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ZEKE TRIMBLE HAS A TALK WITH THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Deer old Di,-

Ez i was sittin into mi bak shop a kuttin out a nu pattern kollar fur thee spring trade, to be kolled thee Greshun Bend, i wuz surprised in thee act bi a good lookin yung man. Hee greeted me with the folloin sentens:-" Hollo, old 1 & 6 penny, when u'll Mister Ezekiel Trimble bee in?" I saw at once he wuz I of mi fello kuntrymen frum thee uther side uv thee water-to wit, deer oid Ingland, and bein fresh lan lid, hee spoke in thet authorytative tone wich is the kumplaint uv thee Anglo-Saxon race wich hes not travilled. I replied, "How long hez your boss let you out fur?" This riled him kunsidrably, and i saw hee wuz goin to kummit himself, so i concluded to smooth him down a little. "Yu see be4 yu thee individooal," sez i. "I'm not old r & 6 penny, but," sez i, "mi name is Zeke Trimble; I hev maid a fortin in the paper kollar Biz, and hev 4 beeutifull doters at home, smart as litenin, & i intend to settil a large sum onto each of them when thay konclude to marry," sez i. This hed the desired effect. Thee yung man's kountynance changed immejiately. Sez he, "introjuice mee to thee lovely gurls,—but i furgot my biz," sez hee. "His Excellency hez got tired of thee krowd wich surrounds him, and wants you to kum up this evenin tu see him. Hee wants to see a natyve Kanajun, ef any thure bee, in this kuntry.

I sez tu him, "i shall obey the kummands uv his

Xcellency, and sho him a troo natyve."

I put on mi best close, and resorted to thee Saint Laurense Hall. I went up to the Guvernor's room, and he received me most corjeely. Sez hee, "Ezekiel,"—kollin me bi mi christean name—"I am glad to see yu; sit down and make yourself at home. The fact is Rose don't feel natyral in his gorgeus suit, and i kant git any fun out of Howland or Cambell while thay've got thare yuniforms on." Sez he, "i think thay've all got Howe on the Brane, and i want to heer sum buddy talk natyral. Now," sez he, "i'm goin back to Ottywa (wich, thinks i, is equal to goin to Kingston or Rowse's Point fur amewsment); i want you to tell me, plainly, whut thee peeple think uv mi visit heer?"

Sez i, "Sir John, yure speech at thee dinner wuz a. r., kopper bottomd. Frum all i kin learn there is not a disenshent voise in the Provins. That part of it which kounsils us not to borry enny more munny then we kin pay kash fur, and not to go intoo anee more gigantic spekylashuns ontil thee Grand Trunk & interkolonial Raleways

bekum payin konserns, meets with harty approoval."

"Kum, kum! Zeke," sez hee "I'm an irishman myself, & i know whare thee blarnie stone is in mi kuntry, &, judgin

frum your konversashun, yu hev I in this kuntry."
"No, Sir John," sez i, "I of the advantages of hevin a governor sent out to us ready-made frum ingland, is thet we air always sure uv gittin a gentleman & a skolar, & we find in you both thees quolities, kumbined with kondescension & a kind hart." Sez i, "It aint every guvernor thet wood go to dine in Mountin St. or Sherbrooke street, & i & mi frends onor yu fur it. Your predicessor woodnt giv anee dinners, & woodnt go nowheres to dinner except to a hotel. He wuz an ekonomikle cuss, & i always suspishuned hee didnt go out tu privet dinners koz he woodnt bee sure of thee quolity or thee wine, & bad wine maid him sick, & the doktor hed to be paid in konsequens.

The Guvner sed " praps so, -but what's yure opinion uv mi

ministry & the grate men of Kanady?"

Sez i, "in regard to thee grate men of Kanady, ef you want to find out how menny we hev hed, jest purches Morgan's byography; thare you'll find how menny of our sclebrities were projuiced out uv our kuntry, principelly in materially interfered with McKellar's prodigious appetite for Grate Britain & Ireland, & formerly in France. The most good things.

of the grate, men yu read of into Morgan's book noboddy ever heard of before hee diskuvered them. The speshies has bekum skerse sence that book was rote. Perhaps the gratest man of our day is John A. He's a Scotchman & a lawyer,—2 good rekomendashuns. A famus poit has sed, "Katch a Scotchman yung, & you kin make ennything,—even turtle soup,—out of him." Now, John A. was kot yung, & much hez bin maid of him. I think marryin agen hez improved him, fur he never beat Cartchee ontil after hee took unto himself his second wife. Trooly matreemoney is a grate institooshun, notwithstandin much hez bin done to ruin it by the divoorse courts in the old country and in the Doeminion of Uncle Sam. I thing i hev notisd. If a man's a Skotchman, & he rises to bekum ennything, it is generally found out thet he is a Skotchman. Sum fello rites to the noospapers, & sez as how he wuz born in Glassgo, or some uther Skotch village, & so on, & the publick gets informed in time thet ef hee had not ben born in Scotland hee wudnt hev ben whut hee hez beekum.

Thee above is a beautiful trait in the Skotch karacter. Who hez not heerd it shouted out all over thet Burns wuz a Skotchman, & mite hev bin ez hi as lord Pamerston, or Grand Master of the Masons, ef hee hed not preferd to remane into the kustom house of his native town. "But I digress," says I. "We wuz a talkin of John A. I admire John A.," sez i, "fur his koalishun fakulty. Hee never kin git out of power, fur when things git stormy, hee gits up a koalishun, & fetches in thee bawky horses, & all goes as rite as ninepens. See how he tikled up Howe & thee Novee Skoshyns. 'Munny makes thee mare to go' (and the horse to sometimes), & by consolin Novy Skoshy's wounded feelins, John A. hez koalished them. Then look how John A. hez koalished little Cartchee. Ez long ez Cartchee hed the priests & the French to back him, John A. pertended to play 2nd fiddle to Cartchee; but, when Doeminion kame, down goes and fiddle, & John ketches up 1st violin. Cartchee hez got disgusted, & hez gone off to London to fuss round with them Hudson Bay fellers, who, hevin got all the fur out of the Nor' West Territory, ar now tryin to skin us poor Kanajuns."

At this point in mi discoorse, i notised Sir John yawnin, & lookin kinder sleepy, so I remarked thet it wuz late, & i wood kum back agin & finish up this matter. Thee yung man who hed brot me thee letter heer winked at me, ez if to say, "thet's right." (I found out thet this yung man belongd to a hi famelee in Ingland.) So i sez, "good night," & to air mi French a little, sez i, "i'll be back soon. Adoo." Thee yung man, he kum out intoo the passidge, & sez he "wunt yu take a drink?" So i sez "yes," & down we went into the bar-room, and thare, while refreshin ourselves, hee sez, "bi the bi, whot's the number of yure howse? I wood like to koll & pay mi respex to thee yung ladees." So i told him mi figure, & wee parted.

Yours trooly,

ZEKE TRIMBLE.

A SWEEPING ASSERTION.

The Ottawa Times discoursing a few days ago on the Ontario Legislature, paid the following bouncing compliment to Her Majesty's loyal Opposition in that august body:

"With the solitary exception of Mr. Blake, there is not a man on the Opposition benches who would not be a disgrace to the Province by being

made a Cabinet minister."

The style, to be sure, is a little slipshod, but there can be no mistake about the sting-that is quite sufficiently exposed. How it will be relished by the wise men of the West, it is not for DIOGENES to say. 'Tis a tough morsel, but the Cynic would regret to hear that it had intensified Boyd's colic, or,

SOME NECESSARILY-GRAVE REMARKS.

DIOGENES is always happy, when it lies in his power, to set anybody right, who is undoubtedly in the wrong. The correction of error is an act of kindness, when the error is demonstrated in a courteous manner The Philosopher has studied with interest some philological articles that have appeared from time to time in the pages of the Canada Scotsman; and he agrees with the editor in saying, that the writer, in treating his subject, evinces a power of analysis, a clearness of thought, and a closeness of reasoning, which make his conclusions, if not always convincing, very suggestive. At the same time, Diocenes is persuaded that the author of the papers referred to has occasionally been betrayed into error by the very force of his enthusiasm. Here is an instance. In the Canada Scotsman of Feb. 20th, there is a short essay "On the Article as it appears in different languages." In part of this essay the writer says: "Traces of an, we imagine, may be found in the composition of what are usually considered simple words in the French, Latin, &c. The French phrase encore is preserved in Gaelic as an cor, and means "more," or literally "the more." So again may the Latin angulus be resolved into an, "the,"-and "cul," the Gaelic word for "corner."

Now, the Cynic is as certain as mortal man can be, that both these assertions are wholly incorrect. Encore, in French, was originally an adverb of time only, meaning as jet, hitherto. Thus, J'attends encore is equivalent to J'attends jusqu'à cette heure-ci, which in Latin would literally be ad hanc horam. The Italian word corresponding is ancora, and the derivation of encore is beyond all doubt from hanc horam. With the after-meanings of encore, still, more, again, the philological student may compare the different uses of the Latin

adverb adhuc. As regards the word angulus, -it is a formation from the root ang or anc, in which we always find the notion of bending or squeezing. Not to mention many Greek words (for which at present Diogenes has no type) he instances such terms as angustus, narrow; ancora, an anchor; anguis, a snake; ango, I choke or strangle, and probably uncus, a hook.

For the benefit of the very few who will take the trouble to read these lines, the Cynic will quote the wise words of Max Muller, the eminent philologist-words, which he also respectfully commends to the careful consideration of C. M. R. "Sound etymology has nothing to do with sound." "A derivation, even though it be true, is of no real value if it cannot be proved." "Etymology is a science in which identity, or even similarity, whether of sound or meaning is of no importance whatever." "We know words to be of the which differ in meaning as much as black and white. Mere ledge it too, and that pretty plainly and freely. The Leadonton guesses, however plausible, are discarded from the province of spientific councils. same origin which have not a single letter in common, and of scientific etymology."

It is on this principle that Diogenes unhesitatingly rejects C. M. R.'s derivations, "however plausible," of encore and angulus. They are mere guesses, which cannot be proved.

BRAVERY AND BROOMS.

(From our Ottawa Correspondent.)

If it's an ill wind that blows nobody good, it is certainly a very black snow that does not fall white for somebody. The that she felt quite "all-overish." She declares that Goodwin unusual accumulations have proved a god-send for the late shall be called Badwin, and fears he can never with any preand scorning inglorious ease, have organized divisions of measure physique in Toronto. Six inches up in stature and pioneers, and may be seen, early and late, in every direction,-"the Capital" they love so well.

strong draft to Montreal.

TO DRESS, OR NOT TO DRESS: THAT IS THE QUESTION.

Diogenes has a few words to say on a somewhat delicate subject, and will say them as delicately as he can. The petticoats of ballet-dancers, both in Paris and in London, have of late years been reduced to something hardly worth mention-They have become "short by degrees and beautifully less," until in 1869, the evening costume of some danscuses is almost identical with the costume of Eve.

The Queen's Lord Chamberlain has accordingly sent a circular to the managers of all the London Theatres, informing them that they must take steps to reform the present impropriety of female costume in ballets, burlesques and pantomimes.

Many actresses will, in consequence, be compelled to alter their dresses. But as these so-called dresses are already cut down within a few inches of the waist, it will not be easy for the ladies to adopt Paddy's policy with respect to his blanket, and "to take a piece off from the top and sew it on to the bottom." Many of them, under the circumstances, will seek re-dress from the managers, as by the action of the Lord Chamberlain they will be prevented from earning what is literally a bare livelihood. DIOGENES has often heard of a man's being under petticoat government; but in this case, petticoat government seems to be vested in a man. The Lord Chamberlain appears to think that only married women should be actresses. If not, why does he insist that every ballet-girl should be a femme-covert 1

THIEVES, BEWARE!

Diogenes is and ever will be grateful for appreciation and recognition. His mission is to cheer and enlighten even unto the remotest and darkest corners of the Dominion. Let who will borrow the flashes of his wit,—the scintillations of his wisdom; the more, the merrier they and he will be. But let them not imitate the Leadonton Beetle, a drear-eyed delinquent, that steals and makes no mark, leaving its two score readers amazed and blinded by the occasional coruscations that light up its cloudy columns, and wondering how the devil they got there. The mighty breast of the Cynic is the home of the affections, and is enwrapped in the charities, but he cannot see this unmoved-who could? To the unrepentant and the incorrigible his revenge shall be dealt out, but with a gentle and a loving hand; the offence shall be treated, sui generis, and the offenders arraigned under the statute, Lex Talionis. Prigs! hear his philosophic word and tremble! If the crime is repeated, he vows to quote from the criminal, and acknow-

"BY TELEGRAPH."

You will be pleased to hear that "Our Correspondent" is all right again. There never was much the matter with him. He rose from his humiliation unbleeding, unblackened, uninjured, unshamed, and ran to Mrs. Sykes, who was much afflicted, and had three mornings' sick leave. She vowed Civil Service Brigade. Those gallant youths, hating idleness, fix, win back her regard. Ascertain by what standard they thirty years more in age, do not everywhere make a man the shovel and besom in hand,—clearing the obstructed streets of better man, and not here, universally, for Mrs. Sykes says she will bet her all in any future fight on her pet and partner. N. B. No objection would be raised against sending a Look out Goodwin! Mrs. Sykes straddling the Globe, makes up a very heavy-weight!

REPORT FROM THE "SPECIAL COMMISSIONER" OF DIOGENES, AT TORONTO.

I arrived here last Monday, and hasten to transmit you my official report.

The first prisoner introduced in Court was a tall man, who wore nigger-minstrel collars, and a defiant air.

Is Worship.—What is your name and occupation?

P.—None of your business anyhow.

II. IV.—I shall commit you.

-Commit and be

Constable.—His name, Your Worship, is John Sandhill O'Donnel. This gentleman brings the charge.

Mr. Hezekia Twist-the-word,—a gentleman in seedy black, and a dirty wisp of white round his neck,—said he was the delegate from a Methodist community, who had entrusted the prisoner with certain funds to be employed for useful purposes. (The prisoner was here heard to chuckle.) These funds were now being employed to build a Billiard-Room and Dancing Saloon at the corner of Simcoe Street.

The prisoner was here examined by His Worship, and, in reply to a series of questions, said that he was boss of a menageric on Front street, Toronto. The business was paying enough when he was allowed to have his own way, but there were some all-fired cusses always trying to interfere with his show. He had got the animals from various parts of Ontario, some for nothing, some he bought for blankets, timber, and other things. No! they were not all tame yet, but he had licked most of them into shape; had tamed some by giving them sugar-plums, others by bullying them. No! sugar-plums was not an expensive mode, because he didn't pay for the sugar-plums. The public did that. Yes! he did swear at them occasionally; was obliged to swear; the martyr cannot be doubted, and to such impositions the they'd make a saint swear, and he was'nt a saint; had never been in that business. Yes! the nine martyrs who recently attacked Mr. Brown did belong to his show.

H. IV.—But did you set them on, sir?

Here the prisoner chuckled again, turned the quid in his mouth, and, having spat on the floor, began to sing :

"Georgy, Porgy, pudding and tart, 'Guess he made the martyrs smart."

Further examined by the Bench.—Said "his animals had been roughly handled by that cuss Brown. Brown had a powerful staff in his possession, with which he gave the martyrs old thunder. Didn't know what he meant by old thunder; didn't care. Yes! the martyrs were injured. Didn't think they were worth much for his show now. Yes! he had a personal feeling against Brown. Brown was always running down his show, and praising a cantankerous cuss called Blake, that was always interfering with his business. Yes! he did intend to finish the Billiard and Dancing Saloon; wanted some place where he could dance himself. Had granted a lease for four years to a party by the name Yelland. Didn't care a red cent for the Methodys; they were a poor lot anyhow."

At this stage of the proceedings the Court was adjourned. I have asked some of the leading men here to dine with me to-night in a private room,—first rate style. I must keep up the dignity of the paper. The proprietor of the Rossin House is very civil.

OUR BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY.

Diogenes has no patience with those frigid souls who talk about the dreary desolateness of our wintry prospects! The Philosopher sees beauty everywhere. In more than the minds eye, he beholds flowers and verdure on every hill,—in every vale. Boldly he dares the cantankerous cavillers to point to a spot that is not covered with snow-drops.

"QUOD ERAT DEMONSTRANDUM."

Some time ago, in the course of certain remarks on professional shaves, Diogenes expressed his opinion that not so much ought to be expected from auctioneers, as from professional gentlemen. The Cynic had not, at the time, the least sional gentlemen. idea that any of the fraternity of incantatores aspired to professional standing. He has, however, been agreeably surprised to find that, at least one, has duly qualified. In a semi-democratic country these things may, perhaps, be occasionally expected, but the Cynic confesses he was hardly prepared for the announcement that, Montreal possesses a Knight of the Hammer who, in addition to eighteen years' experience of the auction business, boasts of "an individual knowledge of the leading professions." A respected correspondent, in drawing the Cynic's attention to Mr. — 's advertisement, notes the absence of the capital in "Profession" and expresses his fears lest, in Divinity and Law, the learned auctioneer should prove too fond of "knock-down" arguments. "Perhaps, however," (he says) "our erudite friend merely refers to Professor Harry Lewis, or to the Hon. Joe. Howe—both experienced in ratting." The Cynic disapproves of this, in so far as it is hard on Joe.

SPARE THE MIGHTY DEAD.

Poor McGee! his friends (or his enemies) are doing all they can—were it possible, which it is not—to render his memory ridiculous. Shamefully they foist upon us as his own the verses-good enough and singularly coincident-of his gifted countryman-piling forgery upon desecration. We cannot censure the Editor of the journal in which the fraud was consummated: the sincerity of his friendship for most erudite are liable. But the Giant should be spared these tricks of the Pismires. The last is not the first,-perhaps not the worst. Diogenes thought quite enough had been done in this direction in the memoir flung at his manes by a Taylor.

A GRACEFUL ACT OF COURTESY.

The Cynic, who is a keen observer as he travels about the city, has noticed with secret approval a peculiar Montreal custom. It is as follows. When a tradesman in some leading thoroughfare has the ice and snow on his roof-top hurled madly down at illegal hours on the heads of all passers-by, he frequently exhibits on the sidewalk a formidable array of shutters. These are of course intended to serve as stretchers, on which maimed wayfarers may be conveyed to the nearest hospital.

This thoughtful conduct is a proof to Diogenes that a slight sense of decency still animates the bosoms of many tradesmen. He will, in future, have his eye upon all commercial houses, wholesale or retail, that fail to supply the requisite shutters. The man who will not provide a shutter for his bleeding victim is &c., &c.! Surely no one will be bold enough to deny this assertion.

"CONSISTENCY IS A JEWEL."

DIOGENES notes that a journal which recently made a parade of its virtue and denounced a confrère because it pirated " an expensive Halifax telegram sent to the Toronto Globe, has recanted and now does the very thing 'gainst which it wrote! The Cynic reminds the journal in question of its own admirable dictum. If it cannot emulate the enterprise of the Globe, let it at least give credit when appropriating its property. A confrère in Ottawa will probably take note of this.



JONES (very attentive since the roofs have taken to collapsing) has constantly been bothering his Uncle (from whom he has expectations) to attend all Entertainments to take place in Music, Concert, or Billiard Halls.

MYSTERIOUS.

Montreal properly claims to be the Commercial Emporium of the Dominion. Her pre-eminent enterprise is proverbial. In the way of Expropriation Commissioners, City Fathers. Fire Marshals, Police and Contractors, she is unrivalled. The latter genus was well represented recently at Ottawa. It was a subject of general remark that the tenders of a Montreal combination for sections of the Intercolonial Road were, in every instance, for sums three times in excess of the tenders accepted. A well-known member of the government who is tolerably au fait on local questions, attributed the not quite see the point of the remark but from the known sagacity of the author, the Cynic thinks there must be something in it.

A MILD SUGGESTION.

On more than one occasion, Diogenes has been assured that Quebec is rather a dull place. In view of several recent events, he regards this assertion as absurd and calumnious. Why, even the Law Courts there are not destitute of liveliness!

A notorious member of the Bar threatened the other day to slap the Solicitor General's face, for having made some remarks which were not in a complimentary strain. As the eccentric belligerent referred to, seems to do much as he likes wherever he goes, Diogenes begs to offer him a mild suggestion, by the adoption of which the present liveliness of the Courts may easily be maintained for some time longer, There is a ballad, once popular, which Mr. O'F. can 'resurrect,' as Americans say, by singing it with a defiant air on his entrance into Court. The song in question is

"Slap! Bang! Here we are again."

"THAT'S SO."

The science most worthy of being practically illustrated by the commercial as well as professional men of Montreal is con-science.

TO THE EDITOR OF "DIOGENES."

Sir, I never was burdened with much ready coin, and I am sorry to say that my purse has been growing emptier of late. I do not know what you pay for "copy," or if any kind friend, touched by this letter, may be induced to advance me a small sum through the medium of your paper, but at any rate a kind deed meets with its reward somehow or another, and on this ground I submit the following remarks to the impecunious in general.

Every one knows the old law, to the effect that an Englishman's house is his castle. That may or may not be the case, but if it is, My castle has been in a state of siege for the last three months; beleaguered, in fact, by a whole army of duns.

I tried many plans to rid me of my enemies. I made escapes from them by back windows. To those to whom I was not personally known, I opened the door in my servant's clothes, and civilly informed them that I was gone out of town for a week. Many and various were the shifts to which I was put. Finally I hit upon the following bright, and, I believe, thoroughly original plan. With the bulk of my small remaining capital I purchased a galvanic battery. I charged it strongly, and placed it under my bed. A wire connected the machine with the handle of the door. At the first audible "rap" in the morning, I shouted, "come in," in a loud voice, and at the same time administered a severe electric shock. Prolonged howls greeted the success of my performance. I remain unmolested. Has the news travelled? Who shall say. The wind was east to-day. Yours indubitably,

HISTORY REPRODUCES ITSELF.

"IMPECUNIOSUS."

From the time of the dismissal of Pharaoh's butler and baker, down to our own day, there has not been such consternation in the kitchen as now reigns in the lower regions of Rideau Hall. His Excellency has dismissed his Head Gardener and his Chief Butler! Dio. is not aware whether wide margin to the fact that at least one of the persons tendering always "had his eye on a quarry." Diogenes does them to prison; if he has, it is to be hoped the imitation will go no further. Nerves are nerves in "the capital"; and hanging's hanging as well in Ottawa as in Egypt. The commentators are silent as to the alleged delinquencies of the dwellers by the Nile; Mystery,-kindly and politely,throws her veil over those of the men located on the Grand River. But, as usual, rumour has more than one of her hundred tongues busy in the matter. On the one hand, they whisper that the gardener inherited from his father, the tailor, a too inordinate affection for cabbage; and, on the other, that the butler, being withal a melancholy man and addicted to sherry, was very hard upon a butt, and that the arrows of his wit generally assumed the shape of gimlets.

"IN THE LOWEST DEPTHS." &c.

Why should you never take bread from a baker? Because he kneads it more than you do.

LINES.

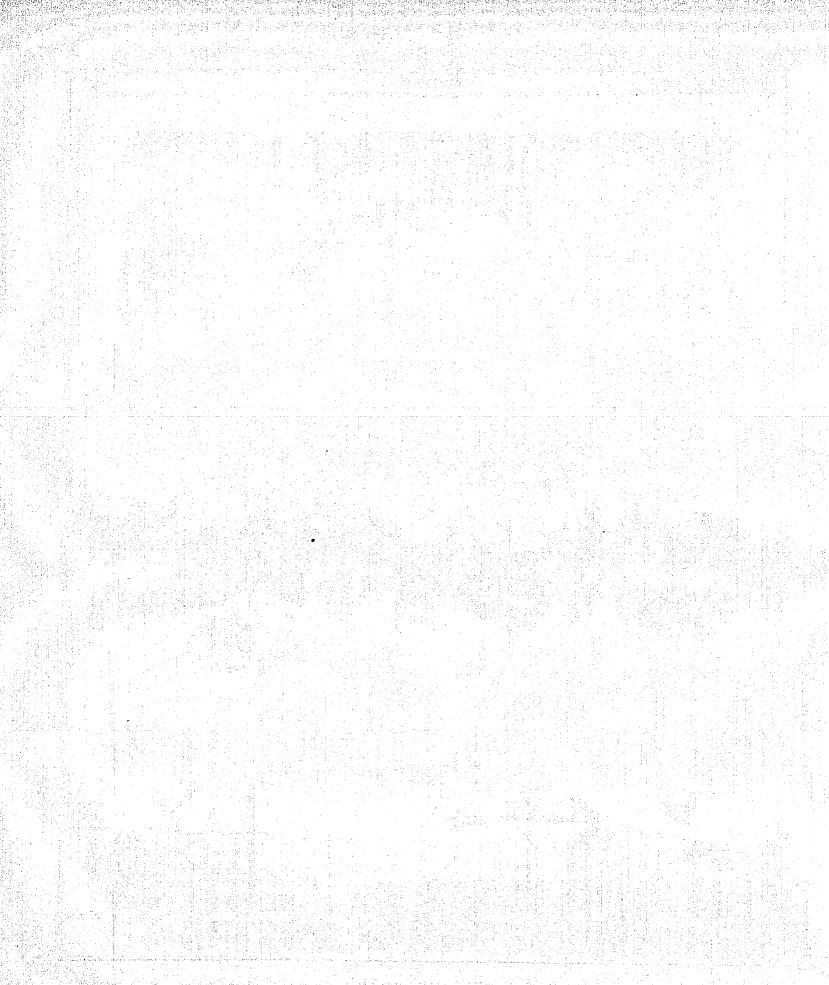
BY A REVEREND RITUALIST.

Though the faith for which Cranmer and Latimer died Is the one that I have to profess, (For I live by the Church)—yet it can't be denied That my heart yearns for Rome, and I always have sighed For her sweet, pretty rites, and her pomp and her pride-But the time's not yet come to confess.



"HOW NOT TO DO IT."

Always clean the snow off your roofs when the street is crowded. You may cause a slight alarm, but it is of no consequence.



DIOGENES ON THE PRACTICE OF "CRIBBING."

Medical science has of late years been perplexed by the prevalence of a singular disease which may be described as an irresistible desire on the part of A, to appropriate the property of B, C, or D. This questionable malady has been successfully pleaded as a defence for stealing, just as simulated madness has occasionally saved a perfectly sane murderer from being hanged. There is one sort of stealing, however, for which no "kleptomania" can be alleged as an excuse. It is plagiarism, or literary theft; and an incident which occurred lately, has attracted the attention of Diogenes to the subject. Before alluding further to this incident, the Cynic will take the opportunity of saying a few words on the general question. The topic is an interesting one and will bear discussion.

Dr. Johnson described plagiarism as one of the most reproachful, if not the most atrocious of literary crimes; and there can be no doubt that, in the main, Ursa Major is right. At the same time there are many different degrees of this Grub Street crime. One man steals a book, a volume, or a chapter, and impudently endeavours to pass it off as his own, while another, like the hen that scratched a jewel from the dunghill, rakes up some bright thought from the rubbish of a past century, and lends it additional brilliancy by the style in which he resets it. Surely, there is a vast difference between these two cases. Many of the giants of literature have dazzled the world with borrowed light. "If that severe doom of Synesius be true," says quaint old Burton, "that it's a greater offence to steal dead men's labours than their clothes, what shall become of most writers? I hold up my hand at the bar among others, and am guilty of felony in this kind." Burke, whose imperial fancy was truly said to have laid all nature under tribute, told Barry that there is no faculty of the mind which can bring its energy into effect, unless the memory be stored with ideas for it to work on. Milton, for instance, as has been amply proved by his commentators, was a magnificent adopter of borrowed ideas. He was well aware of a fact, to which Pascal has alluded, that trees not fruitful in their native earth often yield abundantly if transplanted. Leigh Hunt, speaking on this very subject, humorously declared: "oh yes! Milton 'borrowed' other poets' thoughts, but he did not 'borrow' as gypsies borrow children, spoiling their features that they may not be recognized. No, he returned them improved. Had he 'borrowed' your coat, he would have restored it, with a new nap upon it."

What says Dryden in his "Essay on Dramatic Poesie"? "Ben Jonson was not only a professed imitator of Horace, but a learned plagiary of all the other ancient writers. track him everywhere in their snow." Could anything be more elegantly expressed? And again, in the same essay: "He invades authors like a monarch, and what would be theft in other poets, is only victory in him." In the same manner La Bruyere declared "que Despreaux paroissoit créer les pensées d'autruy." From all this it appears, that, however violently we may declaim against traditional ideas and hereditary phrases, we must by no means disparage that masterly art which improves upon and perfects the suggestions thrown out by previous writers. Swift in his own satirical vein remarked: "I humbly conceive, though I light my candle at my neighbours' fire, that does not alter the property, or make the wick, the wax, the flame, or the whole candle less my own." The passage in which he advises a young poet never to be "without a common place book," contains more satire but less reason. "There," he writes, "you enter not only your original thoughts (which, a hundred to one, are few and insignificant) but such of other men as you think fit to make your own by entering them there. For, take this for a rule, when an author is in your books, you have the same demand upon him for his wit, as a merchant has for your money,

when you are in his." DIOGENES passes quickly from Swift to Pope, and finds similar sentiments in the preface to his Poems. "All that is left us is to recommend our productions by the imitation of the ancients, and it will be found true that, in every age, the highest character for sense and learning has been obtained by those who have been most indebted to them. Therefore, they who say that our thoughts are not our own, because they resemble those of the ancients, may as well say that our faces are not our own because they are like our fathers'; and indeed it is very unreasonable that people should expect us to be scholars, and yet be angry to find us so."

So impossible is it to avoid borrowing the ideas and even language of our predecessors, that St. Jerome relates that while his teacher Donatus was explaining to him the words of Terence, "nihil est dictum, quod non sit dictum prius," he roundly abused the ancients for having stolen his best thoughts: "Pereant qui ante nos, nostra dixerunt."

Sterne in modern times took occasion to denounce plagiarists, but it is strange that his declamation (as was pointed out by Dr. Ferriar) is taken word for word from Burton's introduction to the "Anatomy of Melancholy." "Shall we forever make new books, as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another? Are we for ever to be twisting and untwisting the same rope? for ever in the same track—for ever at the same pace?" Lord Byron was more honest than Sterne in acknowledging his obligations, if we are to credit what Moore tells us in his "Life" of him. "Observing a volume in his gondola, with a number of paper marks between the leaves, I inquired of him what it was. 'Only a book,' he answered, 'from which I am trying to crib, as I do whenever I can: and that's the way I get the character of an original poet.'"

This anecdote reminds the Cynic of the purpose for which he commenced this gossiping article, which was simply to hold up to public warning the example of a New York correspondent. If the foregoing remarks and quotations have seemed in any way to make light of the crime of plagiarism, Diogenes begs to state that he condemns the practice from the bottom of his heart. Occasionally, of course, we cannot avoid adopting the sentiments and diction of others. If we have been great readers, we find it easier (as was the case with Dr. Parr) to borrow the ideas imprinted on our minds by study, than to elaborate new trains of reflection for ourselves. But no honest man will deliberately steal the literary labours of another, and publish them to obtain reputation, or to coin money out of them. But this is what a New York correspondent of the Cynic's has attempted to do, though fortunately his success has not equalled his wishes. He forwarded in manuscript to Montreal, a very humorous autobiographical sketch, which the Cynic at once recognized as an old friend. It was written many years ago by Henry Mackenzie, author of "The Man of Feeling," and would, of course, have been cheerfully purchased and liberally paid for, had it been the work of the soi-disant "Bashful Man."

DIOGENES prints below the letter of his correspondent, exactly as he received it, and following the custom of the English Magazines in such cases, he suppresses neither name nor address. The publication of the document may act as a warning to Canadians, and will doubtless be "a caution" to the American.

DIOGENES will please inform the undersigned what remuneration if any, he allows for original articles and what he thinks of the enclosed, signed "Bashful Man." Other articles will follow, should this be deemed worthy of insertion.

In haste, Yours truly,

P. D. L. CALDER.

Address, Room S, 112 Broadway, New York.

MISPLACED CONFIDENCE (?)

The following lines, emanating, apparently, from an indignant and disappointed storekeeper, were found the other day among the sawdust on the floor of the Cynic's office. As it is possible they have more than an individual application, Diogenes publishes them:

You tell my collector you don't like his dunning; Do you think, Sir, he likes to your house to be running? When he asks you for money, you give yourself airs, And threaten to let out his blood on the stairs!

You think it's sharp practice, but what's to be said?
When you buy a man's goods, he expects to be paid;
You threaten to leave me, and say I shall rue it,
I wish in my heart you would pay me and do it!

I pity a man who such hard feeling nurses; I can't live on smiles, and I won't live on curses; Then pray take your favours to some other store, But pay me my bill, sir, and do not say more.

THE VELOCIPEDE SCHOOLS.

Dear Dio.-Velocipede schools are now opened in the Crystal Palace and L'Institut Canadien, and I understand that others will be shortly attached to McGill College, the Natural History Society, the Literary Club, and other seats of learning. Members of the Royal Guides have also been observed at private velocipede drill, and the capabilities of the instrument have made the most profound impression on the leading military authorities. Indeed the velocipede may ultimately exercise no little influence on the appointments of our future Canadian army. For cavalry it would be splendid, as it requires no oats, and never has a sore back. The facility with which a man is dismounted and spread over the floor is also a great advantage, and in this way the modern difficulty of cavalry approaching infantry may, in a great measure, be overcome. For Mountain Trains of Artillery, the advantages of the velocipede over the camel and the elephant will be enormous. An elephant eats a haystack for dinner, and a camel, as is well known, is pretty hard on the Temperance Ouestion. But place a man with a six-pounder howitzer on a velocipede, and he will be able to travel at the rate of nine miles an hour, and harass the enemy's columns in front and rear, as he gaily dances over the most inaccessible mountain peaks, while the discomfited enemy can only examine him through eye-glasses. War, it is well known, is made up in a great measure of safe retreating, and what instrument offers more facilities of placing distance before the enemy than the velocipede? It is calculated that had a certain command upon the lines during the late Fenian raid been provided with velocipedes, the officer in charge would have made his retreat in half the time at which he made it at the double. War naturally suggests women, and I may say they are getting awfully jealous of the present movement. In the great Bill of Woman's Rights, now preparing in secret session, there is a clause, I am told, insisting that a certain percentage of velocipedes "shall be constructed with three wheels, and capable in all respects of being managed and propelled by women." An amendment was proposed by a domestic, weak-minded woman to attach a sewing-machine to the instrument. This caused a good deal of banter, and it was jocularly asserted that a young lady eloping on a velocipede with this attachment might manufacture a large portion of her trousseau on the journey, save her future husband's pocket, and prolong the honeymoon. After much jeering, the amendment was rejected by a large majority, and the original clause was passed. SHORTLEGS.

A PERTINENT QUESTION.—"Oh Weir! and oh Weir! Is that Yankee silver gone?"

PERSONAL.

The Daily News of the 23rd inst., had the following in connection with the account of Miss Ranoe's benefit:

" ____ was immense as Gibby."

Really this appears to Dio to be personal. Does the Daily News accuse the gentleman (whose name we have omitted from motives of delicacy) of obesity? Does it mean roundly to assert that he is a Mammoth in figure and a Behemoth in appearance? Dio hopes not, as he knows the gentleman to be very spare, and is sorry to hear that stern duty may shortly call him hence.

PARADOXICAL.

DIOGENES lately read in a New York newspaper of a lady who, driven to desperation by the loss of all her property, committed suicide by holding her head in a tub of water. Surely a woman who was possessed of determination so strong, should have been able to keep her head above water, even if it was a hopeless task to regain her lost wealth!

MARS AND VENUS.

DIOGENES has been informed that a distinguished military gentleman is about to deliver a lecture, and that the subject he has selected is "Woman,"—a difficult subject to deal with; but the Cynic has no doubt the gallant soldier will be able to tell her what to do with her arms. Dio. very often wishes the same privilege was his.

"ONE FOR JOE."

Diogenes is neither a zealot, a bigot nor a party-man. To say that he is a Cosmopolitan, conveys but a shadowy idea of his beatific frame of mind. The world is too narrow for his sympathies, and, without being moon-struck, he extends them to every thing that lives and moves in our silvery satellite. He is no unbounded admirer of any man, thing, sect, or being, excepting, always, his own incomparable self; and here, by comparison, Narcissus is a very small daffodil indeed. Yet is he not insensible to the triumphs of pluck and common sense, and he has no hesitation in astonishing the world with the declaration that the success of his own Joe, in Hants, will considerably en Hants his satisfaction. The Cynic, exhausted with this prodigious effort, retires to his Tub.

CORRESPONDENCE.

GREAT DIOGENES,-

I perused your beneficent recommendation to Sir John with intense delight. Nevertheless, I have some doubts as to its efficacy. So would you, were you to visit certain points on the coast of Acadia on a misty day. Our discontented cousins are case-hardened to sweet sounds. People are not likely to be much affected by the bag-pipes, or by Pan's conch itself, who can listen, unmoved, to the Fog-Whistle.

Yours, &c..

SCARABÆUS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC IN NO. 15.

Correct answers have been received from "Fanny," "X,," "R. S.," Toronto, "W. G. B.," Kingston, and "A Wellwisher," St. Hyacinthe.

MONTREAL: Printed for the Proprietor by M. LONGMOORE, 67 Gt. St. James Street.

INSURANCE.

OFFICE OF THE ORIENT MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, New York, 28th January, 1869.

3151 day of December, 1868, is published in conformity with the provisions of its Charter:

ASSETS.

31ST DECEMBER, 1868.

Cash in Banks.....\$123.801 16 United States Stock. 441,575 99 Stocks of States and Corporations, and

Corporations, and Loans on demand 162.517 00 5727,893 24 Subscription Notes (of

which \$254,826.20
are not yet used). 565,101 35
Bills Receivable, Uncollected Premi-

omecten Frem-ums and Salvages. 293,\$24.21 Accrued Interest and Unsettled Ac-

counts.....

Total amount of Assets ... \$1,609,277 30

The Board of Trustees have resolved to pay Six per cent. Interest on the outstanding Scrip Certificates to the holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on or after the 1st March next.

After allowing for probable losses in the case amount of Earned Premiums of the year ending 31st December, 1863, for which Certificates will be issued, on and after the 1st March next, to Dealers entitled to the same.

The accumulations of this Company having reached, with the past year's earnings, the sum of \$300,000, they have further resolved, in view of the increased business of the Company, to postpone the redemption of Scrip until the total accumulations exceed \$1,000,000.

By order of the Board.

CHARLES IRVING, Secretary.

TRUSTEES.

Joseph Gaillard, jr., George Mosle, Edward F Davison, A. LeMoyne, jr., E. H. R. Lyman, Henry H. Kunhardt, John Auchincloss, John Auchincless, Lawrence Wells, Francis Cottinet, Charles Luling, Alex, Hamilton, Jr., George F. Thomae, Carl L. Recknagel, W. F. Cary, jr., Cornelius K. Sutton, Palaced Haight. Edward Haight,

Leopold Berwirtz, Simon de Vissert, John S. Williams, Alex, M. Lawrence, Fred. G. Foster, George Christ, Richard P. Rundle, John D. Diz, James Brown, N. D. Carlisle, Theodore, Fachiri M. D. Carlisle,
Theodore Fachiri,
C. L. F. Rose,
Wm. S. Wilson,
F. Cousinery,
Gustav Schwab,
John F. Schepeler.

EUGENE DUTILH, President. ALFRED OGDEN, Vice-President. CHARLES IRVING, Secretary.

NOTICE.

This Company issue, when desired, Policies and Certificates, payable in London and Liverpool, at the Counting Rooms of Messrs, DRAKE, KLRINWORT & COHEN.

The undersigned continues to receive applications for Open and Special Policies, and to effect Insurances on Ships, Cargoes, and Freights, with the above well known Company, payable in Gold or Canadian Funds,

HENRY MCKAY,

No. 1 Merchants' Exchange.

Montreal, Feb. 4, 1869.

INSURANCE.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

THE following STATEMENT of NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY the APPAIRS of this COMPANY, on the

OFFICE:

Nos. 112 and 114 Broadway.

JANUARY 1, 1869.

MORRIS FRANKLIN, President,

WILLIAM H. BEERS, Vice-President and Actuary.

\$8,774,326 00 Gold, &c.... 766,144 13

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Losses by Death
Paid Commissions and Agency Expenses

es have resolved to pay the outstanding Scrip
Paid Casses by Death
Paid Losses by Death
Paid Commissions and Agency Expenses
Paid Commissions and Agency Expenses
Paid Salaries, Physicians' Fees and Re-insurance
Paid Salaries, Printing, Office and Law Expenses
130,508 64
Paid Taxes and Internal Revenue Stamps.
35,107,60 2,839,139 76

ASSETS.

of vessels out of time, and unsettled claims, they have also (in addition to a Bonus of Ten per cent, paid in cash on the Subscription Notes) declared a Dividend, free from Government Tax, of Twenty-five per cent, on the net (Market value, \$90,070.)

Invested in Other Stocks.

(Market value, \$90,070.)

Invested in other Stocks.

(Market value, \$90,070.) 947,856 42

| Loans on existing Policies, | Content of the Cont Add excess of market value of investments over costs......

LIABILITIES OF THIS COMPANY.

9.311,540 13 . \$1,689,282 17

CANADA BRANCH.

Number of Policies issued in Canada up to 31st December, 1868..... Amount Insured \$301,600 00
Amount of Premiums received \$9,944 47

LOCAL BOARD.

PRESIDENT:

WILLIAM WORKMAN, Esq., Mayor of Montreal.

LIRECTORS :

F. P. POMINVILLE, Esq., Q.C., (of Cartier, Pominville & Betournay.) A. W. OGILVIE, Esq., M.P.P. VICTOR HUDON, Esq., Merchant.

MEDICAL ENAMINERS: A. H. DAVID, Esq., M.D. FRANCIS W. CAMPBELL, Esq., M.D., L.R.C.P., London.

WALTER BURKE,

GENERAL AGENT,

Office, "Herald" Building, 51 Great St. James Street, MONTREAL, CANADA.

February 23.

INSURANCE.

LTHOUGH it cannot be A LIFIOUGH It cannot be doubted that a native Assurance Office should have a claim to the encouragement and support of every resident in the country, yet the CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY does not rest its claims for patronage mainly upon that ground, but upon the more practical one of its liberal conditions and privileges—its perfect security—and the fact that its rates are lower than those offered by any English or Poreign Company. D. MURRAY, General Agent, 77 Great St. James Street.

ATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY of the U. S. A.
Cash Capital \$1,000,000, Paid in full. Deposit in Canada, \$50,000 Gold. Canadian Board of Reference: The Hon. Luther H. Holton, M.P.; M. P. Ryan, Esq., M.P., Montreal; Wm. Workman, Esq., President City Bank; G. Cheney, Esq., Mgr. Canadian Ex. Co.; H.A. Nelson, Esq., (Messrs, Nelson & Wood;) Jackson Rae. Esq., Cashier Merchants' Bank; Champion Brown, Esq., (Messrs, Brown & Childs.) Solicitors: Messrs, Perkins & Ramssay, Medical Referee: Joseph M. Drake, M. D. Bankers: The Bank of Montreal.

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The MONTREAL TEA COMPANY, 6
HOSPITAL STREET, MONTREAL Importers, send, carriage free, on receipt of the Cash, or payable to Express on delivery, Four 5 lb.
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Feb. 13th, 1869.

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FUEL COMPANY are prepared to sell the
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The above Fuel is hard, sound and durable,
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