the eminence of the persons who are announced to take part in the discussions.

The meetings are of two kinds. In the first place, there are general meetings in which all members of the Congress take part, at which papers are read and addresses are given, but no volunteer speakers are heard. These general meetings are to be held at ten o'clock in the forenoon and eight o'clock in the evening. The first of them will be held on Thursday evening, July 18th, and the last on the evening of July 23rd. We should add that an introductory meeting—the opening of the Congress—will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 18th. At this meeting addresses of welcome will be delivered by Mr. McMurrich, ex-Mayor, Chairman of the Joint Local Committee; by Mayor Kennedy; by Dr. Sims, President of the Ministerial Association, Toronto; and by Mr. Mulock, Vice Chancellor of the University of Toronto; and to these responses will be delivered by Dr. S. G. Smith, the President, and others.

We may see already that the Congress has secured the adhesion of representative men; but when we look further over the programme, and mark the names of those who have already undertaken to read papers or give addresses, we become assured that these meetings will not be without profit to those who take part in them. Among readers and speakers we find the names of Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, Minnesota, one of the most distinguished of Roman Catholic Bishops in the United States, Bishop Gilbert, of Minnesota, holding a high place among Anglican Bishops, besides a number of leading clergymen and laymen belonging to the different Christian communions, and editors of leading religious, political and literary journals. So much for the leaders. But our army needs soldiers as well as officers; and we confidently believe that Toronto and the other cities and towns of Ontario and of parts of Canada beyond Ontario will not be found wanting.

The programme, as we have said, is a very comprehensive one, and very attractive. Under the Sections, where

not only will papers be read, but discussions will take place we have three departments, first the Young Peoples' Section, second, the Educational Section, and thirdly, the Philanthropic Section. Under the second we have questions like the following discussed:—What more can the American College do to help American life, University extension, College Discipline, Religion and Science, Education and Citizenship.

The subjects just named will furnish a good illustration of the usefulness of such meetings. On such topics there need be no clashing of opposed doctrines, whilst the members of one communion may learn much from the experience of others. Take, for example, the subject of College Discipline, in reality one of the greatest importance in the age in which we live. Here is a subject which has never been without difficulties. We are apt to imagine that those difficulties are the product of our own age, an age of impatience, irreverence, insubordination. Yet, if we are to believe the traditions which come down to us from the old universities and colleges, discipline was not universally in a satisfactory state in olden times.

At the general meetings we come upon such subjects as Recent Progress in Philanthropy, Christianity and Labour, Correlation of Intelligence, Religion and Morality—subjects of great and immediate interest and importance to all who have the wellbeing of society at heart. For example, the subject of Christianity and Labour, vague as such a formula may seem, brings us face to face with questions which are crying for settlement and which are in great danger of being settled in unchristian and irrational ways.

We are but touching upon the themes which will come up for discussion at the Congress, that we may give our readers some notion of what they may expect; and we would point out that whilst, undoubtedly, the great interest of the Congress will revolve around the prepared papers and speeches, the discussions may, in some respects, be of very high importance. Not merely the experts and the specialists can teach us, as they can, but the keen and cultivated critics who bring a practiced intelligence to bear upon the theories which may be promulgated.

There are many reasons which make us desirous and hopeful that great success may attend the meeting of the Congress. In the first place, we have our own honour as a city to maintain. It is of great importance that associations of this kind should come among us from time to time, and this cannot be hoped for unless we welcome them in a practical manner. It would be unworthy of our intelligence and our interest in human wellbeing and progress that we should show ourselves indifferent to such inquiries and discussions.

But apart from this, there is the unspeakable advantage of mutual counsel—the teaching and the learning which accompany such intercourse, and which can be gained in no other way. We are neither so vain as to imagine that we can learn nothing from others, nor so exaggeratedly humble as to believe we have nothing to teach. There never was an age in which men were readier to learn from persons of different opinions from their own. In respect of breadth we certainly do greatly excel those who have gone before us; and we may look forward to deeper and wider views of religion and education resulting from this readiness to believe that others besides ourselves have taught and learnt and can teach.

WILLIAM CLARK.

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The Hon. J. W. Fortescue has, at the request of the colonel and officers of the 17th Lancers, written a history of that famous regiment. It is about to be published by Macmillan & Co. in a single volume, illustrated with coloured plates of uniforms and accoutrements. It is an interesting fact that the raising of the regiment was intrusted by George II. to Colonel John Hale, who had fought under Wolfe at Quebec, and was chosen to bring to England the despatches which contained the news at once of the victory and of the death of his commander. The badge of the regiment—a death's head with the motto "Or Glory"—may be regarded as a perpetual commemoration of the death of Wolfe.

## Sympathy.

Clorinda died this day last year;  
And yet once more the sweet flowers blow,  
As if in truth they did not know  
How all that made their beauty dear  
With her lies darkling down below.

Have they forgotten, then, how well  
Clorinda loved to keep in spring  
Calendar of their blossoming,  
From the first primrose of the dell  
Until the rose in June was king?

Have they forgotten how she'd place  
Great pansies in her garden-plot,  
With curious tulips in a knot,  
And bid the daffodils do grace  
Gold-crowned in many a shady spot?

Yes, they forget, and thou, O Earth,  
An irresponsible mistress art,  
That never for a breaking heart  
Still'st the mad music of thy mirth,  
Nor in our tears hast any part.

Academy.

EDMUND K. CHAMBERS.

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## The North-West Territorial Exhibition.

THE coming exhibition at Regina of products of the North-West Territories is, in many respects, a unique undertaking. The country itself is an exceptional country. It is little more than a dozen years ago that the vast and fertile region was thrown open to settlement, and the tide of immigration thus diverted from the United States to the extensive prairies that until then were the home of but few, beyond tribes of Nomadic Indians. The area of the four territories is much larger than that of Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces combined, while up to now the population is not more than that of some of the towns in those provinces. About a dozen years ago the only products the North-West could exhibit were such as the Red Indian secured by his arrow or his rifle. All that is now changed. Small as is the population of the North-West, comparatively speaking, yet actually there are thousands of farmers on its plains, many towns have arisen on its bosom, and there are schools, churches, municipal institutions, railways, and all the other signs of a rapidly progressing civilization. The difficulties of inducing so sparse and scattered a population to haul their products over scores of miles of prairie to reach the railway track would have daunted a less skilful and persistent organizer than Lieut.-Governor MacIntosh, to whom, chiefly, almost entirely, the now assured success of the exhibition is solely due. His Honour recognized a great fact. He saw that to be successful the exhibition must be one for the people by the people, and very wisely, therefore, he took the people into his confidence. Mr. MacIntosh personally visited all the principal points in the Territories, and many of the minor ones, and thus aroused an enthusiasm in the affair surpassed only by his own. Indeed the people came to see that such an exhibition was precisely the thing that was wanted. The result is that the people of the North-West have become as determined to make the exhibition a success as has the Lieut.-Governor himself.

It was not long ere this determination affected the railway companies, who very generously agreed to carry all exhibits free of cost, and to convey passengers to and from the exhibition at remarkably low fares, an arrangement that applies to Ontario and Quebec, as well as to Manitoba, British Columbia, and the Territories. It was indeed felt that an event of such unique importance ought to be instrumental in bringing together the people from the East to make acquaintance with their fellow-countrymen in the West. Thus stimulated, farmers, ranchers, husbandmen, and agriculturists of every description have intimated their desire to send exhibits, as have also miners, lumbermen, fishermen, Indian trappers, and indeed every class of persons engaged in any way in developing the resources of the North-West Territories. The exhibition will thus be a complete reflex of the products of the farm, the forest, and the mine.

It has often been the boast of the North-West that the



quality of its productions can seldom be equalled and never surpassed. There is abundant evidence that there is justification for the boast. Two years ago wheat was grown on a farm in the Qu'Appelle valley so excellent in every respect that the Dominion Government bought the whole crop for distribution to the different experimental farms, while an Indian on the Croo'ed Lake Reserve has for several years past taken the first prizes for wheat and other cereals at the shows of the local agricultural societies, with the result that his produce always commands the highest prices from eastern buyers. In neither of these instances was the growth in the most favoured parts of the Territories. Far from it! In many other districts much better results are obtained. All this, and other similar facts, are locally known, but the exhibition will establish and emphasize the fact, not only throughout Canada, but all over the world.

Here then is the first great utility of the first territorial exposition. It will give the people of the North-West the opportunity of showing the people of older Canada and of other countries what it is doing as an earnest of what it can do. The young giant will assert itself and show that old Canada has reason to be proud of new Canada. While acknowledging with becoming humility that the North-West has much to learn from comparison with older, more populous and more experienced districts, yet it still ventures to think that it has also much to teach, and it is this assertive quality that gives to the exhibition, that is to be opened on July 29th next, a unique and distinctive value. The man who makes two blades of grass grow where one only grew before, has been described as the greatest benefactor to his fellowmen. The pioneers on the prairie have made acre after acre, not of grass, but of wheat, grow where none grew before; they have flocks and herds where until lately were only the wolf and the cayote; and they have, therefore, a justifiable pride in the knowledge that they are doing something to entitle them to be considered a "people."

In another respect the territorial exhibition will have a value. The North-West consists of four distinct classes of microcosms, the settlements, the ranches, the towns, and the Indians, to which ought, perhaps, to be added the lumber camps. Diverse as are these different sorts of "little worlds" they have all one feature in common. They have all realized that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Each one of them has its annual races, and its periodic sports. The "attraction programme" of the exhibition, therefore, has been arranged so as to include a "fair" that shall be a perfect reflex of these entertainments. That there will be general sports, and sports characteristically Canadian, goes without saying, but in addition there will be diversions peculiar to the North-West. It will be seen therefrom that there is a utility in even the very enjoyments of the Territories. Their idle moments are not idly spent. Steer roping and lasooing horses are read of in eastern Canada, but seldom seen, and the dexterity of the cowboy is something that astonishes the more the oftener it is seen, as also does "broncho busting," and many other curious matters which it would be out of place to mention here.

The exhibition has a still higher mission than any above indicated. It will give the country "bold advertisement" as a field for the immigrant, where are fertile lands, generous laws, and social liberty;

Where each man finds his own in all men's good,  
And all men work in noble brotherhood;

where the immigrant will find that he becomes, not merely a nor'wester, but a citizen of the great Dominion of Canada. The exhibition will inform its visitors that the North-West is fast becoming a nation, a populous and prospering nation, building up itself by the stalwart and the enterprising from every land, men of diverse tongue but with a common will and common aspirations: men who in fact whencesoever they have come, are now Canadian. This is the justification of the exhibition, to show that the North-West is Canada, a fact that is too often forgotten. The North-West man wants the "down-east" man to recognize this, to realize that both are equally Canadian. The settlers of the Territories are proud of their country, and they believe the exhibition will make the "down-east" man proud of it too. It cannot be too often remembered and asserted that from the Atlantic to the Pacific we are all one nation, and the opportunity about to be afforded of bringing the East and the West together

will emphasize the fact that we are a united people, with one heart, one flag, one throne. The territorial exhibition will thus be a prominent instrument of civilization by diffusing a knowledge of how the country has advanced and extended in so wonderful a manner. It will show visitors from afar something of the grandeur of the Dominion to which they belong, and will discover to many something of the dignity of the magnificent empire of which Canada is proud to form a part.

WM. TRANT.  
Regina, June 4th, 1895.

### \* \* \* Hunting the Arbutus.

THERE is always a wrong way of doing things, and by antithesis there is always a right way. We pursued the latter course on this morning. Every action has a necessary antecedent. The necessary antecedent of our action was that of rising up with the sun. Now, as that luminary is taking thought of the manifold duties which await him at this season he is very rightly up betimes. It is worth while cutting short the dreamful ease of these early hours to watch him through the preliminaries of his toilet. He comes on the scene first in his soft grey bath gown, and as he throws it aside all the pink of his beautiful body glimmers in the east. Then suddenly, radiant and shining, he turns his face to the world and gets to business. There are two reasons why one should rise early in going to hunt the arbutus. The one is that you may get into the very spirit of the thing which needs vigilance; the other that you may set out early in the day. It is nothing to hunt it in the afternoon, and essaying it then you do not deserve to find it.

"*Epigaea repens*," that is its family name. It is a trailing plant, growing in small auxiliary clusters of white or rose-coloured flowers, possessing a delicate fragrance. Gray's Botany informs us that in New England it is known as the ground laurel. But the definition of a text-book, even illustrated, what is that to the blissful reality!

There are legends concerning it, as there are about all things mysterious and beautiful. They say, but who tells the story I know not, that once upon a time (that most blessed of indefinities) the arbutus was an upright plant, growing tall and straight in the spring time, but without fragrance. From the height of its rosy-lipped loveliness it looked over the unbroken paths of the forest and exulted in its pre-eminence. In the lowly glades about it blew the hepaticas pink and blue, pale violets, the Mayflower, trilliums, the stars of Bethlehem and all the gentle wood company. And these, hearing the boaster, took counsel together, and required her to show cause why, having been as the Creator made her, she should speak thus vaingloriously. But the arbutus disdained to answer them, and they petitioned the spirit of the wood that he should do righteously between them. And the spirit of the wood heeded them, and laid his hand upon the haughty one and reproved her for her pride. Then in the brokenness of her spirit she lay with her sweet face against the ground, and covered up her beauty with her leaves, so that when the spring comes now it sees her not, for she lies hidden, but in humility her soul has grown and exhales the most rare of all perfumes.

The arbutus is found in few places in Canada. It is one of the earliest, if not the very earliest, of the forest flowers. Happily, it grows in the vicinity of our city, so that at trifling trouble anyone may seek it and find it. There are two localities in Howard Park (otherwise High Park), where it flourishes, though the vandalism perpetrated of late years in that region of burning the waste brush has almost exterminated all the flowers with which the park was once luxuriant. The nearest bed is reached by the northern entrance, but one may descend the hill where it grows without passing through the gateway. The journey out there is in itself an experience, and the air palpably freshens as the city is left behind. The College and Yonge street line of trolleys runs to Dundas street, and from there the Dundas line carries one to the pleasant road leading into the park. Later in the season the cars are brought up to the entrance. Later in the season, too, the charm of the sylvan silence is broken by the multitude who seek relaxation there. Those who love solitude and the pipes of Pan must needs go when the arbutus blooms—and early in the morning we set out, the three of us in happy mood, with the sun behind us, to wander

“Over hill, over dale,  
Through bush, through brier,  
Over park, over pale.”

We are scrupulous to avoid trespassing upon one another's "claims," and we spoke Kipling's jungle lingo, and called each cluster a "kill." Down we went between the spruces and the cedars on the sunny slope, dragging inconsequently, we women, with our skirts, the wrack of last season's vegetation. We looked piercingly to left and to right, and where the uninitiated would least have felt warranted we stopped and brought forth our treasures. Our feet rustled through the crispness of the brown leaves, and, save for this sound and the occasional ecstatic calls to one another, nothing broke the silence but the rare song of a bird. This was my return, my first return, to the woods since the autumn. The trees still stretched their arms, brown and lean, to the heavens, but their look of resignation was gone, and expectancy and an indefinable joyousness had replaced it. The buds on the maples covered each twig like a series of rosettes, pink and bristling. Here and there were branches of shrubs strangely spotted with white, looking as if the winter and not the spring held still the sceptre. Nothing was green but the pines and the cedars, and low down in hollows the first tender foliage of the wood flowers. In the open, where the ground was clear and dry, the hepaticas bloomed in clusters close to the earth, as if reluctant to leave her. They are of many shades of pink, pale to the most vivid, and again they are blue as the spring sky smiling down into their modest eyes.

These flowers may be seen as one walks, but the arbutus obeys the wood spirit still, and veils her beauty.

Do not, I counsel you, stand when you hunt the arbutus. You will not find her unless you become lowly as she. Kneel where the dull brownish leaves of the plant show among the pine needles and the brush. Then begin to turn back, and turn back slowly and patiently. It is worth while, for tracing the dull, hairy stems to where the leaves show, you lift them, and there, white and pure, or blushing as from the exposure, are the tiny blossoms so faint, so rare, and, oh, so satisfying. You are triumphant now; you break the stem; the treasure is yours; but pray be provident for the future. Do not disturb the root; use the knife, so that next spring you may experience the same delight. It is marvellous how the blossoms evade one. They keep close covert, indeed; but it is a still-hunting over which no horrors hang. This morning, as I sat watching, watching, I imagined the arbutus knew I was looking for her. Now and then I caught sight of the tip of a spray looking very much like a pretty enticement to come closer. Then I slid down the slope and opened up the unseemly coverings gently, and the flower seemed to rejoice, and I quieted the misgiving I always have in plucking the arbutus with the thought that my hunting brought to it salvation.

Oh, charming hours, when we may slip life's leash and spring into an ideal world where we may hunt so graciously! Oh, charming flower, the most desirable of the forest's living things, milkwhite, or purple with love's wound. Fetch me that flower!

PHAROS.

Toronto, April, 1895.

### The Prayer Question at the Meeting of the Women's National Council.

AS was naturally to be expected, some misapprehension has arisen in some quarters concerning the vote of the Women's National Council, which resulted in a majority in favour of the use of silent prayer alone; and the fact that the proposed addition of the audible repetition of the Lord's Prayer was not carried, seems to have presented itself to some as a reason why such organizations earnestly religious in their aims, should not remain connected with the Federation. This seems to me to arise from a misunderstanding both of the basis on which the Council is founded and of the circumstances and reasons which led to the large vote against what must seem to most people so appropriate and becoming a proposal.

A few words of not superfluous explanation may perhaps come most gracefully from the defeated side, and the present writer, who was one of the advocates of the introduction of united audible prayer in addition to silent prayer,

may be in the better position to place the matter in its true light, thus possibly satisfying some whose religious scruples are disturbed about the action of the Council. Now, it would be most unjust to represent the majority who voted against audible prayer as in any degree compromising their religious convictions in so doing. Indeed, the speakers on that side emphatically stated their own decided religious position, as well as their love and value for the Lord's Prayer in particular, as used in religious services. The question was *not* one as to the use of the Lord's Prayer, but as to the relative advisability of audible and of silent prayer. The opponents of the first honestly believed that, at this general annual gathering of representatives of many local Councils, with a *personnel* very diversely composed, embracing persons of widely differing religious views, the practice of opening with silent prayer would be the most appropriate manner of unitedly invoking the Divine blessing. It must be remembered that there never was for a moment a question as to the propriety of opening with prayer. The recognition of dependence on the Divine blessing, and the petition for that blessing, were from the first secured by providing for an interval of decorous and solemn silent prayer. The amendment proposed originated with one of the Local Councils which had adopted the practice at its own meetings, where it had been found satisfactory to all. The opposition was led by another Local Council which had been of the first to adopt the practice, but had found practical difficulties in the way arising from the fact that a number of earnest and conscientious members of the Council, owing to ecclesiastical differences, could not join with others in the *audible* repetition of even the Lord's Prayer without doing violence to their own conviction of duty. This is undoubtedly much to be regretted in an age when a groundwork of religious unity is so much desired; yet it is the fact, and it is better to face it. Without going into the matter further, it is easy to understand why much of the opposition came from the Province of Quebec, the difficulty being at bottom the same which underlies the unhappy complications of our Public School system, and its final settlement must lie with the religious authorities in the first place.

Now, as the very basis of the federated Council of Women is the application of the Golden Rule of Christianity to all relations of life, and as no one can maintain that the practice of audible prayer at such meetings is binding on the conscience of any, while we are expressly commanded to refrain from anything forcing the conscience of even the weakest brother or sister there can hardly be any doubt in the minds of most earnest and intelligent Christians that, appropriate and beautiful and inspiring as it would be to begin these general meetings with the audible repetition of the Lord's Prayer, it is yet more in accordance with the spirit of Christ and of our holy religion, to waive our preferences and unite, as we can unite, in *silent* prayer, rather than force our own desires on the unwilling at the risk of wounding some sensitive conscience, or of excluding from so promising a Union some who, while they have a natural difficulty about audible prayer, are willing to join with heart and soul in endeavouring to secure the fulfilment of the very prayer which they cannot unite with others in repeating. In endeavouring to carry out the *law of love* we shall find our truest centre of union, and so long as the Council continues to carry on its work in this spirit it cannot be unworthy of the confidence and support of any Christian woman.

FIDELIS.

### Parisian Affairs.

A KIND of full dress debate on the part of the Socialists and Extremists has taken place respecting the French fleet going to Kiel. It is one of those debates that do no good, but a great deal of harm; they keep the people in a state of irritation and lash them up to a return of the 1870-71 hates. The Government maintained that in accepting the invitation to go to Kiel—Denmark's Alsace—it only discharged an act of international politeness. But why not refuse to go as Germany declined to come to our international exhibitions? replied the anti-Teutons. Russia came in for a few hard hits, and the question was asked, "If an alliance, yea or nay, existed between France and Russia?" Of course that was evaded. The whole debate was very delicate. No one desires to know, if an alliance exists, what

are its clauses. The triple allies never denied their unity, but never divulged the nature of the clauses of their treaty. Nor could that be expected, because it involves the intentions of the allied as to disposing of the vanquished. France and Russia could hardly sign an alliance without some reference to possible contact with England and the latter might force the coalition. France has a right to make what alliance she pleases, and with Russia, who has loaned so much money from her, as with any other power. But this nagging at Russia, on the back of Ministers, can do no good.

Another fact frets the French. Russia extends some of her love to Germany, and France can never attack Germany single handed; nor does Russia seem inclined to countenance such a speculation. The issue of a war between the old adversaries means the wiping out of either and France may well be in no hurry to try such a quarrel hilt to hilt. These rabid attacks on the ministry and the augmenting sarcastic cartoons will in the end do their fatal work.

I notice with regret that the campaign of belittlement has opened against the kind and no man's enemy, President Faure. They banter him about his tours and his system of personal government—raising his hat to salute and indulging in "shakes of the hand." Now ridicule is a terrible weapon to wield in France. The Sino-Japanese peace treaty and the union of France with Germany and Russia, to make the Japs lie low, was rather the serious element in the dissection of the Government's foreign policy. No good reason could be adduced further than what everybody concludes—to oblige Russia. But the aim of Russia is gradually becoming clearer. She has succeeded in evicting Japan from occupying any part of Mantchuria, but it is believed will do so herself, by running across it her Siberian Grand Trunk Railway. Opinion here considers the Far East question as very cloudy and that the situation made to England in the whole imbroglio is not prepossessing. The English themselves are first to assent to that truth.

The president of the society for the protection of animals is to be pitied, and no wonder, as it is said his hair has become suddenly white. The law lays down most distinctly that in any bull-fight held the animals must not be killed by the toréador. Now, within the last few weeks, and in open defiance of the law, posters announced that in the bull-fights at Bordeaux, Leziers, Arles, Nîmes, etc., the bulls would be professionally despatched as heretofore. The president calls upon the executive to uphold the law, but the promise is not kept to do so. Expel the Spanish *artistes* whose ability consists in killing the bull by thrusting a long razor sword into the spine and *Hamlet* will lack Hamlet.

Automobile vehicles have not progressed at the rate expected. Only a very few are to be encountered in the streets of Paris and the crowd they draw at once testifies to their rarity. They are still a curiosity. They lack agreeableness of form, exhibit nothing artistic and are devoid of finish. It is said they are more in use in the country districts between distant residences and railway stations. Two automobiles are patronized in Paris by ladies, but the vehicle has always the appearance of having been guillotined where the horse ought to be, and it has no tail. It is a square box on wheels. To test, if anything can be made practically out of the fad, a contest has taken place between forty of these self-propelled vehicles by electricity, steam, gas, compressed air, etc., from the Arc de Triomphe here to Bordeaux and back, a distance of 750 miles over the ordinary public highway and unfavoured by any special advantages on the road. It is a curious fact that one of the most ardent horse racers, the Prince de Sagan, has a "crank" for the automobile and paddles his own canoe in the contest.

It is said that the surest way to obtain the decoration of the Legion of Honour is to start a charitable society of some kind. The founder is generally a good looking bachelor and having some wellknown names, and if possible Senator Jules Simon—now unhappily at the brink of the grave—to make a speech he nominates himself the secretary. Then he solicits a number of philanthropic ladies to aid in the work, and it will be his own fault if he cannot secure a rich wife out of the dove cot. Well, an excellent charity has just been organized and the wonder is it was delayed so long. The streets of Paris of late swarm with beggar girls aged between 8 and 10. To escape the Mendicity law they offer flowers, pencils, buttons, and cheap guide books to the passers, but keep in view—when the police are out of sight—the main chance of soliciting alms. When they obtain a few

sous they rush to divide them with some old hag, or a male vagrant on the watch, and to expend their own dividend on cakes and lolly pops. These girls are mostly orphans and hired by the day to beg. The new law arrests these children and they could be imprisoned, but the Rescue Society steps in and demands the children—only girls—with a relic still of the angel left them, and places them in a humane family that will, for a weekly sum, look after the poor beings, teach them to work and prepare them for earning an honest livelihood. Beyond doubt fewer of these children are now visible. How they could have so long existed by begging is a mystery, as any child, during school hours, found idling can be arrested till it explains its roving life. The Juvenile Reformatory, said a judge recently, turns out the worst criminals, with not a relic of salvation in them.

The Perfect of Police is after all the best of sanitary inspectors. He has been conducting his own hygienic inquiries into the causes which send currents of fetid air into Paris between sun set and sun rise. They are not the sewers exactly, nor yet the factories that work up the night soil into ammonical preparations. The head centre of the manufacture of insolubility was the vast melting establishment where all the parings of overkept meat in the butcher's stalls and morsels of putred fat were melted down; a large chimney carried the abominable odours thirty feet upwards, and the wind brought them down again. Now these offensive fumes ought to have been burned like smoke. What do odours consist of that have been eliminated from fire? Some say they are harmless, others the contrary.

The Government tax of 3 per cent. levied on the bets staked officially on Grand Prix Day realized 120,000 frs. for the hospitals and the State studs. Z.

### \* \* \* Montreal Affairs.

THE City Council has declared for dollar gas. At its last meeting it gave the Gas Company the option of having no contract or of accepting one which will fix the rate at one dollar per thousand with free meters. The Gas Company announce that it will not accept these terms. The only advantage to it in having a contract is the security it affords that for the term covered by it there will be no danger of competition. With this provision of safety absent the Company will be ever open to the assaults of the blackmailer in the form of the promoter of a new gas company or of the alderman who advocates the establishment of civic gas works. As to the merits of the question itself the Gas Company claims with unquestionable truth that it cannot supply gas at the rate fixed by the City Council and pay the dividends on which the present standing of stock rests. Last year with gas over a large part of the city at \$1.40 it barely succeeded in earning its customary dividend of ten per cent.; and the sweeping reduction proposed would certainly cut the dividend to half or even less than that. Those who are in favour of the proposition say that a dividend of that size would be enough on the original capital stock of the company which many years ago was watered. But the great bulk of the present stockholders bought when it was selling at a premium of from fifty to one hundred per cent.; and so far as they are concerned the dropping to a lower scale of dividend, with the consequent shrinkage in the value of stock, would mean a clear loss of half their investment. There are several reasons why Montreal cannot hope to have gas as cheap as other places on this continent whose examples are cited here at present. For one thing, coal is more expensive here than in Cleveland and Toronto which are "dollar gas" gasalier. The Nova Scotia coal, owing to the duty on American bituminous coal, is used by the company and it produces only about 80 per cent. as much gas as the American article. Owing to the severity of the climate the pipes have to be laid much deeper than in most places, and as the city rests on a rock formation this is done at great expense. It seems impossible to protect fully the pipes in the winter, for after every cold snap an army of men are abroad thawing them out. These are some of the facts cited by the company in justification of their insistence upon a tariff of \$1.20 for the next ten years.

Bishop Gravel's letter, which has created so much excitement in Ontario, has been received in solemn silence by the French Canadian press. Not one of them has reproduced it or commented upon it, though it appears to have fired the

heather elsewhere. I find everywhere among the French Canadians a growing determination to force the Government to extremities. It has really become more of a racial than a religious question, and is now an attempt by the French Canadian wing of the Conservatives to strengthen themselves at home by the prestige of having dominated the policy of the Government on an issue affecting the rights and privileges of their compatriots. The desire to make political capital out of this delicate question is responsible for the present inflammable state of the public mind in this Province. For the past four years each party in this Province has been trying to outvie the other in promises. To the assaults of the Liberals the Government advocates have replied with the most positive assurance that not one stone of the Manitoba legislation would be left upon another; and of these pledges scattered broadcast from the hustings have also been made privately to the leaders of the Church, so that now the remedial legislation must be passed in its extreme form or they are undone. It is this that makes the outlook for a solution of the problem so threatening, for a compromise would be as disastrous in a political sense as an absolute refusal to interfere. There is no alternative I fear between the acceptance of the extreme view which prevails in this Province and shipwreck; and of course there is the danger that the alternative may involve shipwreck too. *The Gazette* this morning in a moderate article advises the appointment of a commission to examine into the workings of the Manitoba Act and the actual feelings towards it of the Manitoba layman with a view to the fuller information of Parliament; and then it advises Parliament to settle the matter irrespective of political lines. This would enable the ministry to divide on the subject, some voting for remedial legislation and some voting against. There is a powerful argument against this in the fact that the House merely inherits its right to interfere through the refusal of the Manitoba Government to give legislative form to a course decided upon as necessary by the Government, and it therefore seems to follow necessarily that the Government must itself take the initiative in introducing the needed legislation. If it is left to a private member the legislation may differ widely from the remedial order which the Manitoba Government has refused to obey, and in that case, according to the finding of Mr. Armour in his article in *THE WEEK*, Parliament would find, after passing its legislation, that it had exceeded its jurisdiction and that its act was *ultra vires*.

A bookseller tells me that there is a quite well-developed fad for collecting the numbers of *Harper's Magazine* in which Trilby appeared and having them bound together. This has sent the price of the monthly during the time the story was running up to fancy prices; while the particular issue containing the famous criticism on James McNeil Whistler, who figures as Joe Sibley, is worth \$5. Harper & Brothers, after Whistler threatened them with a libel suit of immense proportions, withdrew as many of these copies as it could from circulation, and substituted an expurgated edition from which the offending features by pen and pencil were expunged.

Montreal, June 24th, 1895.

\* \* \*  
At Street Corners.

ALTHOUGH Bliss Carman did, when he was associate editor of the *New York Independent*, show his judgment by accepting a piece of verse of mine for that eminent journal: although I have read lines of W. W. Campbell's that moved me, and whole pages of Chas. G. D. Roberts that compelled my respect, I am not going to read any more poetry by Canadian living authors again. Farewell, my dear contemporary poets, a long farewell to all your greatness! The *Sunday World* and *Munsey's* have done you up and knocked you out, so far as I am concerned. I will not play in your yard any more. Not till you are all dead will I read another line. After all there are a few other poets besides you. I must content myself with these. I like proper spirit; I adore a man who stands on his feet. But, my hitherto venerated images, your feet are of clay, and very much so. You have all of you shown that you have not souls above buttons. Farewell! But, upon my word, I am awfully sorry for you.

I am sorer for myself. It is so hard to think you are standing near to a seraph and to discover that his heaven-soaring pinions are only goose feathers and buckram; to fancy you are gazing at an eagle and to see him shrink to a mere bantam cock before your very eyes; to worship a muse and to find out after all that she is only a servant wench with a taste for Billingsgate. Farewell! Yes, I must console myself with my dead poets.

Who is "Albert E. S. Smythe?" This gentleman wrote to the last issue of the *Sunday World* the most amusing letter on the subject of these squabbling Canadian versifiers I ever read. Here is a sentence or two. "There are many goddesses, yet but one Venus; there are many stars, but one Hesper; there may be many a Canadian muse, but only one wears the Sapphic mantle. They are fair and chaste and beautiful, these Canadian singers, and they need not be jealous of the subtle witchery, the amorous sorcery, the Lamia-charm and yet withal the deep-eyed, human-worded tenderness of Carman's genius." Write again, dear Albert, write again. A man who can sling words like that should not hide his light under a bushel!

A local popular elocutionist advertises that she has gone to New York to obtain from authors and publishers some specially interesting additions to her repertoire next season. The inference is, of course, that she could not obtain them here. We must console ourselves with the notion that she will probably buy Canadian goods although she goes to New York to buy them. Or did she make up her mind that it was hopeless to try to obtain anything from these squabbling Canadian poets?

The "send off" which his Scotch friends gave Mr. Alexander Fraser of the *Mail and Empire* on his departure from the Union Station, Toronto, for a visit to the land of his fathers, was amply sufficient to demonstrate both the esteem in which Mr. Fraser is held, and the downright clannishness of the Scotch. Mr. Fraser has done more perhaps than any other man in Toronto to develop and accentuate that clannishness. However questionable sectional grouping of this kind may be in a new country like this, there is no doubt that it leads to a hearty fraternity of spirit that must be, personally, very enjoyable.

Mr. H. M. Russell, the former artist of the *Toronto Evening News*, and whose cartoons were frequently a leading attraction in that paper, has now taken up his residence in Boston and is successfully at work for the leading newspapers there. He says he is highly pleased with Boston as an interesting and picturesque city, and thinks it has some claims to be regarded as the "hub" after all.

The letters on the water question, which have appeared recently in the *Globe* on the subject of the city water supply, are too evidently the offspring of insufficient knowledge, combined with personal spite, to be worth much notice. I refer to those signed "Engineer." I am informed by engineering friends that they contain enough evidences of ignorance to show that they proceed from none of the engineering fraternity. They are probably the production of some discharged employe of one of the civic departments. There may be errors in the waterworks administration, but the rectification of them will not be entrusted to "Engineer."  
DIOGENES.

\* \* \*

Letters to the Editor.

THE CANADIAN FLAG.

Sir,—When I addressed you four weeks ago on the subject of a Canadian flag, my object was mainly to point out the expediency of obtaining some design more suitable than that which has already been partially introduced. Letters and leading articles on the subject have, since that date, appeared, showing that much patriotic feeling has been called forth, and it is gratifying to observe that the discussion has generally been conducted with moderation and courtesy.

If I again ask your permission to submit a few additional explanations it is only with the view of assisting, by

my humble efforts, in obtaining a satisfactory solution to the problem. To reach a solution which will best commend itself, it seems to me advisable that the question should be considered from every side.

Since my letter appeared in *THE WEEK* of the 31st ult., comments upon it have been published from the eastern limit of the Dominion—Nova Scotia—to the Western Province—British Columbia. Not one writer has justified the retention of the complicated device of the Dominion escutcheon on the red-ensign. One only, as far as I have observed, regards the beaver as eligible for a place on the field of the British flag. The maple leaf is a favourite emblem, especially in Ontario, and has many advocates. A star with seven points representing the seven Provinces is a proposal which has been received with favour generally, and with marked approval in all the Maritime Provinces, in Manitoba, and in British Columbia.

A number of other devices have been suggested, but the discussion generally appears to be narrowed down to a choice between the maple leaf and a seven pointed star. As a degree of simplicity and the avoidance of complication may be claimed for both these emblems, there remains to be considered such other merits and demerits as they may not hold in common.

In my first letter I pointed out certain fundamental objections to the maple leaf, which strike one at first glance. I will now add that there is, to my mind, an abstract objection to a floral emblem of any sort being used on the flag of a maritime nation; it certainly is not in accord with the principle upon which the Union Jack is conceived. We there find no rose, no thistle, and no shamrock, although the acceptance of these floral emblems, by the three nations of the United Kingdom, is undoubted. Symbols of this character are not considered appropriate for flags, the main use of which is at sea.

Like other floral emblems the maple leaf is admirably suited for decorative purpose, and may be employed in wreaths and other ornamental work, on banners for societies, for processional purposes, for banqueting halls and for special occasions when the courtesies of life are exercised. I am afraid, however, I cannot go so far as to admit the propriety of placing the maple leaf on our national flag even if we assume it to be the national floral emblem of Canada.

But is the maple leaf itself the emblem of Canada? The assumption is by no means warranted. It is recognized as the emblem of Ontario, but other provinces have equally their emblems. As such the May Flower has been venerated in Nova Scotia for generations. It is quite true that the maple is indigenous in some sections of Quebec and that the leaf has been used as a badge by the St. Jean Baptiste Society, but it has no place in past history. The true historical emblem of the Province of Quebec is the *fleur de lis*, and in honour of our fellow subjects of French origin and their ancestors the founders of Canada, the *fleur de lis* has obtained a recognized position in our national escutcheon. Manitoba and British Columbia have asserted their existence as provinces. In future time there will be three other provinces, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, each of which will claim their right to have their own heraldic devices. Will any one of them be the maple leaf? As a tree the maple of Ontario is unknown in any portion of the vast extent of continent between Lake Superior and the Pacific coast. At the present moment I believe I am quite correct in saying that the maple leaf is recognized as a distinctive national or provincial emblem outside the Province of Ontario.

In this discussion we must never lose sight of the fact that Ontario is not the whole of Canada, and however much the maple leaf may be cherished in its own Province, it may not meet with the same favour throughout the whole Dominion. As in all federations our system is one in which many compromises have to be made and we have to avoid even the appearance of giving to one Province undue pre-eminence. It is quite true that the population and wealth of Ontario give it a preponderating influence in our political system, but in a matter of this kind, the rights and legitimate claims of all must be respected. Obviously it would be inexpedient that Ontario should be open to the charge of foisting her local emblem on the whole Dominion to the exclusion of all others. If the emblem of Ontario be placed on the flag, equally the emblems of all the other provinces should find places, and thus we would intensify and perpetu-

ate the confusion which it is our primary object in this discussion to remove.

It would be extremely difficult to obtain general concurrence to the use on the national flag of any one provincial emblem; I, therefore, ventured to suggest that a new device should be found, one which would be common to all, and in which each province should be equally represented. A star composed of seven equal segments appeared to fulfil the requirement. It was not anticipated that there would immediately be a concurrence of opinion in favour of this new device, and after all it may not be the best obtainable, but many persons throughout the Dominion appear to think that it is the best yet presented.

Objection has been taken to a star on the ground that it is un-British and republican. But this is the only objection which has been raised in any quarter, and it is of such a character as to require little argument to refute it. Whatever a star may mean politically when taken by itself, an arrangement which is not proposed by any one, it is practically obvious that a star, or any emblem whatever, placed under the Union Jack, would never be considered un-British or republican. The United States flag in part consists of a number of stars, but to say that the United States have appropriated the emblem of a star to the exclusion of all other people is as reasonable as if they claimed the whole sun light. The myriads of stars in the firmament are common to all, and if we represent one solitary star on our British Ensign, let us say the North Star, to symbolize the unity of our country and its devotion to the Empire, our position on this continent will give us a title to it which can never be disputed.

I take the liberty of repeating a question of one of your correspondents who asks,—is the English language anti-British and Republican because it is the language of the sixty or seventy millions of people in the United States? The weakness of the objection which has been raised to a star will even be apparent if we apply the reasoning of the objectors, to the maple leaf itself. The maple, as a forest tree, grows in abundance in the southern portion of Ontario, but it is found in still greater abundance in the neighbouring republic. The geographical range of the maple is far greater in the United States than in Canada, it extends from Maine to Missouri and Florida; but this fact does not lessen the beauty of the foliage or cause the leaf to be anti-British or republican. I, for one, do not object to the use of this beautiful leaf on our national flag because it is really more distinctively American than Canadian. I object to it only for the reasons which I have explained.

I humbly conceive that the enquiry may be summed up in a few words.

The maple leaf would represent Ontario only, and no other Province. As a symbol it gives no representation of strength or endurance. Its summer colour, green, would make it undistinguishable at a distance. If coloured in any one of its autumn tints, red or yellow, as some have suggested, what would those tints denote but decay and the near end of a brief existence?

On the other hand, a star as proposed would be a representation of every province, and its simple clear outline would make it distinguishable at the greatest distance. Such an emblem representing Canada on the British red ensign would be of great significance; it would be a testimony of our devotion to the Empire, and of the reciprocal attachment called forth. It would not be possible to associate such a flag with anything un-British, unenduring or undignified. This flag flying aloft would denote British and Canadian unity of sentiment, it would symbolize steadfastness and strength, and would everywhere and always command due respect among the nations.

SANDFORD FLEMING.

Ottawa, June 24th, 1895.

SIR,—It was with great interest that I read the letter by Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.M.G., in *THE WEEK* of May 31st, upon the subject of an appropriate flag for Canada, and I am sure that thinking men throughout our whole Dominion will have their attention very strongly attracted to the opinions expressed by Mr. Fleming because he is so well known for his high public spirit and knowledge of affairs and correctness.

The flag borne on the winds of a country, and that floats from the masts and flag staffs of a nation, is a matter of very great consequence, because if it engages the affections of the people it must form an important element in that wonderful power called patriotism or the love of country.

All history teaches us that this love of one's country is one of the great forces of national greatness, and therefore it will have the effect of adding to the strength of our country by choosing a flag that will appeal to the instincts of our people, and that will inspire them with a strong sentiment of attachment. Mr. Fleming in his letter has already set forth the importance of the historic Union Jack, with its reference to the union of Scotland and Ireland with England, and he has also showed the appropriateness and deep meaning of using a star upon the Union Ensign, as the symbol of the Dominion.

In all that he has said we can agree heartily, and if we were only considering the question as regards Canada, there would seem to be little else left to be said.

There is, however, another aspect of this flag question that has been rightly brought up for consideration by one of your correspondents, who has reminded us that other countries are also at present bearing stars on their flags, although, of course, our country alone would have the right to combine the star with the Union Jack.

In this connection there is a suggestion that, perhaps, may serve to harmonize the proposition to use the star, with the objection that has been urged in regard to other countries also using a star or stars. All who are acquainted with the history of Ireland or Erin are aware that from the earliest dawn of her gallant story her leaders bore on their flags an emblem called the "sun burst" which is only, in plain words, a large star with rays proceeding out of it and these rays figured on the fabric of the flag. Of course, such an emblem worked upon the silk and colour of a flag is striking in the extreme and is not only true to nature but is productive of the highest practical and hopeful aspirations that the human mind can imagine in connection with a flag.

The warlike bards of Erin's chivalry, who first designed the sunburst on their flags could safely count upon the warm attachment which all their followers would feel towards the sun—bursting into brilliance—giving heat, fine weather, good crops, bodily comfort.

If the writer of this letter were an Irishman he might hesitate to enlarge upon the value of the sunburst, but, as he is a Briton, he may state that history also tells us that the same large star, with rays proceeding out of it, worked upon the fabric of the standard, has also been the race device of Great Britain from so early a date that the Roses, the Lions and the Unicorn are but as of yesterday in comparison.

The only other devices that can be considered to be of somewhat equal antiquity are the White Horse that was borne on the banners of the Saxon invaders of Britain, and the Mountain Pine Tree of the Quidhelic clans of Caledonia, and the galley with oars of the Scandinavian Princelets of Scotland.

The pine tree is still to be seen on the Escutcheon of Queen's University, of Kingston—the galley is still borne on the arms of the Province of New Brunswick, and the White Horse still floats on the Battle Breezes on the standards of nearly a dozen of the English regiments.

We know that when the Roman standards, tipped with the Roman Eagles, landed on the coast of Britain, even at that remote epoch, 55 years before the Christian Era, the British kings bore on their flags the Rising Sun and the Red Dragon.

There was a Roman conquest of most of Britain for 500 years, although the west and north-west of Britain and Caledonia still remained British, and then there supervened a still further period of 500 years of Saxon rule over the Romanized parts of Britain, while eight or nine counties, now called Wales or "Waelsh Land," remained independent and unsubdued; and the kings of Wales all this time continued to display the Rising Sun.

In fact, as last, a Welsh dynasty, the Tudors (Twdrs) ascended the throne of Britain in the person of Henry VII. And at the present day one of the most renowned regiments in the British service bears upon its flag the Red Dragon and the Rising Sun, the 23rd Welsh Fusiliers. (See army list.)

I think the flag is a thing of real importance, and it would be a great historical continuity for Canada to bear on

her Union Jack the emblem of a large star with rays proceeding from it as this would be the reappearance of the ancient symbol of the British and Irish stems of the nation.

Kingston, June 17th, 1895.

R. CARR HARRIS.

SIR,—Professor Grant asks my attention to (to quote his words) "the fact that it (a star) is no more republican than the English language is republican and un-British because it is spoken in the States." But the "fact" thus asserted will not bear criticism: it is not a fact because Professor Grant asserts it. For my part I assert that the fact is precisely the contrary, because the American States, while they held the attitude of being Britons, or quasi-British, contending for what they conceived to be their rights, fought under a then well-known British flag of red and white stripes with the Union Jack of the period—without the cross of St. Patrick, which was added later—in canton; when this attitude developed into republicanism they marked the change by the adoption of stars. Who can doubt that they would also have changed the language if it had been possible? The adoption of a star as the emblem of the republic, which McKenzie proposed to establish in 1838, I have already pointed out in your columns.

Professor Grant questions the appropriateness of a maple leaf, as he thinks it is not recognized as a badge in (1) the Maritime Provinces, (2) Manitoba and the North-West, (3) British Columbia, but he has so written forgetting that (1) it appears in the official coinages of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island prior to confederation; (2) Manitoba and the North-West have been chiefly peopled by settlers from Ontario and Quebec, who carried the maple leaf with them, and I think I am correct in stating that it is there generally recognized as a national badge; it is certainly so regarded officially, as witness the North-West medal; (3) for British Columbia it is entirely appropriate, as any one will agree who has seen the variety which is typical of that province with a magnificent leaf of the familiar shape, but measuring over a foot in diameter. For all Canada, maple leaves are the world-wide recognized emblem both officially and unofficially; the latter is so well known that it is useless to quote instances; for the former it is sufficient to point out that the official flags of the Governor-General and of each one of the Lieutenant-Governors have a wreath of maple leaves in place of the wreath of oak leaves which is borne by other colonial governors. If Newfoundland joined the Confederation her Lieutenant-Governor's flag would also have the maple wreath as a matter of course.

Perhaps it may be contended that stars are not un-British because they appear in Australian flags; but they are so used, not as stars, but as representing the constellation of the Southern Cross, and so constituting a peculiarly appropriate emblem for that part of the Queen's Dominions.

E. M. CHADWICK.

Since writing the above I have observed a paragraph in *The Mail and Empire* with quotations from an American paper, the *Philadelphia Record*, distinctly claiming Mr. Sandford Fleming's suggestion as an imitation of the American flag, and a step towards republicanism and annexation. Is not this sufficient to close the discussion so far as a star is concerned?—E. M. C.

SIR,—While commending you most highly for your enterprise in displaying in colored form the new flag suggested for Canada by Dr. Sandford Fleming, I cannot help noting the error in the divisions of the crosses of the flag. In properly constructed Union Jacks the upper part of the white of the St. Andrew's Cross, in the two more important quarters, viz., those next the flag staff, is always larger than the part below the red of the cross of St. Patrick which is laid upon it. The reason for this is that the white cross of St. Andrew entered the Union before the red cross of St. Patrick and therefore was given this precedence. In yours the distance is divided equally, and the historic story of the flag is lost.

It is scarcely right to say, that Canada has now no national ensign. As a matter of fact we have had one since 1889. In that year permission was given by the British Act to all dependencies to place the badge of their Colony upon the fly or field of the red ensign thus forming for each a distinguishing flag. Victoria placed upon the flag five stars, the sign of the Southern Cross,

West Australia, the Black Swan, the emblem of their colony, and Canada a shield bearing the Coats of Arms of the Provinces of the Dominion. This forms the distinguishing flag of Canada. At the time of the Exhibition at Chicago it was first displayed as the ensign of Canada among the national flags of the world. Over the British Head Quarters floated the Union Jack plain and simple, the ensign of Great and Greater Britain, and close alongside, over the Canadian Head Quarters, floated the ensign of Canada, the "red ensign" with the arms of the Provinces on the field, the mother and the eldest daughter thus supporting one another. It was inspiring, too, to see the Canadian ensign elevated to its proper position and taking equal rank with the flags of Great Britain, United States, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Brazil, etc., as they lined the cornices of the principal buildings. We have, therefore, already a Canadian ensign, not by haphazard, but by constitutional enactment. The sole question to be considered is whether the present distinguishing badge should be altered. It is proposed that instead of an oval shield bearing the Canadian Coat of Arms there should be displayed a seven pointed star, one point for each Province. There is nothing Canadian in the star, and it is possible that with the subsequent addition of additional points for additional Provinces the badge would become only too like a cart wheel without a rim. If any change is to be made it should be to a *Maple Leaf*. This is already the flag emblem of Canada. In the form of a wreath of Maple Leaves it encircles the arms of Canada upon the flag of the Governor-General and in every one of the Provinces the flag of each Lieut.-Governor bears the arms of his Province, surrounded by a wreath of Maple Leaves. As a tree, according to Bell's "Geological Survey of Canada" and Sargent's "Forests of North America," it is universal in Canada. From the Island of Newfoundland across Quebec, where it displays its greatest glory, through Ontario to the central mountains and the remotest shores of British Columbia, the Maple Tree flourishes in our northern clime. A wreath of Manitoba Maple Leaves was laid at the foot of the Statue of Sir John Macdonald as the tribute of Manitoba to the founder of the Dominion. Beyond all question it is the emblem of our land, and displayed upon the red field of the ensign of Great Britain would tell the story, as a *flag should tell it*, of the glad allegiance of the land of the Maple Leaf.

BARLOW CUMBERLAND.

Toronto, June 19th, 1895.

SIR,—I beg to object to the design for the Canadian flag published by you. This is simply the lone star of Texas, which was the flag of that State during its short lived independence, before it was absorbed by the American Union. The lone star was the precursor of that absorption, and on its being accomplished, the star took its natural place on the American flag. Does any Canadian wish to be reminded of those things on looking at his flag? Are the annexationists to be given a hope of their unpracticable dreams being realized by the adoption of such a design? It should be repudiated by all Canadians at once and forever, and left to the Salvation Army whose flag it is now.

What we want is something that will animate patriotism, and destroy everything that prevents the growth of that sentiment. It is notorious that the people of Quebec will not use, and do not care for the present national symbol. To them it is the old symbol of the conqueror. The placing of a grotesque coat of arms on the flag has no attraction for them. Neither would a star or a simple maple leaf. These would make no perceptible difference to them; and owing to the want of a distinctive Canadian flag, the French flag is universally in use among them. One of the chief uses of a new Canadian flag would be to displace the French flag in Quebec.

The French Canadian people are also entitled to representation on the flag, and to have their sentiment respected and acknowledged; and this can be done while giving to the English-speaking people the full representation to which they are entitled.

What we want, in fact, is a combination of the British and French flags. This can be had by adding the tricolour to the British crosses. The fly of the flag might as well be red, white, and blue as entirely red, much better as these colours are as much British as French. They have been British colours since 1707; they have been French only since

1794. Then if the green maple leaf was put in the central white colour we should have a Canadian flag which would satisfy the vast majority of the Canadian people.

If this flag were adopted it would displace the French flag in Quebec in six months. The tricolour has only lately become the flag of the French Canadians. The white flag of old France and the *flour de lis* were his, and had there been a Canadian flag there would be no more chance of his adopting the tricolour than there would be of Henrich de Chambrond accepting it. Moreover, if my suggested design were accepted there would be some meaning in our most popular after-dinner song, "The Red, White, and Blue."

These reasons may be thought trivial by some; but, still, there would be immense meaning in this design. It would symbolize the dream of the true Canadian, the fusion of the two races which now inhabit the country and whose differences do so much to weaken and enfeeble us; it would form the centre of attraction for the hearts and eyes of all Canadians, stimulating patriotism, and high endeavour, while at the same time continually reminding us of the honour, power, and glories of the two great nations from which we have sprung, and so prevent us, as a people, from ever stooping to any low or unworthy action.

Woodstock, June 17th, 1895.

WILLIAM NORRIS.

SIR,—The question of a national flag for my native country is one so full of interest to me that I cannot, while the present discussion is proceeding in *THE WEEK*, forego giving expression to my opinion respecting the suggestion made by Mr. Sandford Fleming. No one, probably, can have greater aversion than myself to adopting anything which might appear to be copying from the United States; but the idea contained in Mr. Fleming's proposition is so distinctly original and so widely different from the purpose of the stars in the United States flag that surely imitation is out of the question. I rather like the recommendation of Mr. Baylis, that the Maple Leaf be placed in the centre of the star. At any rate I am in favour of Mr. Fleming's suggestion.

Lake Joseph.

WM. CANNIFF.

#### CORONER'S INQUESTS.

SIR,—In your editorial headed "The Coroner's Inquest," published in *THE WEEK* of the 14th inst., you seem to have misconstrued the statute relating to the holding of inquests. According to your interpretation of the law no inquest can be held unless (1) "a medical man declares on oath that it is necessary," (2) "a medical man shall take an oath that an inquest is necessary."

The Statute, R.S.O., 1887, chap. 80, s. 2, reads as follows:—"No inquest shall be held on the body of any deceased person by a coroner until it has been made to appear to the coroner that there is reason to believe that the deceased died from violence or unfair means or by culpable or negligent conduct either of himself or of others under such circumstances as require investigation and not through mere accident or mischance."

There is nothing here about a medical man's oath as to the necessity or non-necessity for an inquest. If it has been made to appear to the coroner that there is reason to believe, etc., he is authorized to hold the inquest. Under the wording of the Act a very great deal of latitude may be taken by the coroner if he is inclined to hold the enquiry. On a certain statement of facts opinions will differ as to the necessity or otherwise for enquiry, but the coroner alone is made the judge in cases committed to him, and he alone must conclude whether or not the representations made to him will justify the holding of an enquiry in accordance with the section I have quoted. This section would seem to be on the lines suggested in your editorial as to what in your opinion the law should be.

You would seem to have confounded this section with section 4 of the same Act, which provides that "no fees shall be claimable by a coroner in respect of an inquest unless prior to the issuing of his warrant for summoning the jury he shall have made a declaration in writing under oath stating that from information received by the coroner he is of opinion that there is reason for believing that the deceased did not come to his death from natural causes or from mere accident or mischance but came to his death from violence or unfair means or culpable or negligent conduct of others under circumstances requiring investigation by a coroner's inquest."

As I have already stated, under section 2 the coroner in his discretion may hold an inquest in any case so long as he satisfies his own conscience that *it has been made to appear* to him, etc., etc., and there is no power to prevent him.

There have been coroners who have abused the discretionary power committed to them by the statute, and it is within the memory of many living people that in days gone by many inquests were held that were generally recognized to have been unnecessary and that the enquiries had been instituted more in reference to fees than to ascertain the causes of death. As the statute gave the coroner the power to hold the enquiries if he in his discretion saw fit, there was no remedy.

To meet cases of this kind the Act last quoted was passed. It does not interfere, as you will observe, with the discretionary power committed to the coroner in regard to the necessity or otherwise of the enquiry. No coroner who recognizes the dignity and responsibility of his office and who desires to discharge his duties honestly with the single purpose contemplated by the Act will find himself at all hampered by the apparent conflict of the two sections I have quoted, but it will be otherwise with the coroner who is out for fees and fees only.

I have not referred to other sections of the Acts relating to coroners that have some bearing upon the two I have quoted, as they are not of sufficient importance to refer to in connection with your editorial.

CORONER.

[We are very grateful to our correspondent for his useful and lucid exposition of the law of inquests. Technically, of course, we were wrong, although not so practically. It is too much to expect a coroner to give up time from his profession to serve the public without being paid for it. Be this, however, as it may, we must reiterate our proposal that in all cases of accidents or of deaths, the causes of which are not certified by a medical man, an inquest should be held, unless a physician will take oath that it is unnecessary. We will now add that in all cases the coroner should be paid.—ED. THE WEEK.]

#### A CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

SIR,—The attack of your correspondent, "Observatore," on the recent meeting of the Women's National Council reminds one irresistibly of the celebrated indictment of the wolf on the lamb. He has clearly no just ground of offence and in the absence of any possible definite complaint, he satisfies himself with various irrelevant reflections on the shortcomings of modern life, and runs *amuck* on conventions in general. Had he taken the trouble to fulfil one of the first duties, but most neglected of a critic, that of making himself thoroughly acquainted with what he criticises, he would have found his weapons pointless, since he could not have helped acknowledging that the chief objects to which the council directed its attention were the best remedies for the very evils of which he most bitterly complains! The sacredness of home and the duties of motherhood, the proper education and training of children, the instruction of our girls in the needlework and domestic arts which they do *not* earn by instinct, the better sanitation of our homes, and the preservation of our children from the subtle inroads of moral poison, the care of female offenders and the reform of emale inebriates, with the question of preserving our girls from the overwork which undermines their constitutions and unfit them for their natural future as wives and mothers, these were, and such as these, were the subjects to which this assembly of earnest women gave their most careful consideration. His own remarks admit the presence of great evils in all these directions, and who are so well fitted to work in their removal as the intelligent women of our land? Nay, if the women do not, who will? The men, too busy with their commerce and their politics, and perhaps their criticism of other people, usually let matters alone, or, at best, "write to the papers about it." The united action of the Woman's Councils has already secured some beneficent measures in the line of remedying the evils referred to by your correspondent. It is clear, then, that if the "advanced woman" is one who scorns the claims and duties of domestic life, she has as yet no place in the Woman's National Council.

Your correspondent seems to think that a woman's field of duty is to be strictly limited to her own household; and

that the idea that she should have any wider interests is a modern heresy. But, not to go further back, he seems to forget, that, from apostolic times, the true ideal of Christian womanhood demanded that "she should have diligently followed every good work." But for women, indeed, where would have been the care of our sick, our orphan children, our aged and helpless poor? Your correspondent, who evidently shuts his eyes to all that he does not wish to see, seems not to be aware that the greater portion of the charities of the Dominion are managed, and well managed by women, who, somehow, manage to be excellent housekeepers and mothers nevertheless. Perhaps they do it by giving to such cares the time which women of a different stamp bestow on dress and frivoloty. Every just and generous man will honour such women, instead of endeavouring to disparage and sneer at their efforts to promote the good of their fellow-creatures. And it is the representatives of just such combinations of women, as well as others which aim at the general good, that make up the Woman's National Council, which is not another society, but simply a federation of those which already exist in order to bring them into more effective union for such objects as have been indicated. And if men, and women, too, can go long distances to attend public entertainments, or amusements, why should it fret your correspondent that a comparatively small number of women, most of them noted for their labours of love, should meet together once a year, to take counsel together as to the best means of promoting the well-being of their sex and country? It is to be hoped that your correspondent, when he gives the matter a little fuller consideration, will have the grace to be ashamed of the hasty and irrelevant sneers, which are hardly in keeping with the generally high tone of a journal like THE WEEK. However, when the Woman's National Council is thanked and endorsed publicly before large audiences by men who speak in their own proper person in its praise, it can hardly need to trouble itself concerning the prejudiced attack of an anonymous grumbler.

FAIR PLAY.

[Our correspondent mistakes the sex of "Observatore" who is a Canadian lady of high repute.—ED. THE WEEK.]

#### Churches and Castles of Mediaeval France.\*

THERE are few studies more attractive and more enthralling than that of architecture; and there is no country where it could be studied with more advantage than in France. Some one has remarked that, in architecture, as you retire from Paris, you retire from art; and whether we accept this dictum or not, at least we shall find it difficult to select more perfect types of mediæval architecture than those which we find in French churches and chateaux.

The author of the volume before us does not profess to give anything like a complete or systematic description of the buildings which he brings forward in his pages. This, he remarks quite truly, can be got elsewhere. What he professes to do is to give us a record of a traveller's impression of the great monuments of France—he might have said *some* of the great monuments (for a good many are wanting)—and this he does very well. His book is quite pleasant reading, and the illustrations, which are twenty-four in number, are very good.

Sometimes we wonder at the omission of some particular building or the prominence given to another. For example, we cannot quite understand why the west front of Tours is given as the frontispiece. Granting the beauty of the facade, in which, as the author remarks, "the richness of what might be called decorated lines is simply extraordinary," yet its portals are immensely inferior to those of Reims, and its towers to those of Chartres. Then, again, we miss the exquisite Sainte Chapelle of S. Louis, and have but little of Notre Dame of Paris.

We have failed to discover the principle of the arrangement of the volume, which is neither chronological nor geographical, following neither the order of the history of the architecture nor that of the Guide Book; and whilst we are sure that the student or the traveller will receive many useful hints and will have their perceptions quickened by the peru-

\* "Churches and Castles of Mediaeval France" By W. C. Larned. Price \$1.50. New York: Scribners. 1895.



sal of this volume, we are equally sure that they will be much helped by studying these glorious buildings in their chronological connection.

For example, a careful examination of the western fronts of Notre Dame of Paris, of the Cathedral of Amiens, and of that of Reims in succession would be almost an education in pointed architecture, illustrating its growth in flexibility and richness, as well as helping us to see how it got on the path of decay. In the book before us we have many isolated remarks which are true and interesting; but not very much in the way of historical criticism. For example, we have some excellent remarks on the Abbaye aux hommes at Caen; but we get hardly a hint of its place and importance in the development of ecclesiastical architecture in France.

Perhaps we are asking of the writer here what he had no intention of giving—what, he would say, we might find quite sufficiently in our guide book or history. That is quite true; but in books like the present, while we do not ask for technical details, we like to have the kind of remarks which would be made orally by an intelligent traveller who knew a good deal of the history of the art.

We hope we shall not leave the reader with the feeling that we are dissatisfied with this pretty volume. It is pleasantly written, well printed, prettily bound, and the illustrations are about as good as the size of the page will allow. As they seem all to be taken from photographs, there can be no question of their accuracy.

### Russian Rumbles.\*

BOOKS about Russia can never lack interest to western readers. Politically the civilized and really European nations in the neighbourhood of that colossal mass of slumbering oriental land, by their partial modernization, must feel like the dwellers in the valleys surrounding Mount Etna, always wondering when and in what direction its hidden barbaric fires may break forth in destructive torrents. Students of social ideas may almost feel grateful for the existence in the midst of Europe of this huge specimen of arrested development, which has enabled Sir Henry Maine to throw so much light on the ancient communistic land systems with which the more advanced portion of the human race has never wholly lost its sympathy. Miss Hapgood is not a politician or a social philosopher; but she brings a pair of bright American eyes, and a choicely cultivated literary mind, to bear upon the outward and picturesque aspects of this peculiarly interesting country and people.

There is much humour in her relation of experiences with Russian officialism, and she has a power of conveying, in photographic flashes, a host of illuminating pictures of local character and scenery. Like most Americans, she has had every advantage of *entree*, and, as is also not unusual with American writers, she is not unwilling to extend the resulting advantage to her readers. We are, I fear, too much interested in the revelations of the *vic intime* of a man like Count Tolstoi, to inquire very severely whether we are not participating in the benefit of something like a breach of confidence.

The story of Countess Sophia Tolstoi's patient efforts to preserve something of her estate and the patrimony of her children from the ruin constantly threatened by her famous husband's experimental vagaries, throws light on a good many things. Among others, perhaps, are the causes why geniuses (or their wives) are often unhappy in marriage. Now that discussions on the art of writing by writers are so much in vogue, the following bit which Miss Hapgood has preserved of Tolstoi's table talk will have an interest:

"There are three requisites which go to make a perfect writer," he remarked. "First, he must have something worth saying. Second, he must have a proper way of saying it. Third, he must have sincerity. Dickens had all three of these qualities. Thackeray had not much to say; he had a great deal of art in saying it; but he had not much sincerity."

The author brings from Tolstoi's land a hint which may be new to our labour organizers:

"By day the teamsters stand upon the quay, with rough

\* "Russian Ramblers." By Isobel Hapgood. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

aprons over their ballet-skirted sheepskin coats, waiting for a job. If we hire one of them we shall find that they all belong to the ancient Russian Artel, or Labour Union, which prevents competition beyond a certain point. When the price has been fixed, after due and inevitable chattering, one *lomovi* grasps his shapeless cap by its worn edge of fur, bites a copeck, and drops it in. Each of the other men contributes a marked copper likewise, and we are invited to draw lots in full view, to determine which of them shall have the job."

There is a specimen of the author's picturesque power, Whistler-like in its suggestiveness, with something of the spirit of Wilkie, in its sympathy with the simplicity of humble life, living out of doors close to the grander simplicity of nature:

"The boatmen, who have trundled all day long their quaint little courtyards over the narrow iron rails into the spacious inner courtyards of the houses on the quay, and have piled up their wood for winter fuel or loaded it into the carts for less accessible buildings, now sit on the stern of their barks, over their coarse food, sour black bread, boiled buck-wheat groats, and salted cucumbers—dotting their hats and crossing themselves reverently before and after their simple meal, and chatting until the red glow of sunset in the north flickers up to the zenith in waves of sea-green, lilac, and amber, and descends again in the north at the pearl pink of dawn. Sleep is a lost art with those men, as with all classes of people during those nerve-destroying "white nights."

Space does not permit further quotations.

We can assure the reader that in Miss Hapgood's company he will roam very pleasantly through a wide and motley region extending from the borders of Finland to the summer land of forest and prairie along the lower Golga, with the additional pleasure that is gotten by an intelligent traveller, gathering knowledge, as he goes, by careful observation of salient features of life and character in a strange and interesting land.

O. A. H.

### BRIEFER NOTICES.

*Etchings from a Parsonage Verawuh.* By Mrs. E. Jeffers Graham. Illustrated by J. W. Bengough. (Toronto: Wm. Briggs. 1895.)—In this book "Catharine Wiseacre" pictures a number of scenes in her life as helper to her husband, Solomon, whom we assume to be a Methodist minister in Canada. The darker experiences are avoided, and the bright and, at times, amusing side of parsonage life are dwelt on. Many of the characters are met with everywhere. All ministers are familiar with the elder who thinks the congregation is going down under the present régime, and wants special subjects preached on, with catchy names for sermons, or to have Mrs. Wiseacre take a hand in speaking as well. We have heard, too, of the young man rescued as he was being dragged down by drink, and converted into a temperance lecturer. The specimen lecture, by the way, is hardly up to the mark. Then we know the woman who makes trouble with regard to any parish sale or entertainment. More interesting are the chapters dealing with the people who preached for her husband. The illustrations by Bengough add to the value of the book, but they were scarcely done in his happiest vein.

*Lion, the Mastiff.* By Mrs. A. G. Savigny. (Toronto: Wm. Briggs. 1895.)—This book, which is a sketch from life by a member of the Toronto Humane Society, is an attempt to interest readers, especially children, we fancy, in the troubles and joys of dumb animals, and to inculcate the duty, as it should be the delight, of treating them with kindness and consideration. We are entirely at one with the author in her object. The book is thrown into the form of a mastiff's autobiography and the scene is laid in and around Toronto. The days of Lion's puppyhood are the best told. We meet with some of the usual stories of the rescue or protection of people by dogs, and some adventures with dog-stealers, possibly quite authentic, are narrated. A mistake is made, in our opinion, in giving a long account of a convention of animals, in which their woes are retailed at length. This makes the book too obviously didactic, and thereby a reader becomes repelled in many cases instead of having his sympathy enlisted. Still, the book deserves many readers, and we trust it may add its mite in bringing about the better treatment of domestic animals.

Music.

For some weeks past, pupils' recitals have practically held sway among local concerts. During this period many have proved themselves to have talent, culture, and ambition. The outlook for the future in the way of pianists is particularly bright, as has several times been stated in these columns. In the Conservatory of Music on the evening of June 13th, a piano and vocal recital by pupils of Mr. A. S. Vogt and Mrs. J. W. Bradley interested a large audience, the participants acquitting themselves admirably. Miss Florence Benson, who was a pupil of Mr. Vogts some three or four years ago, played the piano part in Bargiel's *Trio* for piano, violin and cello (Miss Lena M. Hayes violin, and Mr. Dinelli cello), and afterwards played as solos Raff's *Prelude and Minuet* from his suite in E minor op 72, and an *Allegro* of Bizets. She has a strong sense of rhythm, possesses a good reliable technic and plays with precision and brilliancy. I admire her talent and sincerity. A talented young lad of perhaps a dozen years, Master Douglas H. Bertram, played Chopin's *Nocturne in B major* op 32 remarkably well for his age. Miss Mabel Bertram gave clever readings of Grunfeld's *Gavotte* op 32 and Leschetizky's *Valse* op 35. Miss Carrie Fisher played a couple of numbers by Godard and Leschetizky with much acceptance, and the programme closed with a very excellent performance of Schumann's *Andante and Variations* op 46 by Miss Emma Andrich and Miss Benson. Mrs. Bradley brought forward several voices of considerable purity, which showed the training of an experienced, conscientious teacher. These were Miss Bertha Dewart, Miss Dora McMurtry, Miss Annie McNichol, Miss Ruth McGill and Mr. Will Richardson. Mr. Vogt, as shown by this recital, has several pupils of promise who will doubtless develop under his capable guidance into pianists of much ability and skill.

The yearly visits of the American pianist, Mr. W. H. Sherwood, are always looked forward to by a large number of musicians and students, because not only does he conduct the piano examinations at the Conservatory, but he gives a recital himself. His performances on the piano rank very high, for, in addition to an immense technic, he is a musician, and also has imagination and intellectual force of superior order. His programme included Grieg's "Concerto" in A minor, a sonata also by Grieg for piano and cello op. 36, the cello part being carefully played by Sig. Dinelli, and a group of pieces, Liszt's "Love Dream," No. 3, "Military March"—Schubert-Tausig, Schubert-Liszt, "Hark, Hark, The Lark;" Liszt-Gounod, "Faust Waltzes." The Grieg numbers were played with brilliant precision and power, in fact all the pieces received the treatment which one expects from a virtuoso. Except from a technical standpoint, I did not like the *Military March* however, the tone colour being badly distributed. Mr. J. D. A. Tripp played the second piano part in the concerto, and did it like an artist. Miss Florence McLean and Mrs. H. W. Parker, pupils of Mme. and Sig. d'Auria, respectively, gave vocal selections and were deservedly applauded for their interesting singing.

On Monday evening of this week, June 24th, Miss Veals, of 50-52 Peter St., gave a charming *At Home* to her friends, and the friends of the young ladies who attend her very excellent school. A short but exceedingly attractive programme was presented by the Misses Greenhill, Snyder, Parfitt, pianists; Miss Jenkins, violinist; and the Misses Britton, Bowes and Emery, vocalists. These are pupils of Mr. Field and Miss Hillary. They all did remarkably well and were entitled to all the applause which greeted their performances. After the artistic programme above referred to, and before, refreshments were served in the parlors, Miss Veals acquainted those present with the fact that a very beautiful and commodious house had been secured on Spadina Avenue, about midway between Knox College and Bloor St., next. I might say, in addition to the above, that the locality is one of the very best in Toronto and the building admirably adapted in every way to meet the requirements of this highly esteemed and superior ladies school. The rooms are spacious, and are so arranged

that they may be thrown open to make a large concert hall, which, by the way, looks out on a lovely lawn, which is also for the use of the young ladies. Although this scarcely comes under the head of musical criticism yet it refers to a school which is particularly well equipped musically, and which attracts yearly a number of talented girls who desire, in addition to their other studies, to procure the best musical advantages, and who have shown in this and former years the benefit and fruits of this instruction by their splendid performances.

Mr. H. M. Field sails to-morrow from New York to spend six or eight weeks in Germany. He will hear the Wagner *Cyclus* in Munich.

Rubenstein's Sacred Music Drama, "Christus" has, according to the critics, met with distinct and absolute failure.

A soiree musicale was given in the Conservatory Hall on Monday evening, the 24th inst, by Miss Adelina Dinelli, violiniste, a sister of the well-known Toronto musician and cellist, Sig. Dinelli. Mme. d'Auria was the assisting artist. W. O. FORSYTH.

Art Notes.

In the death of Henry Moore, R.A., England has lost her foremost painter of the sea; and, having regard to the fact that the sea is the realm over which it is Britain's proud boast that she is the supreme ruler, it is a national calamity that the strongest limner of the face of ocean—stronger even than Turner—is dead.

I have heard no particulars of the nature of his last illness, but so long ago as 1889, he confided to me (in a secluded corner in a London ball-room, where we were fellow-sufferers from boredom) that he was a martyr to ill-health. But this is not to be traced in his pictures, which abound in vitality, and betray the exhilaration of the painter who finds himself on the heaving bosom of the sea. He worked a great deal on the water; and, in a greater degree than any man, living or dead, he was able to give, in his "deep sea" pictures the sense of ocean vastness, and remoteness from land. Like most great men he was charmingly simple; and to converse with him was to put oneself under the spell of a mind preoccupied with great and beautiful things to the exclusion of what is worldly and sordid. In the ordinary mundane sense of the word Henry Moore was successful; but the struggles by which he attained his high position in the estimation of his fellow countrymen were long and painful.

This is not an uncommon history amongst the painters of England. The genius of the coming man is not easily recognized by the conventional and non-committal men who write the criticisms for the press; indeed these gentlemen generally confine their eulogies to those pictures which are produced by men whose genius was discovered in the remote past, and is now perceptibly (to anyone but themselves) on the wane. So, like every other man of mark, Moore had to wait till some enterprising and rash critic praised him, or till some dealer, or collector, or person of rank "took him up" and he became the vogue. Once this happens, the painter is safe—safe from everything but the dangers that come with too sudden a reaction. The whole process is a kind of starvation by British indifference, followed by a too rich diet of British adulation.

Moore, as a designer, never approached Turner, but as a painter of "the other element," he has no equal. The "vasty deep" was never presented pictorially with a more moving sense of its awesome splendour. He had the power to suggest unfathomable depths, and, withal, to make the light play of waves upon the surface. His gift of rendering the

movement of ocean—the heaving up from beneath—was positively uncanny. And he could paint the oily ground-swell, the choppy sea of the Channel, storm, calm, fog, and every other mood and phase of the creature dearest to his heart. He talked of it as though it was a sentient, living friend. Greater than Olsson, who knows it only as an enchanting, new-found idol, to be worshipped from the shore, he has thrown in his lot with it, lived on it, and is of those who have seen the "wonders of the deep."

They were a gifted pair, the two Moores. Albert, from whom academic honours were withheld, succeeded, nevertheless, in winning even a larger number of admirers than his brother, by his beautiful pictures of classic maidens in diaphanous draperies of wonderful hues. But for novelty of *motif*, force, and technical mastery of the art of painting the almost unpaintable, the marine artist, is, to my mind, entitled to the higher place of the two. E. WYLY GRIEK.

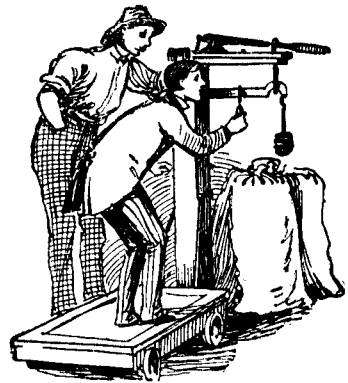
Gained a Pound a Day.

A LANARK COUNTY FARMER'S REMARKABLE CURE

Taken with Bilious Fever the After Effects of which Brought Him Almost to the Grave—He Gladly Speaks for the Benefit of Other Sufferers.

Smith's Falls Record.

Mr. Joseph N. Barton, who lives about a mile from the village of Merrickville, is one of the best known farmers in the township of Montague. Up to the spring of 1894 Mr. Barton had always enjoyed the best of health. At that time, however, he was taken with a bilious fever, the effects of which left him in a terribly weakened condition. When the time came around to begin spring operations on the farm he found himself too weak to take any part in the work, and notwithstanding that he was treated by an excellent physician, he was constantly growing weaker and his condition not only greatly alarmed himself but his friends. Having read so much concerning Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, he determined to give them a trial, and without consulting his physician he began their use. He only used one box, and, not feeling better, he discontinued the use of the pills. This was where he now admits he made a serious mistake as he not only fell back to his former weakness, but became worse than before. He could now do no work of any kind, and the least exertion left him almost helpless. Life was a misery to him and he was on the point of giving



I gained a pound a day.

up his case as hopeless when a friend strongly urged him to again begin the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. He agreed to do so, and by the time he had used three boxes there was a marvellous change in his appearance, and he felt like a new man. He still continued to use this life-saving medicine, with astonishing results. During his illness he had fallen in weight to 135 pounds, but he soon increased to 180 pounds. In fact, as he says, the increase averaged about a pound a day while he was taking the pills. He is now able to do any kind of work on his farm, and it is needless to say that he is not only a firm believer in the efficacy of Dr. Williams'

**MATTHEWS BROS. & CO.**  
 95 YONGE STREET,  
 Importers of High Class Works Art, Engravings, Etchings, Etc.  
**FINE FRAMING A SPECIALTY.**  
 Latest Designs. — — — Good Workmanship.

Pink Pills, but loses no opportunity to sound abroad their praise, with the result that others in his locality have benefitted by his experience and advice.

To those who are weak, easily tired, nervous, or whose blood is out of condition, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills come as a veritable boon, curing when all other medicines fail, and restoring those who give them a fail trial, to a full measure of health and strength. They will be found an absolute cure for St. Vitus dance, locomotor ataxia, rheumatism, paralysis, sciatica, the after effects of la grippe, chronic erysipelas, scrofula, etc. They are also a specific for the troubles peculiar to the female system, correcting irregularities, suppressions and all forms of female weakness. In the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of any nature. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark and wrapper (printed in red ink), and may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., or Schenectad, N.Y., at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50.

\* \* \*

## Merchants' Bank Meeting.

DIRECTORS REPORT A FAIRLY SATISFACTORY YEAR'S BUSINESS.

Mr. Hague's Address—He Speaks of the Position and Prospects of Commerce, the Condition of the Country, and the causes of Trade Troubles.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Merchants' Bank of Canada was held in the Board Room of that institution yesterday at noon, when there were present Mr. Andrew Allan, Sir Joseph Hickson, Messrs. Jonathan Hodgson, Hector MacKenzie, T. H. Dunn (Quebec), J. P. Dawes, John Cassils, John Crawford, John Morrison, J. H. R. Molson, T. D. Hood, Captain W. H. Benyon, James Williamson, M. S. Folley, James O'Brien, F. S. Lyman, William Francis, M. Burke, James Gardner, Captain Ritchie, John McConnell, and J. S. Murray.

The proceedings were opened by Mr. Andrew Allan, president, taking the chair and requesting Mr. John Gault to act as secretary.

### THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The president then submitted the following report of the Directors:—

The Directors, in meeting the Stockholders of the Bank on this occasion, beg to present the following report:—

The results of the business of the year have not been so large as those of last year.

But the Stockholders will, no doubt, understand that the year which has just closed was one of exceptional dullness in trade, and of a low range of profits generally, not only in banking, but in nearly every line of business carried on in the country.

The net profits of the year, after payment of charges, rebate on discounts, interest on deposits, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, have amounted to \$551,849 51. The balance brought from last year, ending 31st May, 1894, was 5,428 28

Making a total of \$557,277 79  
This has been disposed of as follows:  
Dividend No. 52, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum \$240,000 00  
Dividend No. 53, at same rate 240,000 00  
Added to contingent account \$480,000 00  
Leaving a balance at the credit of surplus profits account of 20,000 00  
57,277 79  
\$557,277 79

The Stockholders will note that the profits made this year amounted to nearly nine and a quarter per cent. on the capital.

Although the business of the country generally was dull, the business of the Bank has been well maintained in every department excepting circulation. This important item has shown a smaller average of figures than for many years back, largely owing to the low prices prevalent for nearly all agricultural products.

The Bank this year has suffered no large loss. But a considerable number of small failures have taken place in the circle of its customers. From a number of these failures no loss resulted to the Bank; but it is impossible to bring out this result in every case.

The total amount of loss, however, for the year, was smaller than the average. But in view of possible depreciation in certain assets, it has been thought desirable, instead of carrying the whole of the profits forward, to add \$20,000 to Contingent Fund. Amongst the losses of the year was one of a very exceptional character, viz., that incurred by the failure of the Commercial Bank of Newfoundland. The amount, however, was only small.

The Board have decided to open a new branch at Hespeler, Ontario, the Bank having a considerable connection there, which it is important to conserve.

All the branches of the Bank have been inspected during the year, and its various officers have discharged their duties efficiently and with fidelity, and to the satisfaction of the Board.

The whole respectfully submitted.  
(Signed) ANDREW ALLAN,  
President.

Montreal, June 11th, 1895.

### LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

The statement of Liabilities and Assets at 31st May, 1895, is as follows:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
1.—To the public.	1895	1894	
Notes in circulation	\$2,352,684 00	\$2,259,012 00	
Deposits not bearing interest	\$2,135,188 40	\$2,986,260 32	
Deposits bearing interest	8,157,448 09	7,302,937 42	
Interest due thereon to date	71,668 29	68,728 88	
	\$10,366,804 78		
Balance due to Canadian Banks keeping Deposit Accounts with this Bank	654,827 40	556,273 04	
Balances due to Canadian Banks in Daily Exchanges	816 87		
Balances due to Agents in Great Britain	182,107 47	666,769 44	
Dividend No. 53	240,000 00	240,000 00	
Dividends unclaimed	2,015 00	1,683 30	
	\$13,796,755 52	\$13,543,664 60	
2.—To the Stockholders.			
Capital paid up	\$6,000,000 00	\$6,000,000 00	
Reserve	3,000,000 00	3,000,000 00	
Surplus profits	57,277 79	5,428 28	
	\$9,057,277 79	\$9,025,428 28	
Contingent Accounts	74,215 00	56,480 00	
	\$22,928,248 31	\$22,605,572 88	
ASSETS.			
Gold and Silver Coin on hand	\$389,759 28	\$368,406 32	
Dominion Notes on hand	897,093 00	1,000,942 00	
Notes and Cheques of other Canadian banks	649,901 20	575,217 37	
Balances due by other Canadian Banks in account and daily exchanges	98,336 92	72,674 71	
Balances due by Banks and Agents in the United States	346,308 06	236,247 02	
Dominion Government Bonds	1,089,820 15	1,078,132 45	
Provincial Government Bonds		59,312 49	
Railway and Municipal Debentures	321,510 85	264,199 23	
Call and Short Loans on Bonds and Stocks	1,125,446 85	912,918 85	
	4,918,176 31	4,533,050 44	
Total available assets			
Time Loans on Bonds and Stocks	194,528 63	231,286 00	
Other loans & discounts	\$16,732,142 09		
Less reserved for contingents in full	88,803 19	16,643,438 81	16,684,599 62
Loans and Discounts overdue (loss provided for)	142,875 04	100,952 82	
Deposits with Dominion Government for security of Note circulation	159,312 70	159,312 70	
Mortgages, Bonds and other Securities, the property of the Bank	263,675 02	270,229 37	
Real Estate	55,162 21	44,932 92	
Bank premises and Furniture	536,868 20	537,283 20	
Other Assets	14,211 39	18,964 81	
	\$22,928,248 31	\$22,605,572 88	

The President then moved, seconded by Mr. Hector Mackenzie:

"That the report of the Directors as submitted be and the same is hereby adopted and ordered to be printed for distribution among the Stockholders."

The President called upon the General Manager, Mr. George Hague, for a few remarks on the financial outlook.

### THE GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

To judge by what we hear, Mr. President, the report just presented will be regarded as fairly satisfactory, considering the times. But I must confess to disappointment that we have realized so little out of so large a business as we have done. For though we have made over nine per cent. on the capital, we have only realized a little over six per cent. on our total surplus of Capital and Rest.

We have earned only little more than bare legal interest, yet in this we have done about as well as our neighbours, for all show about the same rate of profit on capital and surplus funds. But to say that they have made bare legal interest shows that the banks have made a mere nothing out of their banking business proper. For myself, I feel sometimes vexed that the enormous amount of transactions, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars a year, in which we ourselves serve the public, and pass money over our counters, yields us such a miserable modicum of profit.

I shall not waste time in lamenting what may be inevitable (if it is inevitable), but it is only fair to banking interests in general to point it out. Competition between banks has been carried to such lengths of late years that an enormous amount of business, which actually costs the banks money, is done by them for nothing.

It has been said that Banking in Canada has now come to be somewhat of a monopoly. If that can be called a monopoly, in which thirty-eight institutions are competing against one another, to earn six per cent. for their Stockholders, the word monopoly must have changed its meaning of late. Banking in England and Scotland, and Ireland too, is a remunerative business. It is certainly not in Canada, as I was once told by an eminent London banker, in looking over the low range of our profits.

We have been fortunate this year, as the Report informs you, in escaping any large loss, and the total we have had to provide for has not been large. But it is impossible to go through such a year as the last, without being affected by some of the numerous failures that have taken place.

During last year 65 of the customers of the Bank failed or got into difficulties. The amount they owed us was \$504,000. In 42 of these cases our securities bring us out without loss. By the balance we shall lose a certain amount of money, which, as the report tells you, is less than the average.

I don't think this an unsatisfactory record considering that the total amount of loans and discounts passed through our books during the year, footed up to over ninety millions.

It is always of interest to us to note the causes of mercantile embarrassment, and it may be well for me to point out the causes of last year's failures, so as to plant a few buoys, or beacons, for the guidance of those who are navigating the sea of trade at present:

Branching out into lines of business other than a man's own, was one cause.

Attempting a wholesale business on a retailer's capital was another.

Attempting to make money out of buying property and building instead of sticking to a man's own trade was another.

Pushing and driving, in a reckless style, of a business which a man did not understand was another.

Engaging in the export trade across the Atlantic without practical knowledge and experience was another.

(A very favorite notion of people up in the interior, is that there is a mine of wealth in the export trade. People in Montreal know better.)

Neglecting business in order to attend to politics was another.

Reckless and thoughtless giving of credit was another.

And last, but no means least, was too great facility of borrowing money, and borrowing from more than one bank.

Last year's experience only confirms that of thirty years back, that merchantile failures in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred are avoidable by prudence, common sense, industry and intelligence.

The old maxims of trade are just as true to-day as ever they were. The talk we sometimes hear about old conditions having passed away and new ones coming to the front is trash. One might as well talk about these modern times having upset the law of gravitation.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

During the past year we have had no bank crisis in Canada, nor have we had any failure of a joint stock bank. But our sister colony of Newfoundland has been convulsed, and its

business brought almost to a total stand, by the failure of the only two banks doing business on the island.

Respecting these, it is to be remarked that, had Newfoundland been included in the Canadian confederation, its banks would have come under the operation of a banking law and system, which is admitted to be the best on this Continent.

The effect of this could hardly have failed to be conservative and preventive. Its influence would have been far-reaching, not only on banking methods, but on the commercial interests of the island. And the influence would have been of such a character as, in my judgment, to have developed the resources of the Colony to the best advantage, promoting sound commercial enterprise, introducing and keeping alive sound business methods, and rendering it all but impossible that such a calamity as has lately happened could have transpired.

I am aware that there have been failures amongst the Banks of Canada, and that no law can prevent bad management and its results. But banking failures in Canada have been few and far between in proportion to the whole, while the notes in circulation have been rendered so safe that no one has lost by them, even in the worst cases of failure, for many years back.

With regard to other aspects of union between Newfoundland and Canada; though the matter may verge upon the domain of politics, I must take the liberty of saying that though the entry of Newfoundland into the Confederation would, no doubt, have been of advantage to Canada, the balance of advantage (in every respect) would have been immensely in favour of Newfoundland.

With all the defects of our Government and our institutions, there cannot be a question in the minds of any who have impartially considered the subject, that the Dominion of Canada is the best governed portion of the American Continent, having the best Constitution, the most equitable Laws, the best Judicial system, the most solid prosperity and the most rational liberty.

One of the Banks of Newfoundland—the Commercial—had kept its account with us for a number of years, and in a perfectly satisfactory manner. By its sudden stoppage, without the slightest premonitory symptom, we shall make, I am sorry to say, a small loss.

#### ASPECTS OF BUSINESS GENERALLY.

The report of the Directors has touched upon a well known fact, that last year was a year of great dullness in business, and of exceptionally low profits, or no profits at all, in most branches of trade. It is to the credit of our mercantile and banking system that we passed through such a year with as few failures as transpired.

I am inclined to think that the banks as a whole are exercising more and more of a conserving influence over their customers, thus developing habits of prudent forethought, discouraging rash speculation, bringing about a better system of giving credit, and generally promoting a more solid, reliable and lasting prosperity. I am sure they ought to do this, and generally I think they are.

Banks cannot control prices, nor prevent losses by the continuous fall in commodities. But they can, when asked to furnish means for carrying on mercantile operations, so regulate the amount of money borrowed, that losses, if suffered by their customers, shall bear a reasonable proportion to the means of the borrower, and not involve him in ruin. Of course, I can only speak in general terms, and of a general conserving influence continuously operating. Instances of individual rashness will take place, in spite of all the efforts made by a bank to prevent them. And, like other men, bankers sometimes fail to carry out their own rules.

As to the various lines of business in the country, it is satisfactory to see that our Exports are constantly increasing. The leading staples in exports last year realized very good prices. It is quite possible, however, for producers to receive good prices, and merchants and exporters to lose money. On the whole, however, these latter have not had much to complain of, although the vexatious and unreasonable restrictions upon our *Live Cattle* trade made it very unprofitable. In fact, for the last year or two, it has been a losing business, though the prospects are somewhat better

at present. But this whole business of exporting live animals is little better than a lottery in its result to the shipper, under the present conditions of the trade in Great Britain.

#### LUMBER AND OTHER MANUFACTURES.

With regard to the product of our forests, it should be an aim constantly to have them sent out with as much of our own manufacture put upon them as possible. The exporting of saw logs is an unwise business, and I am not sure but we have sent out a vast deal too much of square timber in an unmanufactured state.

It is certain that our logs and timber go through various processes of manufacture before they reach their ultimate destination. Why, then, with our unrivalled facilities for manufacturing woodenwork, should we not do all this at home?

Our various lines of

#### MANUFACTURES

in Canada have been as profitable as they have been either in England or the United States.

Our manufacturers generally are getting to have a command of their business and a thorough understanding of its wants and conditions.

But it is perfectly true here, as it is of manufacturers everywhere else, that unless a manufacturer can make a specialty or specialties of some kind, and conduct his business with extreme attention to detail, he can scarcely hope to make a reasonable profit.

This applies, to some extent, even to such a business as

#### IMPORTING,

which, for the last year or two, has fallen into a condition of unprofitableness.

I believe radical changes in the methods of carrying on the leading branch of this business, are necessary to a return of prosperity.

#### DAIRY PRODUCTS.

In dairy products we have thoroughly established ourselves as producers of good cheese; but nothing except constant attention to quality will enable us to hold that position against competition.

Competition now is not only between merchant and merchant, farmer and farmer, but between country and country.

In respect of quality, we might do even more in our manufacture of cheese for the English market. Nothing pays like good quality. Nothing is so ruinous as bad quality in exports. And a point not to be overlooked is that it is not only good quality, but good *make-up*, that tells in the English market.

The time has gone by when we could send anything whatever out of this country to the English market, whether it be fruit, cheese, butter, flour, or any other commodity, in a haphazard and careless style, trusting to luck for it to bring a good return. This is especially the case with regard to butter. It is simply discredit to us as a country that we cannot make butter of such a quality as to command a large sale in England. Denmark does it; but then Denmark goes about it in a thoroughly business-like and scientific style, manufacturing high-class butter, as men manufacture high-class cottons and woollens.

Denmark has a well organized system of Inspection of Herds, constantly kept up; the best machinery is employed in manufacturing; the utmost care is constantly taken as to cleanliness, temperature, ventilation, and handling of the article; making it up, packing and shipping; the result being that the article, on the whole, brings double the price that would be obtained by haphazard methods.

What farmers in Denmark can do our farmers can do undoubtedly, if they set about it.

The Government of this Province sent over a Commissioner last year to Denmark to investigate the matter. The report he made, or extracts from it, ought to be in the hands of every farmer, not of this Province alone, but of the whole Dominion.

This leads me to say just one word about

#### FARMING.

Farming in these times requires to be carried on with as much intelligence, practical knowledge, capital, industry, and assiduity as any other branch of business.

This is becoming increasingly appreciated, and the appreciation is leading to the best practical results, especially in our own Province. A quiet revolution has been going on for some time, and is in progress still, amongst the cultivators of the Province of Quebec, and its fruits are seen in the generally sound condition of business in Lower Canada.

#### INSOLVENCY.

It is yet uncertain whether a general Insolvency bill can be passed through this session, although it is desirable to have a law which would prevent the grave abuses which exist in some provinces.

This in reality, is the principal reason why a general Insolvency law would do good. An act is *not* urgently required for the relief of insolvent debtors. That was the old style of insolvency laws, but the circumstances of Canada call for no such legislation. All that is required is that when a man does honestly become insolvent, his creditors shall be fairly treated, and his estate equitably divided.

The technical provisions of the Act, lately before the Senate, would be found generally most wise and well considered, provided the right of ranking be properly adjusted. But any Act of Parliament which will give a man his discharge on paying fifty cents on the dollar, will operate as an encouragement to insolvency. You may guard it as you will, but it will have this effect. Experience shows it to be the case wherever it has been tried. Every Insolvency law in England has had this effect, though some of the very ablest men in Parliament endeavoured to guard against it. That has been our own experience, too. Canada does not want an act to promote insolvency; nor an act to enable contracts to be broken; nor an act to compel creditors to act towards their debtors in a manner contrary to their own judgment. Any honest and competent, but unfortunate debtor, has no difficulty in settling with his creditors without an Act of Parliament. What an act of Parliament is really wanted for is to make void improper preferences, and also to make the procedure in case of insolvency uniform all over the Dominion. Divers acts in different provinces are not desirable.

#### PROSPECTS OF BUSINESS.

There is a general air of hopefulness abroad as to this, and I think it is justifiable. The rise in the value of some great staples is undoubtedly having this effect. Increased railway earnings, clearing house returns, and high values of stocks are all significant. But do not let us expect too much.

Business in the United States is not on a settled basis yet by any means. Notwithstanding the fact that all the bankers and capitalists of the Eastern and Middle states, together with a good proportion of those in the South and West, and the Pacific slope, are a unit in favour of the gold standard, and have presented hitherto a solid front (highly to their credit) against the plausible clap-trap of the silver party, this party is undoubtedly strong and determined, and if the question can be made one on which political lines will be followed, very serious mischief may ensue.

The whole financial and commercial business of the United States will be thrown into chaos if the silver advocates have their way. As to bimetalism, or a double standard of value, it is simply a delusion. I venture to think that no man who has the practical handling of money, and the actual dealing with monetary affairs, can possibly imagine that there can be two standards. You might as well have two yard measures, one twelve inches long, the other fifteen; or two bushel measures, one of four pecks the other five; to be used at buyers' option.

A law that wheat shall always be dealt in at a dollar a bushel, no more, no less, under all the changing conditions of harvests, would be as rational as a law that there shall always be the same ratio between gold and silver.

If there is only one standard it should unquestionably be gold. England has always stood upon this. So have we in Canada. And so has the Government of the United States so far, and so we trust it ever will, to our mutual advantage.

What is the use of getting from a foundation of rock to a bed of quicksand?

But as to business prospects. It should

# Indigestion

Horsford's Acid Phosphate

Is the most effective and agreeable remedy in existence for preventing indigestion, and relieving those diseases arising from a disordered stomach.

Dr. W. W. Gardner, Springfield, Mass., says: "I value it as an excellent preventative of indigestion, and a pleasant acidulated drink when properly diluted with water, and sweetened."

Descriptive pamphlet free.

Rumford Chemical Works, Providence, R. I.

Beware of Substitutes and Imitations.

For sale by all Druggists.

be remembered that individuals may suffer disaster and banks heavy losses, even when times are generally good. In fact, it is always the case that the seeds of losses are sown in times of prosperity. But I repeat that banks can exercise—and are exercising—a moderating and conserving influence by judiciously using that enormous power of dispensing credit which is put into their hands.

When I tell you that the banks as a whole are dispensing credit to the people of Canada at this moment to the amount of over two hundred millions, you may form an idea of the importance of this great function.

In respect of progress, there is one department in which the country is steadily gaining ground, and I think nothing demonstrates more plainly how steadily this country is improving—and not retrograding—than the constant increase in the deposits made with the Banks and the Government.

When I first entered a bank in Canada in 1856 the whole deposits of the country were about

1856	\$ 15,000,000
In 1878 these had	89,000,000
1890	210,000,000
1891	230,000,000
1892 and 1893	254,000,000
1894	270,000,000

The figures included, of course, the deposits in Loan Companies and Savings Banks, both Government and Incorporated. The mercantile loans and discounts of the Banks have grown during the same period from about \$35,000,000 to \$263,000,000 and demonstrate that the increase of deposits has not been the consequence of stagnation and want of enterprise, but has been accompanied by an equal mercantile development.

And further, this steady and extraordinary rise in deposits and discounts has been accompanied by just as steady a development in the way of opening up of lands, improvement of farms, construction of railroads, public works, development of shipping and navigation, improvement of harbours and lighting of our coast, the growth of settlements into villages, and of villages into towns, and of towns into cities; all of which many of us here present have seen with our own eyes. If this statement is not enough to convince the most obstinate pessimist amongst us that the country steadily progresses, in spite of all drawbacks, he must be hard to convince.

As to foreign detractors, we can generally afford to treat them with the contempt they deserve. Their ignorance is generally on a par with their unscrupulousness.

Yet may I be pardoned for a word of caution. Canada needs to be careful of maintaining her high standard of credit at all times. The Dominion cannot afford to trifle with it by allowing its great name to be used in connection with dubious enterprises.

This, I think, is enough for the General Manager to say, but if any stockholders desire to ask questions, he will be glad to answer them so far as he may be able.

## THE DISCUSSION

The President having invited remarks from the shareholders, Mr. John Morrison spoke at some length.

Mr. John Crawford, while admitting that in most banks throughout the Dominion, with probably the exception of the Dominion bank, which paid quarterly dividends, business had not been so good as could be desired, was disappointed that the Merchant's bank, which had made very marked progress during the past few years, had not earned more than 9½ per cent. He then went on to speak in favour of banks declaring to the shareholders the amount of the gross losses, and said that the best banks in London, England, did this, being compelled to do so by Royal charter.

The General Manager—Oh, no.

Mr. Crawford—Do you mean to say some of them are not?

The General Manager—Nearly all the Joint Stock Banks of England are organized under a deed of settlement. Whenever a bank is to be organized it deposits certain deeds showing who are the shareholders, and much capital it is proposed to subscribe, and so on.

Mr. Crawford—It is practically the same; they are bound to give it.

The General Manager—No; they give it voluntarily.

Mr. Crawford was pleased to hear that the managers of London banks had so much discretion as not to leave anything to be desired by the shareholders; the information was given voluntarily. He contended that it would be well if the directors, in view of the fact that times had not been so good during the past few years as previously, were not quite so generous to the officers as they had been in the past. He advocated the placing of parallel columns on the financial statement, showing the business of one year as compared with that of the preceding one. It would enable the shareholders without much inconvenience or exertion, to see at a glance whether the institution had progressed or retrograded. He also considered that it would be well if the shareholders were made acquainted with the amount of interest due on interest deposits.

In reply to Mr. Crawford the General Manager said the bank received from 3½ to 4 per cent. for the Dominion Government bonds; it gave more than par for them.

Mr. T. D. Hood disagreed with Mr. Crawford as to the advisableness of reducing salaries; it was the worst thing that could be done, as it heartened the men and made them lose interest in their work. "Pay them," he said, "what is just and right, and look to them for the work, and you can be sure you will get it."

The General Manager—It has been the practice of this and other banks when there has been a really good year, and profits have been good, to let the employees participate in them by giving them a bonus. You may have noticed it over and over again in our own reports, for, fortunately, we have had a number of fairly good years, when the Board conceived that it was a very proper thing to allow the officers a bonus. Meddling with salaries, however, is a different matter, altogether; it is a matter of bargain, and the employee gets what the rate of the market will give him. You cannot possibly deal with salaries by making them go up one year and down the next. If you did you would never get good service. Mr. Hood is quite right in what he says. The first year after the capital of the bank was reduced, which were exceptional times, and exceptional things had to be done, the whole salaries from top to bottom were cut down about 25 per cent. The officials cheerfully acquiesced in this, because they saw that it was necessary under the pressure of the times. By and by times

improved and salaries were restored again. Last year was not a very good year, and the officers felt the effect of it; they got no bonus.

Mr. John Morrison having expressed himself as being opposed to the giving of bonuses, the General Manager, replying to some remarks by Mr. John Crawford, said: "We have a fund as a guarantee against any losses we might suffer through our officers by fraud, etc. It amounts to about \$40,000, which we consider is about sufficient. In addition, we insure our officers in the Guarantee Company for less than would be necessary if we had no guarantee fund of our own. Again, there is a Pension fund accumulating year by year, and which now amounts to about \$20,000. We hope that by and by it will grow, and be a respectable Pension fund."

The motion for the adoption of the report was then carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. John Crawford, seconded by Mr. James O'Brien:

"That Messrs. F. S. Lyman and James Williamson be appointed scrutineers of the election of Directors, about to take place; that they proceed to take the votes immediately; that the ballot shall close at three o'clock p.m., but if an interval of ten minutes elapse without a vote being tendered, the ballot shall thereupon be closed immediately."

This was concurred in, after which Mr. J. H. R. Molson moved:

"That the thanks of the Stockholders are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and Directors for the manner in which they have conducted the institution during the past year, and to the General Manager for his efficient management during the year."

In making the motion, Mr. Molson said that, though such a resolution was annually passed, this year he did not consider that it was a mere matter of form. Since the bank was reorganized, many years ago, it had been steadily progressing. It had a good Board of Directors, and the shareholders knew how efficient the General Manager had been as well. He thought it might be said with truth that they had done their duty very well. The earnings of all banks had during the past year been very much interfered with, owing to the plentitude of money. He was surprised that Mr. Crawford, who might know better, because he knew what was going on in the world, was disappointed at the earnings of the Merchants' Bank being only a trifle over 9 per cent. It was better than he (Mr. Molson) had expected. A short time ago he was reading an extract from a banking paper which gave a statement of the average earnings of the banks in the United States for past 25 years. Beginning 1840 the average earnings that year were 8-10 per cent., and they had steadily declined, until last year they were 5 per cent, showing that all over the world there was a superabundance of money, and that banks had a difficulty in earning their dividends. He considered that the Merchants Bank had done exceedingly well, and the Directors and the General Manager were entitled to the thanks of the Shareholders.

Mr. T. D. Hood seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed to.

It was moved by Mr. John Morrison, seconded by Mr. M. Burke—

"That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the chairman for his efficient conduct of the business of the meeting."

The motion was carried with cheers, and shortly afterwards the Scrutineers reported that the following gentlemen had been duly elected as Directors:—

ANDREW ALLAN,  
ROBERT ANDERSON,  
HECTOR MACKENZIE,  
JONATHAN HODGSON,  
JOHN CASSILS,  
H. MONTAGU ALLAN,  
JAMES P. DAWES,  
J. H. DUNN,  
SIR JOSEPH HICKSON.

The meeting then adjourned.

The new Board of Directors met in the afternoon, when Mr. Andrew Allan was re-elected President, and Mr. Hector Mackenzie was elected Vice-President, in place of Mr. Robert Anderson.

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June-July, 1895.

ALLADINE AND PALOMIDES. A Prose Play. (Com-  
plete). Maurice Maeterlinck.  
THE DEVIL INSPIRES THE MONK: An Anglo-Saxon  
War Story. Lindsay Todd Damon.  
VIRGIL'S ART. John Albee.  
THEOCRITUS: Father of Pastoral Poetry. Joshua  
Kendall.  
GREEK TRAITS IN WALT WHITMAN. Emily Chris-  
tina Monk.  
URIEL ACOSTA. (Translated). Karl Gutzkow. Trans-  
lated by Richard Hovey and Francois Stewart Jones.  
RUSKIN'S LETTERS TO CHESNEAU: A Record of  
Literary Friendship. III. William G. Kingsland.  
CHOICE OF SUBJECT-MATTER in the Poets: Chaucer,  
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Periodicals.

The *Nineteenth Century* for June is well stocked with able and interesting articles on questions of the day. Of late there seems to be a laudable tendency on the part of the editor to supply more articles and to curtail their length. In the present issue the average length is between nine and ten pages. Among those to which our attention has been more particularly drawn are:—"Chitral and Frontier Policy," by Sir Lepel Griffin. The writer who was for ten years Secretary to the P.njab Government, deplors the expenditure of a million pounds sterling upon the Chitral Expedition, which was caused by the establishment of an advanced post in that country. He believes that non-interference with distant tribes and the allowing them to retain their primitive savagery is the best way to prevent a Russian advance. "The Celestial Empire of the West," by Dr. Joseph, *Appropos* of the publication by the Cambridge Press of a scholarly treatise entitled *De Hierarchia Anglicana* the Pope's claims, as set forth in his recent letter to the English People, are compared to those of the Emperor of China. The historical validity of Anglican orders, is half-taught and, incompetent writers to the contrary notwithstanding, is by recent researches becoming ever more firmly established and the Pope must recognize this before any scheme of unity can ever be discussed. "Advertising a Trespass on the Public" Attention is called to the fact that the ubiquitous placard is an outrage upon the public akin to open drains or any other nuisance, and remedies such as boycott of the advertiser, taxation of advertisements, special legislation, etc., are proposed. "The After-Careers of University-Educated Women," by Mrs. Gordon. Statistics of Newnham, Girton and other English colleges show that University education does not to any extent open new fields of usefulness to women, although it enlarges the old ones. Ordinary pass graduates take to marriage more readily than those who graduate with honours. In fact, but a very small proportion of the latter marry at all, becoming, perhaps, more fastidious in their choice of husbands. "Alliance or Fusion?" has reference to the relative positions of the Conservative and Liberal-Unionists after the next general election. Mr. Strachey holds that the first alternative is preferable in order to prevent less of Liberal votes, and in order that the maintenance of the Union may not be looked upon as a mere party question. Mr. Dicey, for the other side, agrees that immediate fusion would be unwise but argues against the continuance of the Liberal-Unionist's present anomalous situation. "The Mussulmans of India and the Armenian Question" is contributed by a native Mussulman who calls attention to the fact that Britain is the greatest Muslim power in the world and that she must keep this point in view in dealing with the Sultan of Turkey for whom the Indian Mussulmans have a certain regard. Moreover, the Indian Mussulmans keep themselves posted in European affairs and the tirades of Mr. Gladstone and his followers against the misdoings of Turkey, while the stronger Russia is not interfered with, are apt to make them sceptical as to English political morality. Among the other content of the issue are two notable papers on Bimetallism.

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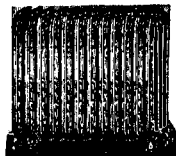
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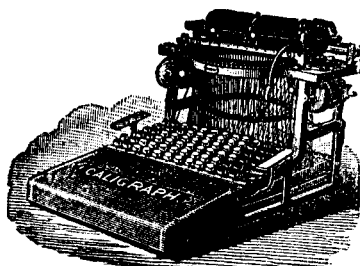
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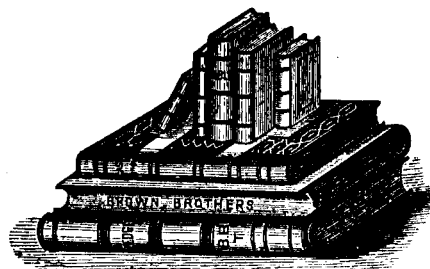
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