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CURRENT TOPICS.

It is not improbable that the Democratic majority in the United States House of Representatives may be forced to adopt the methods which they denounced as the grosseat tyranny when used by the Republican Speaker Reed. Week after week is being watted, in consequence of the inability of the House to put an end to "filibustering" tactics, in other words, in consequence of the the refusal of representatives to vote on questions before the house. The situation would be ludicrous, were it not that the distress of the nation makes it painful, almost most tragic. Acting on his power to compel the attendance of members, the Speaker has caused absentees to be arrested and bronch. brought to the House, only to see them retube to join the recalcitrant members already present in refusing to answer to their hames, thus preventing the finding of a

quorum. Speaker Reed, it will be remembered, untied the Gordian knot somewhat after the summary fashion of a famous warrior of old, by simply ordering that those who were visibly present should be counted as present, whether they chose to answer to their names or not. The Democrats denounced this course so fiercely that they are now deterred by the remembrance of their own bitter words from adopting the same tactics, as no doubt they would otherwise gladly do. Various methods of overcoming the difficulty, kindred in spirit, if differing in form, are proposed, such as deducting a large fine from the salary of every member for each day when he does not answer to his name. It is certainly not to the credit of a legislative body that it finds it so difficult to overcome a kind of obstruction which is almost childish in its simplicity.

While it would be presumptuous for us to express approval or disapproval of the pardoning of Messrs. McGreevy and Connolly, we may point out that the case suggests some curious reflections. It is, in the first place, a little singular that the effect of imprisonment should have been so precisely similar in the two cases that humanity demanded the release of both at the same moment. Was it not a little peculiar to have the learned doctors reporting upon the health of both at the same time and in the same words, as if they were a kind of Siamese twins, so closely united that when the one fell ill the other must follow suit. Another curious and perhaps more pertinent inquiry is, are our prisons so constructed, or is their regime such, that human life cannot be prolonged in them? We are not aware that either of the prisoners was particularly delicate when imprisoned. Perhaps it will be replied that men accustomed to hard work and hardship can live very well in confinement, but that the delicately nurtured cannot do so. This would mean, apparently, that no one who has been accustomed to luxury and ease should be sent to prison, no matter how heinous his crime, for imprisonment is not intended as a death penalty, and justice and humanity alike forbid to take the life of a criminal by slow processes, unless he has been condemned to die. Must we then have one law and penalty for one class of citizens and another for another class? That would hardly be democratic, to say the least. A third thing that is a little curious is that the

prisoners, one of them at least, seems not to think of attributing his release to the state of his health at all, but congratulates himself on having been set free because all creeds and classes united in urging the Government to render him justice, even at so late a day. In fact, the whole business is a curious affair from first to last. We wonder if we have heard the last of it.

Three-quarters of a million of dollars is a large sum for a young and not very wealthy colony, with a population of only five millions, to pay annually for a steamboat service. We know not what view the people's representatives in Parliament may take of the arrangement which it is announced has been agreed upon by the Dominion Government and Mr. Huddart. But if there is any direction in which it is wise for the country to go to the verge of extravagance, this is certainly such a direction. It is possible, we suppose, to urge strong and sound theoretical objections against taxing the people for the subsidizing of any private company or business whatever. It is to be hoped that as people become wiser, some means of accomplishing national ends will be found, whereby the profits of such enterprises may be retained for the use of the people who pay for them. But in the meantime the desirability of developing the policy upon which the country has not unsuccessfully entered, is so manifest, and the wisdom of stimulating foreign trade by the use of all legitimate means so obvious, that Parliament will probably sanction the contrast, notwithstanding its costliness. If satisfactory guarantees can be secured, not only for the high rate of speed specified, but for the most approved refrigerator arrangements for the carrying of perishable products of the farm and garden at reasonable freight rates, it is highly probable that the benefits resulting to Canadian trade with the Mother Country would quickly far exceed the cost. Parliament will, it may be hoped, before sanctioning the contract, see to it that effective control of freight and passenger rates shall be had, so that they may not only be made reasonable at the outset, but be subject to re-adjustment from time to time. This, we have always maintained, should have been done in the case of the Canadian Pacific, and all other subsidized railways. Of course there will be abundant room for the play of Opposition sarcasm, in regard to the consistency of the Government which builds with one hand tariff walls for the prevention of foreign trade, and

opens wide the other to stimulate it with immense subsidies. But perhaps they are preparing to meet the taunt with a genuine tariff-reform bill.

A good deal of discussion has been had in consequence of the unusual, if not unique, position now occupied by the Commissioner of Public Works in the Ontario Government. The situation was succinctly described by Mr. Meredith as follows: "The Commissioner of Public Works is to remain a member of the Government, responsible only for such measures as he may approve of." The Government is forcibly reminded by the Opposition of the very strong ground which has always been taken by the Liberal party in regard to the necessity of unanimity in the Cabinet, and the immorality of coalitions and compromises among members of it holding different views. This, however, differs materially from the present case. The objection to coalitions has usually been based upon the alleged want of principle of the members of the Government in agreeing to set aside their honest convictions on important points for the sake of holding office. In the present instance there is to be no pretence of agreement. Mr. Fraser is to be at liberty to dissent whenever he pleases. The Globe quotes Mr. Todd in support of the right of governments to treat certain questions as open questions, and the right of a Premier to retain a Minister in office after he has voted against the Government upon a certain question. But neither of these hypotheses covers the case in hand. To treat a given question as open is to take it out of the category of Government measures. To retain a Minister who may have voted against the Government on a given question, may be simply an admission that the act was pardonable under the circumstances, or a declaration of confidence that the offence will not be repeated. All these instances differ quite radically from the present, in which a Minister is permitted to remain in the Cabinet, not only without sharing responsibility for its measures, but with full liberty to oppose those measures whenever he sees fit. If one Minister may claim the privilege, why not another? The official bond of cohesion is broken. The principle of unitary responsibility is repudiated. Carry out the idea to its logical result and the Ministry can never be defeated as a body, since to declare a want of confidence in some of its members would be to approve the position of others.

We are glad that Mr. Meredith, in his speech on the Address, committed himself so unmistakably in favor of a non-political head of the Education Department. We may assume, no doubt, that in this he speaks for the Opposition. To free the management of the educational system of the Province from all suspicion of partisanship would remove from it a perennial

source of weakness and distrust. Even were it thought best, for the sake of fixing the responsibility, to have the Department of Education still under the general direction of a member of the Government, so far as its more purely business features are concerned, there can be no necessity that the whole system should be run on political lines, as will almost inevitably be the case so long as it is managed directly by a member of a party administration. A Board of experienced educationists, representing both the political parties, or all of them, if we are henceforth to have more than two, or rather, representing none of them, could surely much better arrange courses of instruction, choose text-books and attend to other purely professional details, than a Minister of the Crown. While the former would have but one master to serve and one end to reach, the partisan Minister of Education is of necessity compelled to keep two distinct aims in view in every question connected with his department. He has not only to seek to promote the educational interests of the country, but to consider the effect of every move upon the popularity of the Ministry of which he is a member. No one can pretend that these two aims will always coincide. Hence the proverbial impossibility of serving two masters will apply with full force. While, moreover, it is not absolutely necessary that the head of a business department in the Government should be a thorough scholar, it is in the highest degree desirable that those who have the management of educational affairs should be men of the highest culture. For these and other reasons which will readily suggest themselves, we cannot but think that the position of the Opposition leader in this respect will commend itself to many besides his own political followers.

In his advocacy of biennial sessions of the Legislature we cannot think that the Opposition leader is equally forcible. Granting that the saving of \$100,000 a year could be effected by the change—though the calling of an occasional extra session, which Mr. Meredith admits might be necessary, would cut down this saving very rapidlythere seems much reason to fear that other interests might be affected by the change which would far more than counterbalance any mere pecuniary saving. The principle of responsibility, upon which our whole political system is based, demands that the people shall have frequent opportunities, through their representatives, for calling those officially responsible for the management of their affairs to account. The biennial plan would greatly increase the powers of the Government and enlarge proportionately its opportunities for abuse of power. It would also probably greatly increase the length of the sessions, in order to compensate for their diminished frequency. This would, in fact, be inevitable if a close scrutiny of the two years' doings were to be made, and a proper consideration of the legislative needs of the country for two years to come, undertaken. In fact, the character of most of the legislation which falls to the lot of a provincial administration is such that opportunities for yearly addition and revision seem even more necessary than in the case of the larger concerns which demand the attention of the federal administration. It is quite possible that there may be room for reduction in the number of Ministers required for the efficient administration of the affairs of the Province. But we should suppose that the full services of a competent Minister of Agriculture would be among the last that should be dispensed with. Surely in a country in which the agricultural interest so greatly overshadows every other, the full time of the best man available can be proftably utilized for the improvement of the farming industry.

As we thought we foresaw at the time of writing last week, Mr. Gladstone's much talked of resignation has become a fixed fact. Incomparably the most influential statesman in the British Empire and in some respects the most striking personality in the world's politics, has retired, in all probability finally retired, from public life. In respect to such a personage anything in the nature of the biographical comment which is usual on such an occasion would be superfluous. Everyone who knows any thing of British history and politics during the last ha'f-century, knows a good deal of Gladstone's character and career. He was up to the noment of his retirement, at once the best beloved and the most hated, the most admired and the most execrated manin Great Britain. The height of the admirs tion has long been conspicuous to all the world, the depth of the detestation has been less manifest, and could be fully realized only by those who have had entree to the inner circles of certain exclusive classes, but credible witnesses that kind have from time to time related incidents which showed an almost incredible degree of bitterness in the hostility. The admiration will no doubt survive, though the dispassionate criticism of another general tion may modify it somewhat by bringing more into relief the inevitable human fail. ings and frailties which are at present, and will be for many years to come, cast into the shale by the towering talents and virtues.

Whatever diversity of opinion—and it is no doubt wide as the poles—may exist in regard to Mr. Gladstone's political principles and aims, as tested by their bearing upon the power and prosperity of the cast doubt upon his moral earnestness. Was no less conspicuous than his transcendent intellectual ability, which no one would earne think of disputing. And this moral earnest

estness is his highest praise. Grant, if you will, that it was sometimes enlisted on the Wrong side, that the "embedied conscience" was not always an infallible conscience, the force of his great example still remains to bear witness to the truth so much needed in political life, that the law cf right is the only true criterion of conduct in the government or nation, as in an individual. The force of his example attests, likewise, the fact that in the long run moral force is the mightiest force, even in politics. His intense moral earnestness was the secret of his wonderful strength. It was the source of the power which enabled him to sway the nation as no other modern potentate, statesman or monarch, has ever swayed it. It was this element in his character—resolve it, even, if you will, for the sake of the argument, into the strange facility which was all that many could see, or at least admit, in it, of persuading himself that any procedure or Policy to which he had been induced to commit himself was righteous—which enabled him to elevate and dignify the tone of discussion, in the House of Commons, as no other man could do. The mighty propulsive power of this intense moral earnest. ness, working in and through a subtlety of intellect, a power of speech, and a strength of will, almost unrivalled, made him invincible on the Parliamentary battlefield, Take him all in all, there is reason to fear that it will be long before the world see his like in the high places of any

What of the future? No doubt by the time these words are printed, Lord Rosebery will have gathered up the reins which are being held out to him by the Queen, representing the will of the nation, or more Strictly peaking, of the dominant party. The protest and threatened revolt of Mr. Labouchere and a few of other extremits of the Radical wing of the party will no doubt prove abortive. There will be, it must be admitted, a subtle irony of fate in the circumstances that the retiring leader should have in his last words in the House, thrown down the gage of battle to the House of Lords, in order that it might devolve upon a member of that Chamber to carry on the fight. Will Lord Rosebery do so? That remains to be seen. He is, no doubt, radical (nough in many respects. He was an outspoken advocate of reform of the Upper House many years ago. He knows to what the party is pledged, in respect both to the Heuse of Lords and to Home Rule. It is scarcely probable that he would undertake the very heavy responsibility, which must, under the circum-Stances, rest upon the successor of Gladstone and the leader of the Liberals, Radicals, and Home-Rulers, whose combined forces support the Government, unless he was tally prepared to carry out the chief features of that policy. Assuming, on the other hand, that he is really ready and

determined, so far as in him lies, to mend or end the Upper House, his position as leader and most distinguished member of that House will give him an advantage which he could hardly have otherwise had. He cannot be accused of envy or jealousy in seeking to reduce or destroy privileges which he himself shares. With Sir Wm. Harcourt as his lieutenant in the Commons and with the eyes of the party in and out of Parliament upon him, with perhaps a little mistrust, he would be very unwise to undertake the responsibility of the Premiership if he were not quite in earnest in wishing to carry out the programme. Whether he will be able to do so under existing circumstances is another question.

THE FUTURE OF CANADA.

We are not about to deal with the political problem which will be suggested to many by the above heading. We have our own opinions as to the shape which the Canadian solution of that problem will probably assume when the time is ripe for it. But for the present—the futile attempt to arouse a sentiment in favour of "political union" with our cousins to the south having proved utterly abortive—the people seem content to leave the question of any change in our relations to the Mother Country in absyance. The necessity for immediate change is evidently not pressing, and the disappointing results of the last census have seemingly set all classes of those truly anxious for the progress of the country to thinking about the matter requiring immediate attention, viz., by what means can the increase population and capital, which are the two great conditions essential to such progress, be brought about.

Notwithstanding the fact that we have not wholly escaped the commercial depression which has been pressing sorely in Great Britain and still more sorely in the United States, there are not wanting hopeful indications that our country will shortly enter again upou a period of real development, which, unless interrupted by some disastrous event which cannot now be forescen, can scarcely fail to carry us forward to a much more advanced and influential position among the nations of the earth than we have hitherto attained. Without inquiring into the causes of the past slowness of growth, we may say at once that we see, or think we see, good reason to hope that the almost stationary attitude the country has held during the last decade, especially so far as increase of population is concerned, may be followed by a decade of steady if not rapid advance. When a boy the writer used sometimes to amuse himself on the sloping beach of an arm of the Bay of Fundy, in watching and measuring the advance of the incoming tide. When one of the larger waves, which are the avant couriers of the invading waters, would throw

its line of surf farther up the beach than any of its predecessors, he would mark its highest reach with pebbles, as the waters swept back in undertow and were lost in the great mass. For several minutes, it might be, every succeeding wave would fall considerably short of the limit thus indicated. But in the meantime the mass of waters and the great ocean without which supplied them would be, rising slowly but surely to the level marked by its greatest. advance, until presently another wave would dash on the shore, sweeping away our petty landmarks and leaving its outline much farther up the beach. So it often is with the growth of nations. So it will be, we prophecy, with Canada. During the period of comparative rest, she has been, let us hope, gathering her strength, examining her resources, and gaining, both by experience and by experiment, information that may be turned to good account in the future.

One important ground of hope and expectation is that our country is rapidly becoming better known. Probably we need not hesitate to say that the outside world, and especially the Mother Country, have learned more concerning the climate, the resources, and the various possibilities of Canada, during the last five years, than ever before during thrice that period. Various causes have contributed to this result. It would be invidious to deny that foremost among these is the transcontinental railway, and the Pacific steamshipline which it made possible. Whatever objections we may have to some methods used in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and some features of its present management—and we have not hesitated and shall not hesitate to discuss those objections upon suitable occasions--no one can deny that it was built with amazing enterprise and energy, that it is managed with consummate ability, and that it has been the means, not only of opening up for settlement our vast and immensely valuable heritage in the North-West, but of making the Dominion known at the Antipodes and even in Great Britain and Europe, as it was never known before. Of this knowledge it is but reasonable to infer that we have only begun to reap the bene-

Another course which has contributed to enlarge the commercial outlook of the Dominion, and to broaden the foundations for its future trade, is to be found in the hostile commercial policy of the United States, and especially in the McKinley Bill. This has driven us to look abroad for markets as we should not probably otherwise have done for years to come. It has especially led to a better appreciation and a larger use of the great markets of the Mother Country, though it has not as yet fully opened our eyes to the selfishness as well as unwisdom of the narrow policy which leads us to make so poor and ungrateful

a return for her generosity to us in this matter. In making this admission with regard to the indirect benefits resulting to us from our partial exclusion from the vast market on our southern border, we are far from meaning to imply that that exclusion has not been an incalculable injury to us as well as to our neighbors. An influential English journal remarked the other day in effect—we have not the copy before us as we write—that the relation between Canada and the United States for some years past has been one of commercial hostility. That is the simple fact, obvious to everyone who has cared to observe it. We are far from believing, as many of our people seem to do, that the fault has been wholly on the part of our neighbors. It has been that of both parties, and it has done great injury to both, not only in obstructing that mutual trade which a wise and beneficent Providence so evidently designed to be for mutual advantage, but in creating to a greater or less extent feelings of distrust and bitterness where the relations should be those of the most cordial goodwill and confidence. At present, happily, the outlook is more hopeful than it has been for at least a decade. True, Mc-Kinleyism dies hard, as does every system which enriches and makes powerful large classes, while tending to weaken and impoverish the masses. But the turning point has been reached. The nation is on the return route, and the wheels, however they may be obstructed and clogged for a time, are not likely to be turned again backward. It cannot be that Canada will be slow in following so good an example. May we not hope from present indications of popular opinion that she will outstrip her great rival and take the lead in the path of commercial reform? Much as we appreciate the increase of our trade with British and foreign markets, we are fully persuaded that our highest prosperity can never be reached until we have again free interchange of products with our next-door neighbors.

Want of space forbids even an allusion to other grounds for our confidence that Canada is shortly to enter upon a new era of progress. We close with brief mention of one which we deem in the highest degree important and significant. We refer to the prominence which many of the most influential newspapers in Great Britain are now giving to Canada and Canadian affairs. This is largely due, no doubt, to the excellent position taken by our products at the Chicago Fair. This fair, by the way, deserves mention by itself as an event which has helped most beneficially to bring the great resources of our country into such prominence as they have never before had. We cannot doubt that our record there will have a powerful effect in directing to our shores a larger share of the kind of immigrants whom we especially need, the agricultural classes. But to return to the newspapers. Who can doubt that great good must result from-to specify no

others-the remarkable series of articles on Canada and its affairs, resources, and prospects, which have been appearing for some weeks in the London Times. We say "remarkable," not that the writer does more than simple justice to our country, but because that great journal has never before opened its columns to anything like so full and fair a discussion of Canadian affairs. Too often such brief references as have been made to our country were written from so insular a standpoint, and showed so scant an acquaintance with the resources of the country and the genius and institutions of its people, that they availed little in extending the knowledge which might be so useful to the people of England as well as to us. But in this instance the subject is being treated fully, and with such evidence of correct and ample knowledge, in the main, that, though all Canadians may not assent to every statement or view of the writer, all must agree that a great service is being done to Canada and to those in England who are interested in learning about Canada. In giving to its readers such a series of papers the great Metropolitan journal is vindicating once more its claim to a leading position among the great newspapers of the Empire.

THE RELATION OF CHURCHES TO THEIR CREEDS.

An interesting article appeared from a Roman Catholic standpoint upon a recent and still unsettled "heresy" case in one of the Protestant churches. The tenor of the artic'e was to contrast, on the one hand, the protracted and public discussion inseparable from the trial through the various church courts, and the division frequently occasioned by the settlement, which proved no settlement, with Rome's simple plan by which the matter in dispute is referred to the Roman Curia, and the thing is done. Rome speaks, and the matter is at an end. heresy trial, as in our Protestant churches, is unknown in the Papal communion. This aspect of the case received an instructive illustration in a series of articles in a leading review from the pen of a Roman Catholic theologian, which articles were broaching some rather revolutionary views regarding both the theology and administration of the Papal church. One of his superiors not only challenged his position, but charged him with rebellion against constituted authority; to this he replied, that hitherto the church had not spoken authoritatively on these matters, which were therefore open for discussion, but should the Holy Father signify his disapproval, he would at once concede the points at issue. In this connection it will be remembered that during the last Vatican Council the infallibility of the Pope was discussed, but since the dogma was decreed, it has been accepted, and now to doubt would be sin. locuta est, let the world keep silence and obey! It must be confessed that Rome has a masterly method of dealing with heresies, and her subjects have well learnt to bow to constituted authority.

Protestantism with its "liberty of conscience" cannot consistently follow such a course; true, there are instances in abund-

ance of churches that have cast out from their communion those who have departed from their articles or confessions, but scarcely upon the ground of a declared infallibility; in fact, the articles of the Anglican and the confessions of the reformed churches explicitly state that general councils and synods may err. Rome never errs, semper eadem. This indicates at once the difference between the Papal declaration of faith, whether by decrees of Council or by Bulls from St. Peter's chair, and the creeds and confessions of Protestant Christendom; the one is the absolute declaration of truth, the others are the rather pacts or covenants for fellowship; the former may be capable of development and of adaptation, but not of change; the other may be modified, changed, even put aside and new compacts formed. Of course while the confessions are accepted, they are held to be true, and as truth to be finally and faithfully held, but the admission that they are the utterances of fallible men interpreting the infallible Word of God takes from the absoluteness claimed for the Papal decrees, and lays them open to revision; as a matter of fact they have been in most cases, if not in all, revised from time to time, and each revision claimed progression in the declaration of the truth. This characteristic of Protestant confessions and of creeds at once removes them from that class of covenants which demand adherence every clause and word, inasmuch as the admit fallibility. Thus it comes to pass that as in the strict interpretation of law, injustice may arise, to correct which distinguish between law and equity. with confessions and creeds as covenants of fellowship, there is recognized the distinction between the spirit and the letter; the real difficulty is to trace the line bayond which the letter cannot be construed as allowing transgression or divergence, and the true divining of the spirit; to that aspect of the question we presume to indicate certain precedents or facts; any position taken, or appearantly taken, must be held as tentatative, the facts will be unquestionable.

This seems certain; all revision of creeds or confessions, or modifications thereof, must begin from within the body whose standards are to be revised. Instrumental music was long held to be at variance with both the standards and traditions of church that in influence has never taken secondary place; had they who agitated for a change "gone out," as some argued that they should in all honesty, there would not only have been discipled. only have been divisions, but on one side None now regret that the party of a broader liberty eventually had the de-It must be admitted that ly had the day. It must be admitted the the Articles of religion accepted by the injetic; Anglican clergy are in theology Calvinistic of it is as certain that a very large that clergy is anti-Calvinistic. The state ment of a reliable to the state that the state t ment of a noble lord a generation ago is example aggression, no doubt, but not devoid truthfulness that the stabilish truthfulness, that the Anglican establishment had Coloring ment had Calvinistic articles, an Arminian clergy, and a Romish rubric. Here certainly a church not only a church not only comprehended more than its creeds would cover, but accepted even contradiction to the letter thereof. The rin byterian churches in large measure stand in premillennial theory is utterly at variance with the eschatology of the Westminster Confession, nevertheless many of those who have subscribed to the Confession and the Confession of the Confe a similar relation to their Standards. have subscribed to that Confession not only hold, but aggressively hold, but aggressively teach, that theory, and are not only tolerated, but even accorded official positions in their respective churches. The highest legal authority in the Empire has declared that ministers may legally hold their positions in the establishment which only recently omitted the "Commination" from its obligatory liturgy, and deny the endless character of future punishment; while the Scottish establishment which censured a prominent minister in its communion for loose views on the fourth commandment, mitigated the censure by calling him at the first opportunity to the highest honour it had to confer. Upon the whole, our Protestant churches cannot be charged with a very slavish adherence to the letter of their confessions.

At this stage a question may suggest itself. Why have creeds? If no security can be given that a creed can be lived up to, they are but deceits and should be done away with. Two remarks must here be suffered. First, all faith must manifest itself in some concrete form. The first Christian creed may be read in Mark viii., 29. In that simplest of forms we have a dogmatic Confession. The no-creed cry is senseless, and leads to an infallible in every pew, a syncd in every religious clique. Plymouthism professes to have no creed, and manifests one continued series of divisions and contentions. Every man has a creed, and so every church, the only question being how far from an acknowledged central truth, such as that formulated in Peter's confession, should the lines be drawn.

Our second remark is: Every creed has a spirit, just as we speak of the spirit of the age we can and do speak of the spirit of a confession; and no church that would be true to its trust can allow that spirit to be travestied or denied. Nor is it an impossible task to discern that spirit. The conlessions to which subscription is asked among the representative Protestant churches grew during the great creed making the great c ing period which followed the Reformation, and in form are controversal; they were designed either to restore or to maintain a truth as against an error or superstition which had perverted or covered over that truth. But those controversies in their old form no longer prevail; the truth remains which alone gives spirit to the letter, which spirit in some instances completely changes the literal rendering of the article. Thus when in the twenty-first of the thirty-nine articles it is said that General Councils may not be gathered together without the commandment and will of Princes"—the independence of the national church as against the claims of Rome was asserted. The spirit of spiritual freedom therein declared may now demand that the sentence be read without the negative in which case he is the true churchman who contradicts the letter which so frequently kills, maintaining the spirit, which alone giveth life.

While these occasions for controversy its articles multiplying as the errors press; as the occasions pass, the opposite tendency the occasions pass, the opposite tendency the creed in form may remain as before, or application prevails by general even official consent. A marked example of this is three bodies once holding opposite views rethe United Presbyterian church was strictuality voluntary, the Free church as firm in to elset its own minister, the Old Kirk sec-

tion in full sympathy with an Establishment. Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis. It would be no easy task now to draw anew the old lines, or even to distinguish where they had been. It may thus be readily seen how of necessity a truly progressive church may allow a growing departure from the letter of its creed in the full maintenance of its spirit; and how within its communion without reproach men may honestly remain propounding these changes—always premising that in thus propounding them respect be had to the acknowledged regulations which govern such a course—and they be not justly charged with recreancy to their trust. Indeed there appears to be no other method of exemplifying personal liberty and corporate progressiveness. Ultimately, if the general community declare such departure from traditional belief inconsistent with the retention of fellowship, there is no other course open but separation. The growing sentiment of the day, however, is to avoid all such schism. Mutual forbearance, and a commendable tendency to look upon truth as many-sided, and thus harmonious in its differences, will do much to avoid deplorable divisions.

Our final thought is this:-All the creeds of Protestant Christendom recognize the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the ultimate authority in all things necessary to salvation. It is long since we left the divinity hall. Enforced leisure gave to us lately an opportunity of attending a lecture. That lecture suggested a contrast. In many cases a creed is placed in a student's hand as into a lawyer's hand is given a brief with one-sided evidence :- Here is your creed, here the Bible, prove your creed from the book. The tone of the lecture we heard was pitched in another key. Here is the Scripture, let us examine it for its meaning. Master its historical relations, understand its text, unfold its teaching. Does your confession harmonize therewith? And we venture to assert that as our theological schools follow this course the more of spiritual power they will find in the old creeds which were forged out amidst fire and pain, and the nearer will they approach that oneness of spirit and of aim which will hasten the day when the disciples will be manifestly one, and the world made to know that the Christ has come.

JOHN BURTON.

OLD LETTERS.

The house was silent, and the light
Was fading from the Western glow;
I read, till tears had dimmed my sight,
Some letters written long ago.

The voices that have passed away,
The faces that have turned to mould,
Were round me in the room to-day
And laughed and chatted as of old.

The thoughts that youth was wont to think,
The hopes now dead for ever more,
Came from the lines of faded ink
As sweet and earnest as of yore.

I laid the letters by and dreamed
The dear dead past to life again;
The present and its purpose seemed
A fading vision full of pain.

Then, with a sudden shout of glee,
The children ran into the room,
Their little faces were to me
As sunrise in the cloud of gloom.

The world was full of meaning still,
For love will live though loved ones die;
I turned upon life's darkened hill
And gloried in the morning sky.
FREDERICK GEORGE SCOTT.
Drummondville, P. Q.

PARIS LEITER.

The "Lamourette kiss" is a political proverb that raises a smile when recalled. The worthy prelate after whom the ephemeral good action is named, made in July, 1792, such an angelic appeal to the members of the Assembly to cease their discords. which were destroying the country, that the Montagues and Capulets rushed into one another's arms, embraced, and indulged in a Brother Peachum mea culpa. eternal friendship was sealed at noon; before the afternoon, the reconciled were fiercer enemies than ever. The experiment is proposed to be tried, not upon deputies, for the leopard cannot change its spots, but upon the nation at large. M. Michelin wants a pacific first of May, where the soldiers could fraternize with the people, as the latter do on 14th July, with the The Church formerly was blamed for having a plethora of holidays; secular rulers will soon be as culpable. The best way for the labor classes to observe May day, is to work, and have well-earned wages in the pocket. The royalists demand that the 8th of May, Joan of Arc's fete, be kept as a national holiday. In France abstention from work on May day, is not viewed as serious.

The Timbuctoo disaster is likely to become very serious. That France cannot recede from a struggle with the Touaregs, and evacuate the Holy City, is admitted. But what expenditure of blood and money it will cost her, and the ever-present prospect of the fanatics of the Soudan rushing at her. The flying column massacred, in-cluding its commander Colonel Bonnier the cause of the rash dash at Timbuctoo, who does not appear to have kept a good camp look-out; the soldiers were surprised in their bivouac-soon converted into a bivouse of the dead. Col. Bonnier himself. is the out-growth of the erratic colonial policy of France, that has no clear aim and no co-ordination. Indeed, the colonial administration of France is now on its trial, and opinion might swing round and decide to have no more of it. Dissatisfaction is felt that France is so much behind England in these matters; she has to depend on her practical neighbors for the earliest intelligence about her own possessions—Sierra Leone to wit, and the Angle-Franco collisions there are displeasing and painful.

As to philanthropic societies in France, the cry is still they come. Their very excess is becoming a drawback, according to many persons. An Hospital-Hospice Sunday is sadly wanted in France, and M. Casimir-Perier, who proposes the removal of all the evils in his country by grand committees of enquiry, would do well to constitute one to take up the subject of private charitable associations; their number is legion and there must be a great waste of good work power and of receipts. One society has just been ushered into existence to deal with the alarming growing evil of children beggars, whose parents or exploiters train the youngsters to solicit alms, and adopt the "profits sharing" system for relief. Every member of the society is bound to give no alms to any beggar child, but to obtain its address and send that per postal card to a district inspector, who will look the matter up. It is not an engaging inquisitiveness; some of the children are very precocious, witty and wicked, and abuse is to be anticipated—when their "farmers" strike in. Some children give their address: the top of the Eiffel Tower; the Catacombs, the Elysee Palace, and the old Exhibition Buildings.

Whether it pleases the Russians or not, the French farmers insist on their deputies raising the duty from 50 to 80 francs per ton on imported grain, etc.; wine will also be taxed more—that, Spain of course will The small cultivator in France is resent. to be pitied; he can make nothing out of his bit of ground; he sends his children to the cities to seek work-no matter at what; they find also some occupation for their parents, who abandon the land—so escape the tax as being uncultivated-and soon find town life the speediest road to the grave. Old people who cannot secure a crust to earn, and who will not beg, after exhausting all means to exist, devote their last sous to buy a pan of charcoal, and so sleep well after life's fitful fever. And food is to be made dearer, when work is shrinking, commerce contracting and the business world's at their wits' end. The number of shops quietly putting up the shutters for good is suspiciously in-

creasing. The anarchists remain collectively still. Is it the calm before the storm? The new law, however, makes it very difficult to indulge in any kind of political high jinks, whether by vociferation or fulminating prose. Disciples of Vaillant's notions, or curious excursionists, continue to visit the grave of the guillotined: place some floral tribute and a few stanzas thereon, and retire satisfied. There were hands to deposit flowers even on Nero's tomb. However, the Government intends to put a stop to The nut-meg grater these "floral games." plan of dealing with the anarchists is not The Rev. M. Loyson has had the worst. his say on the socialists, who form the training school for the anarchists; he accuses them of adopting civil baptism, and may it be said, the "cult" of atheism. Both are unhappy phases of our civilization, but not at all new, and are destined to live as long as Christianity itself-" Old Catholicism included. The great attractions about civil baptisms are the lollypops distributed during the ceremony; the babies come in nurseries full; some mothers manage to have their doxy several times saccharinely received into—no church; small boys are also

demanding to be rc-christened.

The civil marriages are far more interesting; they can be as plain or as gorgeous as—a funeral; they can be full choral and instrumental, or partly so; they can be horticultural and floricultural, with carpets, etc., all is a question of price. What is new is the fashion to address suitable compliments to the young folks—or otherwise, and to the bridal party, by professional elocutionists, who can be hired for the occasion, just as a marquis or a count can be engaged for a dinner party to keep the table in a roar. Civil marriages naturally engender civil baptisms, with or without the sugaries.

Deputy Wilson, son-in-law of the late President Grevy, and grand dispenser of decorations, etc., took an action against one of his recalcitrant constituents for attempting to black-mail, and so injure his "reputation"; as counsel said, he buys to-day what he sold yesterday. He was laughed out of court; the jury acquitted the defendant, and ranked the action as an unseemly political joke! "Thou hast wished it. George Dandin."

The pitcher going to the well is smashed The terrible Bonapartist financier, Baron de Soubeyran, has arrived in jail. Mires, Jecker, de Morny, were only babes compared with his dabbling with millions; he would not hesitate to play pitch-and-toss with the total national debt of France. Milliards, rather than millions, were his counters. He was director of nearly every important company in France. Of late he was known to be gambling-on 'Change, rather wildly. The late Baron Rothschild said, what interested him financially was. not the hearing of people making money, but of their losing it. Now the losses of M. de Soubeyran may not be more than 17 millions frs.—a mere flea-bite in his eyes. He was a man of extraordinary ability—a Jew of course. He founded enterprise upon enterprise, merely to sell out when the shares rose. But he could not administer, he had no patience—it was organiza-tion, in that quality, lay the superiority of the Pereires. He speculated in the financial resuscitation of Egypt - and sees it is realized now. At one time he led the whole financial world of Paris by the nose. Happily, his liabilities will wholly fall on wealthy bankers—small financiers he would hardly look at.

The circus has its dynasty in the Franconis, as the guillotine had its race in the Sansons. The menageries have their dynasty in the Pezon family. All these family trees intermarry—they are Israelitish The right line heir of the Pezon gypsies. dynasty has just married his cousin; the wedding was postponed to allow the young man's arms to be healed, after being torn by one of his performing eight lions, in whose den he made himself "at home" rather too freely; on the day of the ceremony he gave all the animals a day's rest, and double rations; the dishes at the banquet were named after the inmates of his show—fillet of lion, bears' paws and truffles, panther ham, snake pie, tiger beef-steak, etc. There was a new liqueur—"croco-diles' tears," not shed directly from the animal, but distilled. The bridal chamber is covered with the skins of all animals which died in the service. Pezon keeps his carriage, and has half a million francs invested in his three shows.

The commercial treaty just signed between Russia and Germany is the best of alliances and the truest pledge of peace. So for ten years Europe has the prospect of being able to sleep on both ears, and to dream of battle fields no more. Between the two governments there is autocratic sympathy as well as sovereign kinship. As for the Franco-Russian alliance, the feeling is extending that none such exists. Indeed cultured people in France never attached much belief to that strange combination as a working factor in every-day political life. In case of war, no nation is particular about allies, so long as they can fight; any wood is good enough to make arrows with when The Russo-German treaty ore has none. is based on the best of principles, that of mutual self-interest; sentimental alliances are but day-dreams and political toys. Since the union of the two great empires, the tone of a certain section of the French press is happily less fee-faw-fumish towards England and Italy-not that it ever did, the former power especially, any harm, save to force her to take stock of her defensive resources, and to adopt measures to keep her naval strength up to date-the future included.

Although the cabmen of Paris have large purses and generally well filled, they are

rarely the victims of pickpockets. A "lady," fashionably dressed, and boasting to be engaged in mission work, hailed a cab; after giving anaddress and paying with a five franc piece the fare, she received change from cabby, and noted the pocket into which he replaced his bulky purse; then she entered the vehicle, pulled down the blinds, save one of the windows in front, through which she reached the driver's pocket, and extracting his purse, handed it to a pal who had continued running beside the door of the vehicle. Cabby suspected, felt for his purse, it was gone, and the pal also; he descended from his seat after calling a policeman, and handed over the elègante to his care.

California is famous for its big trees; the "Daughters of the American Revolution" are about planting in Frisco a tree of Liberty; as none of the latter genus exists now in France, no cutting could be obtained; but they were authorized by the French Government to take a pinch of soil from around the tomb of Lafayette in the Picpus cemetery to add to that in which the tree will be planted. The Daughters forget, that very soil, was contributed by the emancipated States of America. A pinch from Hampden's grave, or from that of Beaumarchais, who "ran" commercially, the war of Independence, would have been better.

The bomb thrown in the cafe Lemimus, is not considered to be the work of an anarchist, but of a madman. It is the first time the distinction has been mad. To avoid mistakes, it is proposed to send him to the guillotine as swiftly as he throws the bomb. Deibler, the executioner, is in a fair way of making a fortune; business is thus not wholly bad. The bomb epidemic is forcing people to keep at home; man is ceasing to be gregarious.

VIEWS OF CANADIAN LITERATURE.

While preparing the programme for the Canadian Literature Evening, held at Victoria University, Toronto, on Feb. 9, 1894, I asked a number of Canadian authors to give me their views on the present state and outlook for the future of our literature. Mr. Chas. Mair, author of "Tecumseh, kindly gave me permission to publish his contribution, which, I think, will be of interest to the readers of The Week, and Mr. Le Moine's short essay on French literature in Canada will also be found to be very instructive as well as interesting. Mr. Mair's reply is as follows:

"By the term Literature you mean, of course, poetry: that imaginative and creative ive form of literary effort, which, by the common consent of mankind, stands at the head of letters. head of letters. There is no dispute about its place; it holds it by right, and all men, gentle and simple, learned and unlearned, alike feel that it is the touchstone of a nation's intellect nation's intellectual eminence. It is boot less to enquire what it is. Such inquiries have been thrown into literary form by thousands of writers, but all definitions fail. Matthew Arnold calls it a 'criticism of life. He might as well have called it life itselffor it is instinct with life, with life's mys. tery and the mystery of its environment. It is the art which informs all other, the art which everying the transfer of the state of the which exercises the highest function amongst the various purposes which art fulfils. however effective, but prosaic a side plastic artist's work may assume, in the long run its success will depend upon poetic quality which poetic quality, which is in unalterable proportion to the quality of the artist's mind.

This commonplace must be reiterated time and again, for it is ever in danger of being ignored by a multitude prone to mistake appearance for reality. For the excellence of a poem or of any work of art, does not lie in subject but in treatment. commonplace and lowly things in life and nature are as much the materials of art as things conventionally sublime. The treatment, as I have said, is everything, and we should as vainly attempt to extract sunbeams from turnips as a great work of art from an essentially prosaic mind. The latter when it turns to art generally shelters itself in 'the ideal' and 'the grand.' But, as the power of execution is in exact proportion to the power of intellect, the treatment necessarily fails, and the work fails with it. In a word, the painter who paints nothing but seraphs, or mountains, may be a daub; the painter of guttersnipes and dunghills may have genius and paint them divinely. So rare indeed is the poetic faculty that all nations, even in their primitive state, have given it the place of honour; and, in the fierce conflict of present-day civilization and attainment it is more and more looked upon as a pervasive spirit which blends with man's inner consciousness, and, like the beauty of external nature, weans him from himself. It is not surprising, therefore, that Canada should yearn for a literature worthy of the name, and should cast eager glances upon the nascent generation to scan, if possible, a 'rising star,' or to recognize some coming seer, or high priest in the world of art or letters. And now, being at home, and in our own country, I may say at the outset that the word 'poet' is much misused both in Canada and the United States. The title is not reserved solely for the possessor of the poetic faculty, but is conferred indiscriminately upon People of poetic feeling; upon cock-sure critics, male and female, who make occasional excursions into the domain of poetry, and despite the creaking of their ropes and pullies deceive themselves; upon highly cultivated men and women, who, by their finish and finesse, and by their remarkable cleverness in handling poetic material, deceive others. The productions which flow from such source are lauded as the fruits of culture, which, it is assumed, covers faculty; and, no doubt, they betoken much reading and honest labour, just as the dilettante's strained and startling use of adjectives is evidence of a severe study of the dictionary. In this way the post's name is legion, and one ceases to wonder that several magazines on this continent are devoted entirely to 'poetry.' But in spite of all this, and although poetic feeling is spreading with the spread of education throughout the land, yet the poetic faculty is as rare as ever, and is indeed to all appearance threatened with extinction. Bearing in mind, then, that it is not the feeling but the faculty which is the formative spirit of poetry, it becomes a question for consideration eration whether any Canadian author posases it, or has ever possessed it, and, therefore, whether there is such a thing as Canadian literature at all. We have had, and still have, many excellent people in Canadian literature at all. Canada who have given a portion of their days to literature; people of taste and re-finement and of affectionate disposition. But tender susceptibilities, a gentle spirit, communion with nature, a love of flowers, sympathy with the lower animals, with suftering and with sorrow, though they constitute a atitute a fine nature, do not constitute a poet a fine nature, do not constitute a required; Poet. Something more is required;

that mysterious something which distinguishes him from his affectionate versifying kind, which differentiates him from the cultivated and literary herd. Poe possessed it, and is immortal. Longfellow and Whittier, though the beatitudes were theirs, in spite of their corks and canvas, will sink into the waters of oblivion. Viewed from this standpoint, if asked whether there is such a thing as Canadian poetry, but for a few exceptions, in all honesty, I should be forced to say no! But it does not follow that there has not been written a great deal of admirable verse in Canada, verse which has done its duty, which has cheered many a heart, quickened many a pulse, and roused generous emotions. Metrical prose it may be-sometimes musical, sometimes sonorous, and always the echo of some stronger voiceyet it is well put together, and it serves. To single out individuals from the groups of such Canadian writers, past and present, would tend to no good purpose, since, with few exceptions, a high standard of excellence has been attained, and a style so free from individuality that one author might sign the productions of another's without fear of detection. Work of this kind has its billet in human hearts else it would not be bought and read. But it is not poetry, no matter how artistic its form or how musical its utterance. Indeed form and word-music are the hall-marks of such compositions, the brands by which they are known at their best.

"I have spoken of exceptions, and it is well for Canadian literature that there are exceptions. There are differences in degree, of course, in the poetic faculty, but there can be no gainsaying the assertion that Canada has been, and is to-day, the home of more than one man of genius. Who can dispute its possession, not to speak of others, by Heavysege amongst the dead, or by Roberts amongst the living? Differences may mar the work of the first—crudity, harshness, lack of form, lack of learning but the indefinable something is there, and it would be strange indeed if his name should perish. With regard to the other poet, it is difficult to speak of a living man as one would wish. To Mr. Roberts the first place in lyrical poetry must, I think, be unhesitatingly assigned. It is not by his classical imitations that he has put himself forward as a candidate for the foremost place, but rather by his later work, and particularly by his magnificent Canadian lyrics, which communicate the flune of his genius to our own imagination, and yet bear evidence of that severe restraint which is one of the truest tests of poetic power. In the best of his Canadian pieces, Mr. Roberts' meaning has, I think, been curiously misapprehended by divers journalists who make frequent reference to the poem when treating editorially of our Canadian future. The independence which Mr. Roberts advocates is not, I have reason to think, a severance of the tie which binds us, however lightly, to Great Britain, and the consequent establishing of a Canadian Republic, but that independence of thought and feeling which becomes a nation-that emancipation from dwarfing conceptions which have been our stumbling-blocks, and which have blinded us to our true destiny as a potent and co-ordinate factor in a great Empire. His idea is in fact the idea of the 'Canada First' party as propounded nearly thirty years ago by Foster and his followers in their notable revolt from an arid and barren provincialism. With the dignity of nationhood opening before them, the thoughtful Canadians of that day could no longer endure the 'bated breath and whispering humbleness' of a moribund regime. They had too much spring, too much energy to tolerate its narrow bounds, and, quickened by a noble imagination, Mr. Roberts gives inspired expression to ideas which have not yet triumphed, but which are slowly lifting up the public mind to a point of view at once Imperial, generous and lofty. This is a very different thing from the reckless humor of the Separatist who, in quoting Mr. Roberts, adheres to the letter, and ignores the spirit of his This provincialism has indeed weighed with heavy hand upon the literary life of Canada, and weighs upon it still, though with a more and more relaxing grasp. The Canadian administrator, in direct antagonism to the traditions and custom of every other civilized nation, still looks askance at men of letters as dangerous candidates for civil office; and, so long as provincialism is the popular ideal in Canadian politics, so long will such inferior men bear sway, and reserve exclusively for their own kind those public places a due share of which is the right of men and women who deserve well of their country either by reason of their literary promise, or as the reward of indisputable and meritorious service. There are marked evidences that a new era is dawning upon our beloved Canada, an era in which the impulses begot of the richly endowed imagination of our orators and poets will be transferred to public conduct; an era in which the bats and vampires of provincialism shall have become things of the past, or be remembered only with astonishment and shame.

Kelowna, B.C.

I have been asked to "say something on French poetry and prose in Canada."

How could I treat in a short letter of a subject which of late has attained to considerable dimensions—a subject of aspects varied and, I venture to say, extremely interesting! Should you desire my opinion as to those among my literary compatriots who hold the highest place, by the atticism of their style and loftiness of their sentiments, Francois Xavier Garneau (1809-66) the historian, in my opinion, is facile princeps and Etienne Parent, the essayist, comes next. I have profound admiration for that pundit, Abbé Faillon, who recently expired in France after a long residence in Montreal; his history of the French colony is a grand monument of scientific research; unfortunately, out of the ten quarto volumes three only have yet been issued. Sulte, Casgrain, Bitaud Ferland rank high as historians. This subject I treated, in 1882, in presence of our Royal Society at Ottawa. French Canada claims some distinguished scientists: Abbes Begin, Hamel, Laflamme, Chevalier Baillarge. La Nouvelle France, is rich in poets, novelists, chroniqueurs. Cremazie and Frechette are stars of the first magnitude on our Parnassus. Chauveau, LaMay, Lenoir, Chapman, Sulte, Le Gendre radiate as a brilliant constellation, under the divine afflitus of Pawbus Apollo.

Space precludes my entering into the specific merits of our successful novelists: Marmette, Faucher de Saint Maurice, Losperance. For pleasant glimpses of the budding career of some of our litterateurs I may refer you to a chapter in point, pp. 49-66 of Picturesque Quebec, on the occasion of a public banquet given to our laureate, L. H. Frechette.

I wish verge were allowed me to include in this summary a notice of our judical and forensic orators. I must not, however, omit, as a notable portion of our literary outfit, our antiquaries and publicists, Abbes Vereau, Cuog, Tanguay, Roy, Tasse, De Celles, Routhier, Royal, Marchand, Fabre-Buies.

The best French books written in Canada will compare, as to style, not unfavorably with their fellows printed in old France. Why should it be otherwise? Several of our most successful French-Canadian litterati learned French in our colleges under professors direct from France; L. H. Frechette, H. Fabre, Oscar Dunn, Buies, Paul De Cazes, had an opportunity of acquiring in Paris the niceties of the national idiom.

The French spoken at Quebec by the uneducated, though it has not escaped blemish, is more free from Anglicisms than the French spoken even by the bonne Societe of Paris. On visiting, some years back, the brilliant French capital, I was painfully reminded of the invasion of foreign—perhaps to me not unpleasant words—imported from across St. George's Channel, on my way from the Hotel Binda, Rue de l'Echelle, to the Bois de Boulogne, such as tramway, steamer, square, sport, jockey, groom, steeple-chase, stocks, pointer, setter, and a host of other terms, foreign to the language, some of which I am aware have also crept in among the French population of Quebec.

I might name a number of clever but unfair French travellers, writing about Canadian customs, and indulging, through ignorance or designedly, in flippant comments on the inhabitants of Voltaire's "Quinze mille arpents de neige," as very unsafe or prejudiced guides on Canadian subjects. Observant tourists have been struck with the absence of patois in French Canada; the language is the old French brought from the banks of the Saine and the Loire two hundred and fifty years ago. Unlike old France, where one department may not understand the vernacular used by its neighbor, French Canada, through the length and breadth of the land, knows but one language from Gaspe to Sandwich.

The accent, however, is faulty; the a pronounced too broad; the e is given a consonance at variance with that at Paris, Lyons, etc. Some expressions have become obsolete, though in many instances they can be traced to the French used in France, when the idiom had for its exponents the master-minds in letters who shed lustre on the reign of the Grand Monarque.

I am inclined to recommend you the perusal of Huston's Repertoire National, recently re-edited in Montreal. It is the best work I know of to trace from its rude beginnings the rise and progress of poetic talent in Canada to its matured period, crowned by La Legende d'un Peuple. In this splendid poem, our laureate, as you may be aware, seems in his impassioned style and lyric flights to have sought as his model and great master the illustrious Victor Hugo.

J. M. LEMOINE.

Quebec.

Both the above communications appear substantially as they were received by me.

L. E. HORNING.

No life can be pure in its purpose or strong in its strife, and all life not be purer and stronger thereby.—Owen Meredith.

A PARSON'S PONDERINGS:

CONCERNING THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE.

The House of Lords is doomed; it must be abolished at once. So say the people of England, if we are to believe the reports which appear in our papers: and the reason of this is that the Lords are so pertinaciously obstructive; they are always op-

posing the will of the people. It is a terrible thing in these days to oppose the will of the people; we wonder how anybody can think of doing it. Indeed for years, I may say generations past, ever since that unfortunate cargo of tea was infused in the Atlantic at Boston, the will of the people has been asserting itself pretty loudly. I have been lately looking over some volumes of a liberal English magazine which were issued in the first quarter of this century. I was interested in noting the complaints here and there of the will of the people being overborne by some tyrant, or some ministry, or some ecclesiastical hierarchy. I suppose things are not quite so bad now and that the will of the people is being better attended to by the powers that be.

So the world is looking forward to that good time coming when there shall be no more obstruction, no tyranny of Lords or bishops, no bad blood, no mutterings of discontent, but all things shall run smoothly in the state, because the will of the people will reign supreme. In the church, too, the bishops, if they still exist by the will of the people, will invariably register that will by seeing that each congregation has for its pastor the man whom it calls, and has that particular kind of doctrine and ritual which it affects: and then we shall hear no more of aggrieved parishioners or of church squabbles.

Now, ideally, this is a lovely state of things to which we are tending: the only trouble is that when we come to treat it practically this much vaunted will of the people is hard to determine. Instead of being a uniformly homogeneous thing, it often proves to be a very composite affair, and a very uncertain factor. It sometimes turns this way or that on the slightest provocation. Even with the safeguard of the ballot it may be evolved by a mere chance, a fluke, a little dexterous manipulation; it may prove to be the will of but a small and precarious majority.

If the whole number of the Commons of England were to demand with one voice some particular measure, and the Lords were with one consent to reject the same, we could understand that the sense of the people of England would be outraged. But when, after hard fighting, innumerable speeches, enforcements of the closure, boundless activity of the whips, and other contrivances, a measure is passed by a majority of thirty or forty in a House of six or seven hundred members, it requires a deal of imagination to view that measure as the embodiment of the will of the people.

Not long ago an election was held in one of our counties to choose a representative to sit in one of the very numerous legisative halls which are required to give effect to the will of the few millions who constitute the people of this Dominion. One would think two candidates would have been enough to choose from; but there were no less than four; and votes were cast: for Mr. A., 961; Mr. B., 944; Mr. C., 804; and Mr. D., 61; in all, 2,770. I congratulate Mr. A. on his success as being at

the top of the poll; I am sure he will wear his honors worthily. But I also sympathize with the unsuccessful competitors. They can only comfort themselves with the reflection that 1,809 voters did not want Mr. A. Still, of course, those 961 who did, showed the will of the people.

Of course this was a pure and unbribable constituency. But just suppose that by some unhappy chance there had been, say, a score of unrighteous men within it, ready with their combined vote to turn the scales either way, for a consideration. Just, suppose, indeed, such a thing happening in any election where two parties were as evenly divided. Of course the successful candidate would pride himself on having bagged that score of unrighteous men. But it would be scarcely fair to credit the will of the people with the net result.

I was reading the other day in an American paper a story of the sheriff of some county in the Western States, whose duty it was to arrest a gang of men that had But, unforcommitted some great crime. tunately, all these criminous gentlemen had votes; and they were all of his own political party; and their suffrages had helped to put him into office; and it had been a pretty close shave at that; and the elections would soon be on again; and there those gentlemen stood at bay, ready to give him their ballots next election day or their bullets right off, according to his procedure in The story broke off just there: the case. I don't know how the sheriff decided to act. Let us hope the good man showed due dis-Let us hope that he is still alive cretion. and hearty, and that he is still in the enjoyment of his salary and fees, as sheriff of the county by the will of the people.

We parsons know something of this in church matters. What is the will of the people? Who constitutes the people whose will must be obeyed? These are questions which the most subservient minister may often find it hard to answer, especially in the Anglican church where such latitude prevails on many points. And we find that congregations are sometime; weighed like "Salem Chapel" in the Chronicles of Carlingford—with the counterparts of the Tozers, men who labor under the delusion that their own individual will is identical with that of the whole congregation. When any change is proposed in the interior of the church or in the conduct of the services, our Tozers are apt to say, "Well, person. ally, you know, Mr. Parson, I don't object; but the people would not like it." on thorough investigation, it has sometimes been found that this very vague term, "The People," was resolvable into Mr. Tozar himself. Occasionally the parson has re-Occasionally the parson has resorted to a plebiscite to test the question, "Shall we have such decorations or not? or "Shall such parts of the service be sung or not?" or "Shall the choir boys west surplices or not?" and sometimes the vote has shown that the will of the people had been miscalculated by Mr. Tozer.

The earliest ecclesiastical historians give us some details of popular election of bishops, etc., and I am free to confess that those accounts are not very pleasant reading. But I fear the story of many a church "election" and "call" of modern days would betray similar weaknesses, and show that human nature is pretty much the same now as in the days of old.

Two of the most powerful religious bodies in Canada—the Roman Catholics and the Methodists—have reached their present state of prosperity, not by consulting the

will of the people, but by strong centralized government. To be sure, in the latter body the Methodists—the will of the people is beginning to assert itself now, and democratic principles are pervading them too; in due time they must succumb, like the rest of us. Well, be it so; let us all rise to the occasion. Let us all become, in church as well as in state affairs, experts in parliamentary tactics; let us study how deftly to exact a workable verdict out of conflicting opinions. But don't let us idealize too much; that is to say, don't let us talk cant. Don't let us say that any fortunate condition of things, which in reality was the result of a due marshalling of votes or the skilful engineering of some cabal, is a bright exhibition of the will of the people.

The Rectory, Almonte.

GEO, J. LOW.

DOWN THE GULF AND BY THE SEA.

CHAPTER I.

Aylmer is a small inland watering place on the Ottawa river, in the Province of Quebec. It is about nine miles from Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion of Canada, and here, during the summer, the civil servants of the capital, and others, come to spend a few weeks in the cooler air, which flows down from the Laurentian hills or across Lake des Cheynes. Lake des Cheynes is a fine sheet of water—an outspreading of the Ottawa river, before that splendid tide sweeps down the des Cheynes Rapids preparatory to thundering over the wild rocks at the Chaudiere Falls. The village of Aylmer is situated on a hill rising from the lake, and when seen from the water, especially in the early morning, as when glorified by the magic rays of sunset, looks very pretty and picturesque. A small steamer plies between Aylmer and the villages and landing places higher up the river. Large tug; are occasionally seen laboring with huge rafts of timber behind, or briskly making a boom to catch, not speculators but sawlogs, which in a moment of storm have deserted. Along the Ontario shore of the lake are beautiful little islands covered with bush, and tenantless, save where a fisherman has established himself and called the island after him. In one or other of these islands, it is the delight of the Ottawa youth to camp. The groves by the des Cheynes Rapids are a favorite resort for picnic parties. Eardley Road, which commands the lake, is beautiful, and the mountains within a few hours' drive are rich in attractions lakelets, wooded vistas, and bracing air and will one day be studded with the summer residences of the wealthy citizens of Ottawa. Among those who spend their summers at Aylmer two or three have steam yachts, and nearly everybody has a boat of one kind or other. Each summer evening when the little trains from Ottawa arrive there is a rush to the various hotels and boarding houses to swallow a hasty tea, then a rush on the part of the men for fishing tackle, on the part of the men for using articles of part of the ladies for borrowing articles of marine toilet; the yachts, meanwhile, get up steam, and the "skipper" and his friend steam, friends arrived, whistle impatiently if some lady overcareful about her health or appearance, is not on hand; a dozen little boats are making across the lake; scarves blue and red, Tam o'Shanter caps of all the colors of the rainbow; sailor suits, an Occasional canoe, its paddler dressed in white and canoe, its paddler dressed in his white flannel and wearing a red cap, his

sweetheart in the stern with a blue shawl over her shoulders; the various tints of the landscape, the blue-black mountains, the green woods, the mixture of sunshine and shadow, the yellow light, the tones and semi-tones, the blue sky growing crimson to the west, and the evening star shining like a great diamond up in heaven; all is grateful to the eye and fills one with a delightful sense of joyful idleness. And oh! the air. The pure, sweet, cool air, perfumed with pine and mountain shrubs! the still water stretching away like a mirror on all sides to the green wooded shores, over which those purple hills look so gloomy and grand, and solemn, and when at last the sun goes down, making the lake a sheet of molten gold and silver, changing the clouds into fantastic shapes of splendor, and of ever-varying dyes, and playing like an artist (some great master of color) with hill and tree, and transforming the village yonder into a gorgeous city of fiery crystal no civil servant, however small his pay and large his family, but forgets his troubles in the midst of so much loveliness.

Surely if ever there was a place where people might live in harmony, Aylmer is that spot. It is secluded, cheap, unknown to the vulgar tourist. The cooking at the hotels is not good, but the Hotel Ritchie forms an exception to this rule, and it was at the Hotel Ritchie, the persons with whom we are concerned were stopping, or more properly, were "guests." These were an old colonel of the 42nd, James Dark, Harry Roby, Mrs. Roby, Mrs. Dark, and Mrs. Emerson, this last a grass widow of great beauty, good taste and exemplary demeanor. No excursion or picnic party was complete without these six persons, and Mrs. Roby, Mrs. Dark, and Mrs. Emerson were like sisters. James Dark was a short man, with very black eyes, large white teeth, which he showed when he laughed, and his laughter at his own jokes was frequent; a large shirt collar completes the catalogue of striking features. I had nearly forgotten the eye-glass, which was not ornamental but an absolutely necessary appendage, for he was almost blind. With his eye-glass and shirt collar he looked like one of those figures of caricature in which the body of a dwarf is surmounted by the head of a man. Roby, on the other hand, was very tall, handsome, hook-nosed, but with a wild look in his red features and large hazel eye, this wild expression suggesting (not withstanding his light complexion) Indian blood, and he has been known to swear most explosive oaths that he has in his veins the fiery current of I don't know how many nations of Red Indians, but my impression is it was six. Whether it was his Indian blood, or that he was "raised" on the Canadian frontiers of the Western States, his conversation abounded in odd exaggerated forms of expression, which were more picturesque than elegant, and which were sometimes so grotesque, and unnatural as to make one astonished how they could ever have emanated from a person reputed sane. But if Harry Roby was insane, there was a method in his madness: if he sold you a piece of land or a horse the chances were he had the best of the bargain; he was if anything too clever; but he was kind-hearted, full of pranks, raising funds for some distressed wayfarer to day, to-morrow playing at practical jokes, and ever and again explaining schemes whose profitable results would transcend even those of Colonel Sellers. Mrs. Roby, oddly enough, was a pattern of what a fine lady should be; a daughter of one of the F. F. C.'s (first families of Canada) and a great favorite at Government House where her small figure flitted about like a humming-bird. Mrs. Dark, tall and stately, lived in retrospective dreams of conquest made in Toronto, in days before the military were withdrawn from the colony. Mrs. Emerson had travelled in Europe (where she met her scape-grace husband), had lived in New York, and "dressed as well as an American," which is the superlative of millinery praise. The old Colonel was the son of a Waterloo hero. He was a good amateur actor, full of anecdote and who had served with distinction in the Crimea.

Mrs. Emerson had a brother at Oxford of whom she always spoke as Bob, and one evening she quite electrified her friends at the Hotel Ritchie by telling them that Bob was on his way from England, and was bearing with him a hat made by M. Bombazine of the great house of Bombazine of Paris, in part out of a beaver-skin, the skin of a muskrat, the skin of a bear, the skin of a seal, the neck of a swan, the wing of a king-fisher, eagle's feathers and the plumage of twenty-five different kinds of birds, with a tiny bag of pemmican surmounting all.

This piece of news was overheard by one of Mrs. Ritchie's maids, who told it to the cook; it was imparted in confidence by Mrs. Roby to a particular friend of hers at the Hotel Reilly; Mrs. Dark confided it to her special friend at another hotel, as a secret imparted to her, accompanied by the most solemn injunctions, and the result was it ran like wild fire. Long before Bob appeared, the hat he was bringing with him from Paris was discussed in remote farm houses, by lonely streams twenty miles up the Gatineau. The news took wing and went across the lake, and Mrs. Emerson vowed that one day as she and some friends were camping out in the township of March, she heard two farmers' wives denounce her extravagance, in the intervals of a desultory discussion on the merits of their respective bees, the fatalities of drones and the despotism and all-absorbing functions of the polyandrous queen.

NICHOLAS FLOOD DAVIN.

HEIMWEH.

[Written after hearing Jungmann's "Heimweh." The piece of music played from went down, with many others, at the foundering of the "Oregon," and alone of all the music survived the immersion.]

[The Prebude.]

The groves, the lawns of lovely England seem So far away in this wild land of snows;

But as the music grows

From prelude into stately chords, a dream Comes of a dearer land; and this wide plain Turns to that little island in the main I dare to call

The fairest land of all;

For the blue of the prairie heaven is not so

blue as the sea, Nor the sward of a prairie landscape as green as that isle can be.

Play on, play on, the links of thought you

Have bridged the gulf of years with one swift

So that once more I can

Cross over to the land long left behind, And see through mists of many bitter years, Ay! through the mist of sudden starting tears, My youth once more

On that remembered shore,

For the spell of the measured music can carry from other lands

A dream of days half forgotten, and the touch

of long severed hands.

[Strike stronger chords.]

For now the music hath a deeper tone Than any that its chords had known before It left the English shore; A mightier music than was once its own, Born from Atlantic thunder and the wail

Of harp-strung rigging to the northern gale;

Wild music borne, Blown from a Triton's horn,

O'er the leagues of western waters, far down the wind, until
At the sound of his deep sea music the leaping

waves are still.

Strange that of all the sweet airs mouldering

This one alone survives the cruel sea; Some god has treasured thee:

Apollo! Thou! Lord of the tuneful lyre, Hast somehow fathomed my deep desire To hear again

That half-forgotten strain,

That speaks like an old-world story to the heart of a little child,
Or tells of ways long untrodden and the woodland pathways wild.

[Ah! play no more.]

For all was only fancy, like to those Faint wave-born echoes in a conched shell, That only dimly tell

The inland dweller of the wave that flows On far-off shores; 'twas mine own ear that made

Such wendrous magic out of what you played.

Yet, though 'tis past Some memory will last

Of moist sea breezes blowing over down and moor and dell:

Let the last notes steal gently forth that bid my dream farewell.

BASIL TEMPLE.

THE FIRST LORDS OF THE MANOR IN CANADA.

(From the French of M. Benjamin Sulte, F.R.C.S.)

An officer of the army, Etienne Payard, lord of La Touche, who came in 1662 or 1663, acquired (1664) the manor of Champlain, between Batiscan and Cape Madeleine, and there placed settlers whose labors he personally superintended, as, indeed, did all those lords of the manor of whom we have previously spoken. One of his sons was killed at the battle of Beauport in 1690; the other kept up the succession, which continues to-day under the name of Champlain.

In 1650 the colony included barely six hundred settled persons. In 1651, the Iroquois were become so numerous on the Island of Montreal that the five or six French families were forced to abandon their houses and seek refuge in the fort. Of the seventy-two Frenchmen who had arrived at this post between the years 1641 and 1658, thirty-two had perished by the hand of the

Iroquois.
The families remaining at Montreal, at the date of 1652, numbered but twelve or fifteen, and the whole French population of the island did not exceed a hundred souls. In 1653 (before the arrival of the succour which saved Montreal) the whole settled population of Canada reached but six hundred and seventy souls, distributed as follows:—Quebec 400, Three Rivers 175, Montreal 100. To these may be added one hundred and fifty or two hundred persons, missionaries, people engaged in trading, etc. Altogether there were scarcely two hundred men able to bear arms-and the Iroquois continued their raids.

Between 1652 and 1656, a dozen or so colonists established themselves on the Isle of Orleans. The manors grouped about

Quebec received some two or three hundred individuals between 1654 and 1661. To Three Rivers must be assigned sixty new heads of families during the same period. In the autumn of 1653, a hundred men settled at Montreal; in the years 1658 and 1659 nearly two hundred new arrivals may be reckoned and forty young women.

If we add a contingent brought in 1662 by M. Pierre Boucher, we shall see that at the beginning of 1663 the country included between two thousand and two thousand five hundred souls, for the births during the ten latter years must be reckoned in the computation. As for the floating population called "French" it was quite insignificant in point of numbers. The census of 1665 gives three thousand two hundred and fifty souls, but the immigration began to be

much more numerous within three years.

The abolition of the Company of the Hundred Associates (February, 1663) put an end to "gouvernement proprietaire" (government by the owner). The list of the first lords of the manor in Canada closes here also. At the end of the year 1664, that is to say at the period that the new regime commences, sixty-five manors had been granted, besides many small holdings of no great importance for our pur-Of these I have mentioned but twenty-five or twenty-six, because the rest were grants on paper only. Among the others some were partially settled, thanks to the first owner, but later than 1665.

The efficient lords of the manor who came within the period from 1633 to 1664 are these: Jacques Hertel, the Jesuits, Robert Giffard, Jacques, Le Neuf de la Poterie, Jean de Lauson, Jean Bourdon, les dames Hospitalieres, Jean Godefroy, François de Chauvigny, the Society of Montreal and Saint Sulpice, M. de Montmagny, Francois de Champflour, Pierre Le Fevre, Nicolas Marsolet, Rene Robineau, Pierre Le Gardeur, Madame de Monceau and Denis-Joseph Ruette d'Auteuil, Pierre Boucher, Charles Le Moine, Etienne Payard de la Touche. It would ap-pear that neither Jacques Castillon nor Antoine Chaffault ever lived in the country, but employed agents.

If we divide these manors under the designations of their government as then expressed, we find under that of Quebec: Montmagny, Lauson, l'ile Aux Oies, Beaupre, Beauport, la Banliene de Quebec, Jacques-Cartier, Neuville, Port Neuf, Deschambault, Grondines; in that of Three Rivers: Champlain, l'Arbre a la Croix, le cap de la Madelaine, le coteau Saint Louis, Hertel, Champflour, Gentilly, Cournoyer, Dutort, Becancour; on that of Montreal: the island of

that name, Repentigny, Longueuil.

In a brief study like the present, I am unable to give a crowd of details that belong to the story of the founders of Lower Canada. It must suffice to consider for a moment the signification of the word

" seigneur.' To become the proprietor of a couple of leagues of land facing the river, and having a depth of from two to four leagues, was easy enough; at the same time there were obligations to be assumed, the principal of which was to establish within a prescribed period, such and such a number of colonists or settlers in scot and lot, or tenants in fee, necessitating large expenditures and constant oversight on the part of the lord.

The rents or returns which the tenants had to pay to the seigneur were of the smallest—the law protected the habitant before all others.

It is true that in the long run, all the holdings on the manor having become settled, the lord might draw from it a reasonable in come, but how many years and how much of sacrifice before arriving at that! From every point of view the lord was less considered than the tenant. If one reflects that during les Temps heroiques (from 1636 to 1663) the colony seemed to vegetate, to exist only, by reason of the wars with the Ircquois and the culpable negligence of the Hundred Associates, one cannot but revere the memory of the twenty-four or twenty. five seigneurs mentioned above, for each one did his share in the establishment of Canada, and not one of them received, at least previous to 1665, the reward of his patriotism and devotion.

What would have happened if the seig neurial system had been vigorously pushed among us not only at the beginning of the colony, but continuously, and the aid the king had undertaken to furnish not been denied? We should have had a Canada comparing favorably with any country in Europe in less than fifty years. The seigneur would have been the key to a great colonial empire. Louis the Fourteenth and Colbert had planned to that end. Colbert kept it before him up to the time of his death; Louis XIV. lost sight of his project. But the father of the system was Richelieu; he began the work in 1627, then left it to itself. Mazarin could not comprehend it. Then, in 1663, Colbert having the ear of Louis XIV., this grand project was renewed. Renewed alas! only to fall into oblivion the second time. Under seigneurs, our country would have become a new world, without even passing through the colonial phase. From the moment this powerful status was weakened Canada evicted colonial phase. existed only upon the contingencies of trade and the speculations of capitalists. Colonization was arrested, insomuch that no one counted any longer on an influx of men from

The ruin of the seigneurs followed the change of regime. We became a people having no leaders—pardon, they gave us military abited having no leaders—pardon, they gave an. military chiefs by whom our future was entirely changed. The miracles we might have performed as colonists we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we have accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished as a married with the miracles we might be accomplished with the miracles we married with the miracles we might be accomplished with the miracles we married with the miracles with the miracles we miracles with the miracles we miracles with the miracles we miracles with the miracles we miracles wi lished as warriors.

Neither the King, nor the Hundred As sociates, nor the India Company, made any difficulty about granting manors to such as demanded them, but they took care to give no aid to the lords in those labors by which they transformed this corner of the forest into cultivated lands, and therefore we ged but few of the lords reaching to profitable results for their investments. The greater number among them abandoned the task and their lands passed into the hands he the most prosperous among the settlers, and in the course of years cleared the land and settled colonists upon it. The seigneurial system of Canada had but one defect, the poverty of the seigneurial poverty of the seigneurial state. poverty of the seigneurs at the outset of its colonization, and the bestowal of manors upon soldiers who had neither money not equipment and had no knowledge of the business of clearing business of clearing or cultivating the land. S. A. CURZON.

It is the age that forms the man, not the n that forms the man that forms the age. Great minds of indeed react on the society which has made them with them what they are, but they only pay with interest what they have received.—Macaulay.

No human being can come into this world hout increasing or all the sum without increasing or diminishing the sum total of human happiness.—Elihu Burritt.

SIR SAMUEL WHITE BAKER.

What Sir Samuel White Baker did toward furthering geographical exploration in Africa and other countries and in the direction of increasing our knowledge of the animal kingdom was reproduced dioramically by the news of his death on Dec. 30th last, at his entrancing country residence, Sandford Orleigh, near Newton Abbot, in Devonshire, England. He had lived more than two years above the allot-ted span, for he had attained his seventysecond birthday on June 8th, 1893.

In physique, as well as in indomitable pluck, Sir Samuel was a typical Englishman. He was born at Thorngrove, near Worcester, on June 8th, 1821, and received an excellent education. After leaving college, he joined his brother, in 1845, at Nuwara Eliya, in Ceylon, where he remained for eight years. At this period he produced his two books, "The Rifle and the Hound in Ceylon" and "Eight Years' Wanderings in Ceylon," published in London in 1854 and 1855 respectively. In Ceylon he gained a good deal of the experience as a sportsman and lover of nature which afterward stood him opportunely when he undertook extensive explora-

Returning to Europe from Ceylon, Baker was appointed to a position on the railroad which now runs between Varna and Rustchuk in Bulgaria. This employment was not congenial to a man of so adventurous a disposition, and with his predilection for sport of the heavier sort; he had private means enough to enable his following his own bent, so he resolved to tread the unknown wilds of Africa. Speke and Grant, those noted explorers, had departed from Bagomoyo, in October, 1860, resolved to find the true source of the River Nile Baker, without more ado, determined Baker, without more ado, mined to meet them; his young wife refused to be parted from him, and made up her mind that she would endure the hardship and dangers, so on April 15th, 1861, Buda D. Mrs. Baker was from Buda Pest, and did honor to her city with her bravery. Mrs. Peary, the dauntless land the American explorer of Greenland, has not surpassed in heroism Lady Baker, although their travels lay in such autipodean climates. By the way, Mrs. Petherick was another gallant lady who accompanied her husband in African explora-

Speke and Grant were not expected on the Upper Nile until the beginning of 1863 Pper Nile until the beginning time, so that Baker's party had plenty of time to take their journey easily and with the maximum of comfort to be had along their made the their route. This leisure Baker made the most of Having reached Berber, he departed from his line of march and explored for over a year in the country watered by the Sattite, Atbara, and other northern Abvacints, Atbara, and other Nile. Here Abyssinian tributaries of the Nile. Here he had great opportunity to purvey to his desire to prove this acquaintdesire for sport, to augment his acquaintance with natural history and to add to mankind's geographical knowledge. While hative and he acquired a familiarity with native and he acquired a familiarity of valual Arabic character which proved subsequently. of valuable service to him subsequently. As a result, we have his entertaining work on "The Nile Tributaries of Abyssinia, and the Called Tributaries of The Hamran and the Nile Tributaries of Abyssim, Araba," Published in 1867 at London, Eng-

Baker's latter mentioned book is entertaining and highly instructive. It reveals

the true sportsman in every page. He was not a mere slaughterer of wild beasts, whose sole aim is to add to his list of butch. eries. Not once did he kill a female of any species unless compelled to do so in selfdefence, and his noble nature delighted to study the habits of the members of the animal kingdom. Through all, he spoke highly of the famous sword-hunters of the Hamran Arabs in his "Nile Tributaries of Abyssinia," also in a much later work on "Wild Beasts and Their Ways: Reminiscences of Europe, Asia, Africa and America," which was published in London and New York by Macmillan & Company during 1890. Taking up the strain of his work published twenty-three years earlier, he says in his "Wild Beasts and Their Ways" that the greatest of all hunters are the Hamran Arabs of the Settite River on the borders of Abyssinia, who use no other weapon to kill elephants but a heavy twoedged sword. All these intrepid hunters who accompanied Baker during his stay in Abyssinia in 1861 eventually had been killed in desperate close-quarter encounters with wild elephants. Wonderful Nimrods that they were, they led a life of constant warfare with savage beasts, so that it may be said they fell upon their battle-field. Their method was to hamstring their ponderous quarry with keen-edged two-handed swords.

In 1862, on June 11th, Baker arrived at Khartoum. Here he waited until December for the northerly winds. Going thence, he reached Gondokoro on February 2nd, 1863. Speke and Grant came in to this place a fortnight later. Speke had discovered the Victoria Nyanza to be the true source of the Nile, but he had not been able to reach a lake to the westward, which it was believed the River Nile crossed while flowing toward Gondokoro. at once resolved to solve a problem of so much geographical interest. Ignoring the facts that his own men were in a state of mutiny and that the slave-traders had intimated that they would prevent his progress, defying him to penetrate into the interior, Baker started on March 26th. His remarkable resolution and courage enabled him to overcome difficulties which would have completely hampered any less energetic man. Neither did his noble wife succumb. Like Mrs. Petherick, she remained at her husband's side to comfort and encourage him, and no small credit is due to Lady Baker for the ultimate success of the ex-

After spending some time in the Latuka country, Baker crossed the River Nile at Karuma, had a conference with King Kamrasi of Unyora at Mruli, and on the 16th day of March, 1864, he and his wife experienced the joy of gazing upon that lake for which they had been in quest. It seemed a magnificently large body of water, and upon it Baker bestowed the euphonious name of Albert Nyanza. Possibly having been deceived by a heavy mist which enshrouded a portion of the lake and by exaggerated reports from natives, Baker conceived that this inland sea extended far to the southward, may hap even as far as the Tanganyika. He followed its eastern shore for thirteen days, until he had gone as far as the mouth of the Victoria or Somerset Nile. Ascending this river, he discovered the Murchison Falls.

March, 1865, found Baker once more at Gondokoro, whence he hastened back to England. There a most enthusiastic welcome was accorded him, to which he refers

modestly in his book on "The Albert Nyanza," published at London in 1866. A well deserved eulogium appeared in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society shortly after his return, not to speak of the numberless other publications all round the world which took up the glad refrain to do honor to the discoverer of the Albert Nyanza. Congratulations and showered over Baker from every quarter. Recognizing his important discoveries and astronomical observations, the Royal Geographical Society conferred upon him their Patron's Medal; the Paris Society did likewise; and he was elected a member of the Royal Society. Already he was a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. To cap his honors, Queen Victoria dubbed him a knight. For about five years thereafter he rested on his laurels, and devoted himself principally to literary production.

During his Albert Nyanza travels Sir Samuel became cognizant of the horrors enacted in connection with the slave traffic, and made up his mind to do all in his power to abolish or ameliorate the evil. With this end in view he offered his services for the suppression of the slave trade. advising the Khedive of Egypt to annex all the territory of the Upper Nile as far as the lakes, and to establish throughout a paternal government. In this way he pointed out to the Khedive that he could take measures for the development of the vast natural resources of the region and turn trade into legitimate channels. All these propositions were favorably enter-tained by the Khedive, and, as all will remember, he made Sir Samuel W. Baker a pasha, bestowing extensive powers upon him. Jealousy and ill-feeling were by this action engendered among all the other Egyptian authorities, especially among those in the Soudan, and Sir Samuel Baker never had a fair opportunity to accomplish the hard but praiseworthy task which he had undertaken.

With a small flotilla of two steamers and thirty-one sailing vessels, he departed from Khartoum in February, 1870, having a force of only eight hundred soldiers, over half of whom were discharged convicts. Obstacles beset the expedition from the outset, but Baker was determined. Above the Sobat mouth the Nile was choked with matted vegetation, probably the same that had barred the passage of Nero's centurions. Baker but changed his route, and went by way of the Bahr Zaraf to the upper reaches. This course was more formidable to follow than he had surmised, so he did not reach Gondokoro until April 15th, 1871. Sticking to his undertaking, like the courageous man that he was, he consumed two years fighting slave dealers and native tribes. All the time Lady Baker was at his side, and she carefully compiled a meteorological journal. In this warfare perhaps the most stirring episode was the retreat from Mzindi. Gondokoro was evacuated by Baker in April, 1873, and at that time peace had been established in the territory to the south of Gondokoro, the slave traders having been compelled to retire. No new geographical discoveries were made by Sir Samuel's party during these martial travels, but Lieutenant Julian Baker much improved the maps of the regions visited, and Lady Baker's meteorological journal was of service to science.

Sir Samuel W. Baker was grieved at the policy which Britain pursued in the Soudan. He has spoken feelingly in more than one of his books of the deplorable in-

terference of England in Egypt which resulted in the abandonment of the Soudan and the sacrifice of General Gordon at Khartoum. These actions completely severed the link of communication which had been happily established. Foundations for future civilization had been laid, but all were ruthlessly wrecked. Those splendid sword-hunters of the Hamran Arabs who were England's friends in former days had been turned into enemies by the meddling of the British Government with affairs they did not understand. Sir Samuel said it was painful for him to look back to the past when Lady Baker and himself, utterly devoid of escort, had passed over twelve months exploring the wildest parts of the Soudan. They were attended by but a single Egyptian servant, assisted by some boys whom they picked up in the desert among the Arab tribes. Although not properly understood, England was respected in those days. Arabs had a vague impression that she was the largest country on earth, that her government was the emblem of perfection, that the military power of the nation was overwhelming because India had been conquered, that English people spoke always the truth and never forsook their friends in the moment of distress. There was always an idea that Britain regarded the Mussulmans with friendliness. Were it not for British protection the Arabs believed that the Russians would destroy the Sultan and overthrow the mosques to trample upon Mo**ha**mmedan power in Constantinople. Englishmen dare not appear among those people now-a terrible result of clumsy management. As Baker sets forth, broken faith has dissipated Britain's character for sincerity; her military operations have failed to attain their object, Sir Samuel upbraided the British Government bitterly, and satirically remarked that this had been our so-called civilizing influence, "by which we have broken down the work of half a century and produced the most complete anarchy where twenty-five years ago a lady could travel in security. England entered Egypt in arms to re-establish the authority of the Khedive. We have dislocated his empire, and forsaken the Soudan.'

Savage Africa knew Sir Samuel White Baker no more. He satisfied his hunter's spirit by seeking sport in Ceylon and other parts of the world not so inaccessible as wild Africa. His constant aim became to enrich his valuable collection of trophies of the chase, which he stored at his home in Devonshire. To the last, however, he retained a deep interest in all questions affecting Africa. As we have said, he deplored greatly the evacuation of the Soudan by the British, for he regarded the entire Nile basin as a proper and necessary appendage of Egypt. In a number of articles which he published, "The Soudan and Its Future," in The Contemporary Review for January, 1884, "Khartoum and the Soudan" in F. T. James' "Wild Tribes of the Soudan," and a number of letters in divers issues of the London Times, he urged the rulers of Egypt to adopt a determined and continuous policy with regard to the Sou-

"Cyprus as I saw it in 1879," published by him from London in 1879, deals with his later adventures, beside which he has written many other good books. Not the least valuable are his stories of adventure for boys, which not only exhibit good literary ability, but are written in such a taking vein that they edify as well as delight,

being pregnant with facts in natural his-His may be termed a life which was successful. He was a member of many scientific societies. But above all, Sir Samuel White Baker's name will ever be associated with the solution of that great geographical problem which for so long was a mystery—the discovery of the Nile's source. There have been other eminent explorers, but not one was more intrepid, circumspect and resolute than Baker, whose noble wife must always share his glory.

JOHN A. COPLAND.

Toronto, Canada.

QUATRAINS.

WINTER.

A white, inviolate sheet, Bordered with bosky lace, Waiting the love-songs sweet Spring, the Poet, shall trace.

CUIRASSIERS.

They stand in martial files along a hill-The ice mailed maples in the cool sunshine, Like horsemen ready waiting for the thrill Of trumpet that shall start them, moving

JOSEPH NEVIN DOYLE.

THE OUEBEC ICE CARNIVAL.

The Daily Telegraph of Quebec, whose enterprising young proprietor, Mr. F. Carrel, originated the idea of the late ice carnival, applied to the leading litterateurs of the ancient capital for contribution to his "Carnival Souvenir Number." It seems he received a sympathetic response. We give in this day's issue, the translation of a sporting French sketch contributed by the historian of the Rock City.

LA CROSSE, ITS HISTORY-CANADA'S NATIONAL GAME.

Labor ipse voluptas.

"Greece had its Olympian games; Rome, its gladiators, Britain had its athletic jousts, even in the distant era, when Julius Cæsar camped with his invincible legions on British shores; Scotland rejoices in her robust. noisy curlers; Spain is proud of her picadores and matadores; America plumes herself on her pugilists. In some instances it baffles enquiry to ascertain how, when, and where these trials of strength, skill or agility have originated among the nations who borrow from them some of their peculiar national features, or invaluable physical development. Occasionally a furor arises for a modern game, or one reputed such, and which turns out to be so old that its origin is lost in the obscurity of the

Thus croquet, still in favor in the country parts round Quebec, but superseded in cities by lawn-tennis and imported from the British Isles about thirty odd years ago, is in reality a very old game revived. "It used to be played by the ancient Gauls so universally that the greater portion of the promenades adjoining large towns consisted each of a long alley called the mail. The later French received it from their ancestors, the Gauls, and it was introduced into England by Charles II., at the time of the Restoration, after his return from his sojourn in France. The long avenue in front of Buckingham Palace called the 'Mall' or 'Mail' derived its name, from this game which was played there." It was especially patronized by the kings of France, of Spain and of Portu. gal and took firm root at Montpellier in

France. Its adepts, known as "Palmardiers de Montpellier" were famous all over Europe-their statutes were sanction; ed by an edict rendered by the Senechal of Montpellier, bearing date the 4th Sept, 1668, and by "arret du parlement" of Toulouse, of the 28th November of the same

I recently found among my incunabular a bibelot comprising a collection of its rules, with plates, printed first at Montpellier in 1772, intituled "Le Noble Jeu de Mail de Montpellier, par M. Sudre." The plates et hibit the old game; the rules mention "coups de croque" and "croquer le boule," evidently the origin of the modern game of croquet.

Old writers contain but scanty mention of the rudiments of our popular game of Charlevoix signalizes as jet la Crosse. de la Crosse, an amusement rud and dan gerous by the rough usage it entailed among the aborigines from Three Rivers to No mention, nor written re-Hochelaga. cord at Quebec exists on the rise and progress of an amusement cherished by our

vigorous youths.

Dr. W. G. Beers has put forth, at Month real, an elegant volume, enriched with drawings, replete with attractive details and entire history, in fact, of la Crosse, its golden and the constant of the cons den rules, its manifold advantages to health, its most noted champions, its great matches in Canada, in England, in Scotland, where Montreal amateurs succeeded in bringing is into notice. The Doctor takes credit, and rightly so for the contract to the contra rightly so, for being the first, in 1859, to record in print that la Crosse was the national game of Canada. In his useful work, the athletic feats of Nicholas H. Hughes and his worthy Montreal compeers La Crosse, according to Dr. are set forth. Beers, was in high honor among the Hurons of Lorette, at the dawn of this century, though comparatively fallen into disuse at the present time. The late Hon. Thomas d'Arcy McGee fancied he had discovered resemblance between our national game and that of his compatriots of the Emerald Isler the Coman or trundling, but a Crosse in the hands of Pat would indeed be a poor substitute for a shillalegh, on his way to Donny.

Another savant contended that la Crosse was of Phenecian origin. Dr. Beers rectly awards to the aborigines of North America the honor of inventing the tobox gan, the birch canoe, and la Crosse, even be fore the era of Jacques Continue. fore the era of Jacques Cartier. different game, or rather the ball, has a different was callname among the various tribes; it was called Teheman and ed Tehontshek8ahiks by the Iroquois, and Baggataway by the Ojibways," etc.

Travellers: Carver, Capt. Basil Hall, Cat. lin, Radiger, Charles Lanman and others have described exciting matches of la Crosse played by the Sioux, Cherokees, Chocta says. Creeks "I page 1 Creeks. "I pronounce such a scene, Catlin, with its hundreds of natives, most beautiful models. beautiful models, denuded and painted in various colors various colors, running and leaping in the air, in all the most enlivening and forms, in desperate struggles for the ball, a school for painter or sculpter or scu school for painter or sculptor equal to any of those which ever inspired the Roman an artist in the O an artist in the Olympic games or features forum." How many other pleasing features in the game are worthy to be told, if space permitted? permitted?

A MEMORABLE LA CROSSE MATCH.

The illustrious and regretted Francis Parkman has sketched, at Chapter Which the "Conspired of the Conspired of the "Conspiracy of Pontiac," a scene which

will never be forgotten. I shall use a great portion of Dr. Beers' excellent summary of this chanter

Lat us revert to the early times of British rule; Wolfe at Quebec, Amherst at Montreal, have settled the future of Canada, shamefully deserted by France. The generous blood of the Canadian militia, liberally shed on many buttle-fields, the devotion of Montralm, the intrepidity of Lavis, at the head of their spare buttalions, have merely helped to prolong the agony of a colony, abandoned, at its last gasp, surely deserving of a better fate at the head of the mother-country.

The scene took place at Fort Michillemaknac, a few hundred miles from Detroit.

"It was the 4th June, 1763, the anni versary of George III's birthday; a radiant sun illuminated the fields and surtounding woods, preparations on a vast scale were on hand to keep up enthusiastically an anniversary which calls forth the traditional love of all Englishmen for their lawful sovereign.

Britain had triumphed over the best generals of La Nouvelle France, but thousands of red-skins, in the boundless, impenetrable wilds of the far-west still defied the British lion. Their head and moving spirit Was a Warrior of consummate military skill, of wondrous energy, of matchless cunning, King Pontiac, the great chief of eighteen tribes. Three English officers, Captain Etherington, Lieuts Leslie and Jamet, with thirty-five soldiers of the 35th and 80th Regiments, held the fort, which also contained about seventy other inmates, traders, women and children; a great crowd of Olibways, their squaws and papooses were encamped on the adjoining plain. They all pretended warm friendship for the Englishman. men i never had they been more demonstrative than on that awful morning. The ferocious Pontiac had, however, lit in every Indian bosom, the fierce hatred he bore to every being bearing the name of Briton, the new master of the country. The savages, under the pretext of contributing their part of the pageant on such an auspicious day, had invited the garrison to witness a match of Baggataway (la Crosse) against the Sacs and other Indians; a match specially organized, they said, for the ten a.m. Baggataway was to commence at ten a.m. that morning, on the plain facing the fort. At the appointed hour the gate was the fort and privates, was thrown open and officers and privates, the greater portion unarmed, rushed out tort, over which desired the Cross of St. fort, over which floated the Cross of St. George, all joyful, unsuspicious of the dire plot 80 soon to evolve itself. Every heart bat with pleasure at the idea of celebrating worthing the solutions of the contract with pleasure at the idea of colors with pleasure at the idea of colors which the cherished anniversary which recalled to them sweet home a thousand lead to them sweet home a the wild sand leagues beyond the sea; the wild naked, game began. "The players, nearly naked, separated from the crowd and spread out for goal

A single post was planted

A single post was planted for the plain. A single post was purpose goal; and without further ceremony, one of the chiefs advanced to the centre, dung up the chiefs advanced to the colling up the ball, and at once retreated. Immediately a wild scene of struggling and confusion by a wild scene of struggling and confusion ensued. As the little bone of contention was a state of the corried and tention was struck at, caught, carried and thrown factories at, caught, carried and thrown from one side to the other, every player yelled at the top of his voice, and with frantic leaps and dashes, chased and fought for the ball, tumbling over each ther, kink: other, kicking and wrestling with might laughter: the spectators roared with hanghter; the garrison forgot all else but

watching the sport. Several times the ball shot high in the air, and descending fell inside the pickets, much to the delight of the garrison, who then had a near view of the struggle. Gradually the body of players neared the fort, pell-mell after the ball. Suddenly it again soared in the air, and fell near the pickets of the fort, while the players made a rush to the gate, followed by the warriors who were spectators; the war-whoop rang over the plain; the ballsticks were flung away; the squaws threw open their blankets, and the players snatched the tomahawks and other weapons they had concealed there—they fell upon the defenceless garrison, cutting down the The soldiers and traders without mercy." tragedy closed with Capt. Etherington and Lieut. Leslie being seized and led to the woods. Lieut. Jamet and fifteen soldiers and a trader named Tracy were butchered. Capt. Etherington, Lieut. Leslie and eleven soldiers after suffering prolonged and incredible tortures for five weeks after the massacre, succeeded through some friendly Ottawa Indians in reaching Montreal, on the 12th August, 1763, more dead than alive. Soon after the ferocious Pontiac met his doom.

J. M. LEMOINE.

A NEW DICTIONARY.*

This great work has been in preparation for several years, and the original plan has been considerably extended. It will be better first to give the description put forth on the title page. The dictionary, we are told, is upon original plans, and is designed to give, in complete and accurate statement, in the light of the most recent advances in knowledge, and in the readiest form for popular use, the meaning, orthography, pronunciation, and etymology of all the words and the idiomatic phrases in the speech and literature of the English-speaking peoples; prepared by more than two hundred specialists and other scholars, under the supervision of an editor-in-chief, Dr. Isaac K. Funk, a consulting editor, a managing editor and three associate editors.

We doubt very much whether any dictionary of any language has ever been produced by so extensive a body of contributors; but the organization of the editing staff is more remarkable than the number. In every department of knowledge, art, and science, not merely experts have been employed, but in very many, perhaps in most cases, the very best of these have been secured. With such apparatus and organization great results might be expected, and very great results have been obtained.

It matters not where we begin in the examination of this extraordinary work: at every point our satisfaction and admiration are excited. If we look at the vocabulary, we find it the most complete as yet attained, exceeding Webster, the Imperial, the Century, by thousands of words. If we turn to the etymologies, they are found to represent the latest results obtained in that department. We have consulted a good many of them and compared them with those in other dictionaries, and we have never hesitated to give our verdict in favour of the Standard. Here is a word in common use, a Boom. We know its meaning; but where does it come from? We had been accustomed to trust to a somewhat laboured comment in the excellent

*A Standard Dictionary of the English Language. Volume I, A to L. New York and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls. 1893.

Imperial; but we find, in this new diction ary, a brief and satisfactory explanation which seems to put an end to all doubt.

From etymology we pass to definition, which, again, we find to be not only ample, but scientific, the transitions being determined sometimes by internal connection, sometimes by historical succession-clearly the true methods. These definitions and explanations, again, are illustrated, when necessary, by quotations, which are given in great number, from standard writers of the English language. The paper and type are admirable, the latter being large enough for easy reference, yet not so large as to make the book unwieldy. The woodcuts introduced into the letterpress are numerous, well-executed and trustworthy. They are given only when necessary, and then they are given, and are evidently taken from the best sources. These are supplemented by a number of coloured engravings printed separately on plate paper.

With regard to spelling and pronunciation, we believe that the editors have taken the right methods in adopting the spelling finally sanctioned in the United States. For our own part, we can never bring ourselves to write favor, and still less Savior. The latter word has not yet been reached in the dictionary, and this spelling may be rejected. But, at any rate, every one will be able to ascertain the authority on which the different spellings and pronunciations are founded. At the end of the second volume, among other appendices, one will be given, setting forth the various spellings and pronunciations of every disputed word, together with the names of the lexicographers by whom each variation is adopted, and to these will be added the names of the principal authorities in all the English-speaking countries of the world. This is quite an original feature and is one of great interest.

It would be obviously unfair to compare this dictionary, on the philological and historical side, with the great Oxford Dictionary, now being published under the editorship of Mr. Murray. The latter will be six or seven times as long as Funk's, and has been in preparation for more than thirty years. But the Standard does not neglect the historical principle, and, as far as it goes, does the work well.

In conclusion, we can only say that this dictionary is a wonder, and that it will meet the needs of the general student better than any other existing work.

THE EARLIEST LIFE OF CHRIST.*

Here is a book of wonderful interest and importance, the existence of which has been known from the time of its composition in the middle of the second century up to the present time, yet which no one has seen in any form for many a day, until now that, to our great joy, we are in possession of an English translation made from an Arabic version of the original Syriac.

Let us begin by giving the whole title page: "The earliest Life of Christ ever compiled from the four gospels: being the Diatessaron of Tatian (circ.A.D. 160), literally translated from the Arabic version and containing the four gospels woven into one story, with an historical and critical introduction, notes and appendix by the Rev. J. Hamlyn Hill, B.D." To this accurate information we need only add that Tatian

*The Diatessaron of Tatian. Price 10s. 6d. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Toronto: Willard Tract Depository. 1894. is known as the Encratite, and was in various respects heretical, a matter which in no way affects the interest or value of his com-

pilation.

The bearing of the present volume upon our canonical gospels may easily be understood. Here is a proof that these gospels were so well established in the Church by the middle of the second century that they must have been known and received for a long time before this could happen. We are at once taken back to the period of the death of S. John, so that practically we have the assurance that the gospels which we now read are those which were in the hands of the companions of the apostles.

So strong was the force of this argument, that the opponents of the early dates of the canonical gospels were driven to plead that perhaps the four gospels used by Tatian were not our four, or perhaps they were not in the same form. If they were found, it was said, it might turn out that our four had received later additions. The first reply to that was given by the discovery of a commentary on the Diatessaron by Ephraem Syrus, in which numerous passages were quoted identical with our own gospels. This practically settled the question. These extracts, we may add, are given at the end of the present volume.

But more was to come. More than one manuscript of an Arabic translation of the Diatessaron have been discovered and now the whole work is before us in English. Of course the double, nay the treble translation, from Greek to Syriac, from Syriac to Arabic, and from Arabic to English (not to mention a Latin translation of the Arabic), has a little affected what we may call the coloring of the work; and there are, naturally, various readings; but the books are virtually identical.

Even those who feel most the apologetic worth of this treatise will confess its religious and historical interest; and nothing is lacking in the apparatus here provided for the student, in order to his thorough understanding of the origin, composition and character of the work. As a help to textual criticism the present volume is of less value on account of the interval between the original text and this translation. Yet even in this respect it is not without interest. For example, we lack the episode of the weman taken in adultery, but we possess the disputed ending of S. Mark, and there are other points of interest. superfluous to commend a work like this, and it is sufficient to add that the editor has done his work thoroughly, efficiently and completely.

MOONSHINE.

The moon looks down from her giddy height,
The waves look up to the moon;
And roguishly twinkle the eyes of night,

While the queen in her silver shoon steps lightly over the floors of space, Coquettishly scanning the water's face.

The waves look up to their virgin queen,
The queen she glanceth below;
"Ah, ha!" cry the stars in their roguish
sheen,

"There's a spell in the water's flow,
For the moon looks down, and they look up,
And she stretches toward them a silver cup."

She flings her train o'er the tidal flow
And the waters leap to clutch,
As her charms are reflected deep below,
But the stars twinkle low, "Not much;—
Poor fools!" say they, "she will leave them
too,

As some other queens and maidens do."

The night grows old and the stars are dim,
The moon she passeth apace;
Her lips are near to the water's rim
And the waves look up in her face;
But the stars go out with a knowing wink,
"Ta, ta!" say they, "she is near the brink."

Ah! type of life and lesson of love,
The moon must be mistress still,
To attract the flow of the waves above

While she proffers her chalice to fill; And the roguish eyes of the crowd may leer; What odds, when the lips of the queen are near!

A. H. MORRISON.

ART NOTES.

That "that models" may at times be used to advantage in art-schools is strongly and ably argued by the editor of *The Art Amateur* in its issue for March. The conditions and limitations under which this properly may be done are set forth at some length, and it is conclusively shown that it is a mistake to use only "the round" as a means of instruction.

Mr. John C. Van Dyke thus writes of Rembrandt in the Chicago Dial: Rembrandt was a remarkable man in the annals of art, a superb etcher and a supreme painter, whose like it is not probable we shall see again. Primarily he was a portrait painter. The single figure was more consonant with his art methods than the composed group. That was probably due to several causes. He was no lover of the traditional or academic, and never followed school formulæ in composition to any extent. His composition was his own, and it was sometimes good and sometimes bad. He had not a particle of what has been called "style," had no care for line as line, and was uniquely individual in the picturesque. peculiar methods that became dominant in his art and were opposed to classic composition, he often distorted lights and shadows, and built up certain portraits of a composition by dragging down other portions; and this, while a forceful method of procedure with the single figure, as his portraits attest, was not, perhaps, the best method of handling composed groups, as a number of his large figure-pieces attest. His mastery of light and shade rather militated against his composition, just as it bleached and often falsified his color. Fine in many instances as a colorist, he was prone to destroy the purity and value of tones by subordination, and, positive as he was in handling, he at times lapsed into heaviness and ineffectual kneading.

Mr. P. G. Hamerton, the well known English art critic, has the following interesting comparative reference to the work of an eminent Italian artist in the March Scribner: Having remarkably good sight, a firm and delicate hand, indomitable patience, and a love of accurateness and completeness in the representation of objects, whether living or inanimate, it is natural that Lessi should paint very much on the same principle as Meissonier did, at least, before the adoption of a broader style when sight began to fail him in old age. Still, notwithstanding a coincidence of gifts and tastes, there is clear evidence that Lessi looks at everything with his own eyes. The resemblance of his work to that of Meissonier is more in clearness of vision than in style. A real imitator copies the mannerism of his original, and looks to him more than he looks to nature. Everyone who knows Meissonier's work intimately is aware that he had a certain sharpness and vivacity of accent that were all his own; an imitator would have tried for that above all things, but Lessi distinguished himself rather as an observer of delicate truths than as a professor of brilliant execution. His art, though technically most accomplished, is in our time rare by its scrupulous honesty, by its modesty, and by the keenness of insight that it unobtrusively displays. I am well aware that sound finish is not looked upon by some critics as an evidence of a want of intelligence in the artist and of Philistinism in his admirers, while the accepted proof of genius in

the present day is to daub with a startling audacity. Surely, however, a strong artistic gift may be accompanied by a healthy liking for thoroughness in performance. If an artist can give a year to a small picture, as Lessi does, without any visible fatigue, that power of steady application is an evidence of mental health. Again, the most recent criticism detests every picture with a subject.

Mr. George Lafenestre, in writing of the influence of foreign schools on French art has this to say on English influence in the Revue des Deux Mondes as translated for New York Public Opinion: The paintings of Burne-Jones the work and the same of the Jones, the most noble representative of the pre Raphaelite school, are neither unknown nor recent. On the other side of the Channel, some new schools, more realistic or more symbolic, even regard them as already old and out of date. We have only to consider their real value, outside of the faction which has real value, outside of the fashion which has exalted them or the fashion which depreciates them, and that value is not to consider which has exalted them or the fashion which depreciates them. them, and that value is great. The figures of Burne-Jones have a firm and poetic eleganor of movement, expression and drapery, which proves his long intimacy with the artists of Tuscany and Attica. The bluish color of the garments accord in a rigid and color bermony, garments accord, in a rigid and sober harmony, with the gayish white of the cold perspective, and contributes forcibly to the unity of his bizarre composition, which has, nevertheless, an irresistible attraction like and of Tenny. an irresistible attraction, like one of Tenny son's archaic poems. The influence of Eos With lish pre-Raphaelitism is not new to us. Without speaking for M. Gustave Moreau, who has trod this path for thirty years, neither M. Puvis de Chavannes nor M. Cazin have been reasing absolute strangers to what was passing on the other side of the Channel. Several voing articles attached Several young artists have attached themselves still more conscientiously then have this movement. It is not useless to remember that if this school, though somewhat artificial and even aristocratic, has produced a certain number of incontestable chefs-d'ouvre, it is because the greater number of its English adents conscionting. adepts, conscientiously following the example of their feeling of their Italian models of the seventeenth century, have established, as principles of their dogma, the strict and close study, sometimes even to sevential of exterior study, sometimes even to severity, of exterior form : and the study. study, sometimes even to severity, of exterost form; and the study, obstinate even to affects tion and hardness, but always scrupulous and expressive, of character in the figures. Only little pictures of our countrymen are only timid attempts in comparison with those of Burne-Jones, Watts, Leighton, Poynter, etc.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

The Canadian Society of Musicians probably give a dinner during the Easter holidays.

Edward Grieg will visit Cambridge on May 10th to receive the honorary degree of doctor of

Mr. Walter H. Robinson, the well known ill, tenor and teacher of singing, has been but we are glad to know has nearly recovered.

The dates for opening the new Massey Music Hall have been fixed for the 13th, 14th and 15th of June. The soloists have not yet engaged, but we understand will be announced shortly.

Our lady readers will perhaps be interested the in a gown recently worn by Mme. Melba, great Australian prima donna, in Lohen with It is said to be of cloth of gold glittering gems, and cost 12,000 francs, about \$2,800.

Mr. Douglas Bird, of Chicago, who will be remembered here as having a tenor voice of much sweetness, will sing in the Association much sweetness, will sing in the Association the Hall, on the evening of the 20th inst., at the concert of the Canadian Home Circle well-known artists who are expected to part are, Mrs. Caldwell, Owen A. Smilly, H. M. Blight, and Mr. Edward Stouffer.

A performance of the chicago, who will be remembered to the concert of the Canadian Home Circle takes well-known artists who are expected to part are, Mrs. Caldwell, Owen A. Smilly, H. M. Blight, and Mr. Edward Stouffer.

A performance of Mendelssohn's unfinished oratorio the "Christus," will be given in March Peter's Church, on Tuesday evening Web-15th, under the direction of Mr. H. W.

ster. The second part of the programme will consist of miscellaneous anthems and solos by Miss Hilliard, L. Bailey, and McPherson, Mr. R. W. Webster and Mr. R. G. Stapells. The concert, we understand, is to be in aid of the choir fund, for which a silver collection will be taken.

The second quarterly concert of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, was given in Association Hall last Monday evening, to an audience so large that many could not obtain seats. The programme was delightfully varied and of the usual attractive character, and as performed by the various pupils, gave the greatest pleasure to the immense audience. Several of skill and musical intelligence, but unfortunately space this week prevents us from making individual mention of them.

Through an oversight we omitted to mention last week that Lord Aberdeen visited the College of Music during his recent director, Mr. Torrington, and the various members of the College Board, shown through the building, and afterwards conducted to the College Hall where an excellent programme of his Excellency, in a few well chosen remarks, expressed his sympathy with the cause of nusic, and he furthermore showed this sympathy by offering a gold medal, to be competted for—as he had previously offered to the Conservatory—in any one of the departments, as seen most desirable by the Board. The announcement was received with much applause, by both directors and pupils.

Wagner's literary ability was of the highest wagner's literary ability was of the migner quality; it was in perfect harmony with the director of his music. Dr. Foerster, formerly later of the German Theatre in Berlin, and later of the German Theatre in Vienna, once expressed his belief to me that if the Meistersinger were produced as a play, by first-class artists and under favorable surroundings, it tion I recall a great success. In this connection I recall a great success. hims recall a remark made to me by Wagner himself on the occasion of the first performance of Rheingold in Berlin, which I conducted. ed. On the programme he called it a "comic play with music," and the cast was truly ideal, made in a city of the way. made up as it was of great singers who were Schal, Timber Lieban, the basso, of Vienna; Schelper, the baritone, of Leipsic: Lieban, the comic tenor, of Berlin; and Vogel, the heroic Wagner. At the close of the opera, Wagner, who might be supposed to think the distribution, who might be supposed to think said to the music and of the orchestration, well," I must this simply to illustrate the real, T quote this simply to illustrate the great stress he put upon the dramatic side of krand opera. of a composer's being able to unite in himself the two gifts of writing both book and music, for he need to writing both book and music, for he used to say that only the composer him-self known to say that only the composer himself knew just what he wanted to express, meaning just what he wanted to express, meaning, of course, that if he undertook to give musical color, so to speak, to the ideas of thers, he would be greatly handicapped.—Composers, by Anton Seidl, in North American Research

On the afternoon of July 1st, 1890, having received an invitation from Grieg, I made him a short visit at Villa Troldhangen, his summer home, situated on the borders of the Nordsvand, situated on the borders of the rooms vand, a drive of about an hour and a half from very substantial is of hardwood throughout, very substantial, and at the same time cozy and comfort, and at the same time cozy and comfortable. The front door opens from the lawn aiting or music-room directly upon the lawn without any intermediate hallway. The grounds the beauty intermediate hallway are thick tre beautiful, and in many places are thick with forest value and with forest trees and shrubs, while here and there a decrees are when the waters of there a clearing brings to view the waters of the flord my the fjord. The wild flowers, with their bright, the cold. The wild flowers with their bright, rich colors, were especially attractive. Mrs. Grieg, a very charming woman of bright and cheerful discontinuous contentains in a genial cheef a very charming woman of bright and cheefful disposition, entertains in a genial and has according to the bushand on most of and has accompanied her husband on most of concess. his accompanied her husband on most of the standard of the sta husband's exquisite accompaniments on the

pianoforte, has an effect of spontaneity as though improvised, and the result is in every way a genuine musical delight. Grieg himself is genial, cultured, and unaffected. keen intelligence, and a cheerful disposition, which he retains notwithstanding the necessity of constant care of his health occasioned by a serious pulmonary affection contracted while studying at Leipsic. He is short in stature, and has a large and imposing head. His expression is serious, earnest, and artless, and he is by nature repugnant to anyting like posing. He leads a very retired life, rarely going out, and then only on extraordinary occasions. He is patriotic and public-spirited, takes a constant interest in whatever affects the welfare of his country, and he has felt much concerned about the political changes now going on in Norway. His intense nationality, going on in Norway. His intense nationality, as well as his marked individuality, find constant expression in his music, the originality and style of which are unmistakable. - The Century.

LIBRARY TABLE.

EUROPE, 476-918. By Charles Oman, Fellow of All Souls'. Price \$1.75. New York: Macmillan. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co. 1893.

This is the first of a new series of works on periods of European history; and it gives promise of a set of books which will be of the greatest service to that numerous class of educated people who wish for a very comprehensive view of history without being required to peruse a library for that purpose. The present series differs in one important respect from the excellent "Epochs of Modern History," inasmuch as these usually deal with some one country, whereas this new series gives the whole history of Europe during the period to which it refers. Both methods are good, each in a different way; but there is much advantage in getting, at once, a connected view of the various peoples and countries whose interests and whose histories are perpetually crossing each other, and are needing to be explained by each other. It was not quite easy to select a starting point for modern European history, if we may be so bold as to imply that there is still an ancient history and a modern. But it would not be easy to select a better moment than that which made a distinct break with ancient Rome and witnessed the inroads of the Gothic and other tribes from the North. In the year 476 the Western line of Emperors came to an end in Augustabus; and until the time of Charles the Great, the "Master of the had his throne at Constantinople. The early portion of this book, therefore, is dedicated to Odoacer and other Italian kings, to the Emperor at Constantinople, to the earlier Frankish kings, to the decline of these Merovingians, and the great Mayors of the palace, culminating in Charles Martel, Pippin and Charles the Great; and its latter part tells the history of the decay of the Carolingians, down to Lewis the Child and Conrad the First, ending in the election (in 918) of Henry the Fowler as German king and virtually Emperor. It is unnecessary to remark on the importance of the period. The reader will find the subject treated here with fulness, accuracy, lucidity and animation. If the succeeding volumes are as good they will be a boon to the student of history

IVAR THE VIKING. By Paul B. Du Chaillu. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, Toronto: William Briggs, 1893. \$1.50.

The Viking Age has been a happy hunting ground to the well known author and traveller, M. Du Chaillu. His energy and enthusiasm have led him to devote much time and research to whatever relates to this interesting and romantic period. Like most ardent investigators of those early days of history as to which, facts have been obscured by the lapse of time and fancy is so apt to build theories from the scanty remains of tradition and mythology, M. Du Chaillu is not found to be behind hand. In an introduction of some twenty pages to this volume he seeks to prove to the satisfac-

tion of all and sundry that we British people should find our true origin in the Norseman, and not in the Anglo-Saxon. And to can the climax of his ingenious argument, he provides his readers with a fac-simile, as well as an interpretation, of a letter written him by a well-known political Scotch gentleman, to wit, one W. E. Gladstone. This letter contains amongst other interesting items, the following strong, personal argument in support of our author's theory: "When I have been in Norway or Denmark, or among Scandinavians, I have When I have been in Norway or felt something like a cry of nature from within, asserting (credibly or otherwise) my nearness Despite the qualifying clause which is said to be a characteristic of that learned writer's letters and arguments—this statement must really be taken for what it is worth as a latter day, may we call it, a psychic argument, not at all malapropos to M. Du Chaillu's theory. We do not, however, intend to argue with M. Du Chaillu as to the "authentic facts of the third and fourth centuries' words used on the title page to indicate the base on which the diverting history of "Ivar the Viking" rests, until we are favoured by the author with some information as to such facts relating to the centuries indicated as he thinks he has authenticated. We trust the proof of these facts may be not less authentic than is that of the Norse origin of the British The difficulty about a story based on a speculative theory is, there is apt to be too much theory, and that the romantic spirit of the tale is exhaled by its mechanical execution. This book is not, despite the interesting and instructive character of its contents, a marked exception to the rule referred to. It is, however, written with spirit, and abounds with vivid description of Norse life and customs. Ivar and his foster brothers are led jauntily through its pages; and many a marvellous adventure befalls them, not without successful love to some and loss of life to others. It is a good wholesome book, especially adapted for boys, and should and no doubt will be by them widely read, though we caution them against, in these modern days, attempting any of those extraordinary feats with which Ivar and his comrades were pleased to disport themselves.

MILESTONE MOODS AND MEMORIES.— Poems and Songs by Donall McCaig, Toronto: Hunter, Rose & Co. 1894.

A neatly got up book of 132 small octavo pages contains Mr. McCaig's contribution to the literature of Canada. In his modest preface he hopes that, when our Dominion has found her standing among the nations of the earth, he may be "recognized as one who had in her then, long ago, seen some heauty in nature, some grandeur in country and home, some greatness in God, and something of Heaven in the face of woman, and had, in some sort worth remembering, recorded his convictions." In 1885 the poet was awarded the silver medal of the Toronto Caledonian Society for his poem on the "Moods of Burns." A vein of humour, that is only rarely coarse, runs through his "Age of Progress" and address "To the Puslinch Lake Poet," but the humor vein cleaves to a broader one of religious philosophy. Here is a verse worthy of the author of Hudibras:

"Till rose a pious Teuton, who Resolved to build a boat, and took The model for his big canoe From somewhere in the Pentateuch."

Somewhat similar is the poem on Evolution, but, as a rule, the poet is serious, reflective, devout and domestically chivalrous. The best piece of verse is entitled "In Memoriam" and, spite of its hackneyed Spenserian dress, it is musical and truthful enough to arrest attention.

"The years go by with all they had to bring, The promise, and the pleasure and the pain, The longing in the songs we did not sing; The race in which we cannot run again. The hills are dim and far we hoped to climb, The die is cast, our patrimony spent, We rest us now on this far brink of time, And trifle with the semblance of content; This only left of all the gods had sent."

Here is nature in its changing Canadian

"Like cchoes come the sengs of long ago, At early mern that through the ferest ring; The little clearing waking in the glow Of life's brave struggle, when the heart was young.

In soft lew murmurs steal across the vale The notes of labour failing, as the fires Of mad bright Summer, ending, sink and pale, And the last songster from the grove retires, With ling'ring note that in the air expires.

Brown Autumn gathers in her ripened stores, The red sun burns through Indian Summer haze.

The ripe nuts patter on the yellow leaves, The crimson maple sets the hill ablaze; The red deer, startled from his cool retreat, Down the long forest aisles allures the hound. With thirsty zeal, hot breath, and lagging feet.

The huntsman follows woodland sight and sound,

Till gathering darkness ends the fruitless round.

Mr. McCaig thus refers to the pioneers who made their homes in such surroundings:

"We hold the heritage for which they fought, We reap the harvest their strong hands had sown:

We spend the wealth their lives and labours

bought;
Ours all the fruitage, theirs the toil alone!
Now, their white lips and folded hands im-

On us, their sons, their sacred trust to save From rude invaders' tread, or hand of foes, The garnished sepulchre or lowly grave, Where rest the ashes of the good and brave."

Our author is worthy to take his place with the Canadian poets of to-day, although his style is that of the past generation of poets, and notably of Sangster whose verse has not yet been surpassed. He does not indulge in crocus cunsets or daffold morns, but pours out a full heart with naturalness that is deficient neither in grace nor in dignity.

PERIODICALS.

The Writer for February has its usual complement of editorials, papers, letters, etc., for literary workers.

University Extension for February treats of the mayement in connection with Chicago University, the study of economics, the summer meeting and the place of University

Outing for March is a bright, readable issue of this favorite sporting magazine, and in it will be found spirited sketches of interest to the angler, bicyclist, canoeist, hunter, rower, dog fancier, mountain climber, and what not

Apart from its welcome news notes and selected notices, Book Reviews for March presents its readers with a carefully considered paper by Mr. F. Marion Crawford on "Social Evolution, by Benjamin Kidd." There is also There is also "A talk with the Rev. S. R. Crockett," author of "The Sticket Minister," and a full note on "The Columbia University Press."

Temple Bar for March, apart from the serials and poems, has a paper on Eeddoes, a contemporary poet of Coleridge, by Mrs. Crosse; a most interesting paper of comparative results at Oxford and Cambridge, extending over many years; and another on "William Strekeley, the typical antiquary of the eighteenth century." There is other good matter as well.

Mr. E. D. Perry continues the examination of higher education in Germany, which the Educational Review has been carrying on, in his contribution entitled "The Universities of Germany," with which the March number begins. "The vital principle," says Professor Perry, "of the modern German universities is the union of Lehrfreiheit and Lerufreiheit of freedom in teaching and freedom in learning."

This is a suggestive and instructive article. Messrs. C. de Garms and C. F. P. Bancroft in this number issues the "Report of the Committee of Ten.

Mr. S. A. Link has a pleasing paper in the March New England entitled "Pioneers of Southern Literature." Hayne, Laurier and others are appreciatively mentioned. Partington's gossipy anecdotal reminiscences are very enjoyable. There is in this number a fully illustrated article on "Holbein's Portraits," by A. F. Ferry. Mr. P. S. Stafford has a thoughtful paper on Christian Socialism, and "Spring days at Nassau" is timely reading.

The advent of Easter is heralded in the art Amateur for March by appropriate designs for the coming season. The new department of Church Symbolism and that of Ex-libris are noticeable additions. "Daffodils," in black and white, and "Lilacs," a colour supplement, are most timely and spring-like, but Mon-bard's "Woods in Winter," remind us that the Frore king is not yet dead. Working designs and practical instructions as usual abound.

A beautiful and most creditable magazine is that entitled the Harrard Graduate's Magazine. The March number has a fine portrait of Francis Parkman as its frontispiece and Mr. Schonler's able sketch is a deserved tribute to that illustrious historian. A num ber of subjects are well treated which appeal to the University taste and for which other than Harvard readers will be found. There is as well much matter of special interest to Harvard men.

Professor O. L. Triggs, in discussing literature and science in March Poet-Lore, asserts that the latter yields no joy comparable to the pleasures of the farmer, whereto we yield assent. Character in "Much Ado about Nothing," is treated by C. A. Wurtzburg in a first paper and "Pippa Passes"—Browning's drama—is considered by I. F. Bellows, M. Maeterlinck concludes the "Seven Princesses." We are always pleased with Poet-Lore; its aim is high and its performance praiseworthy.

Dr. Butler, in the Atlantic for March, discusses with his accustomed acumen the report of the committee of ten and carefully considers the question of reform in secondary education in the States. Prof. Jenks deals largely with the modern history of Greece in his excellent sketch of her able Prime Minister, Tricoupis. Sir Edward Strachey directs his present coun-Jewish books. Miss Wiggin, Mr. Torrey, Maurice Thompson and others add to the in-terest of a good number. The serials and de-Lampman's poem, "The City of the End of Things," is a strong effort of his graceful

The Hon. Hilary A. Herbert begins the North American for March with a camparative discussion of the merits and demerits of the S. House of Representatives and The House of Commons. Mr. Herbert is interesting if not convincing in his defence of the United States body. Archibald Forbes is always a welcome contributor and in writing of the outlook for war in Europe he sums up thus graphically: "If the Triple Alliance conquers there will be no longer a French nation, and Russia will be reft of all territory west of the Dnieper, and of the Baltie Provinces as well. In the contrary result, Italy will be the washpot of France, and over Germany will Russia cast her shoe." We have but touched the hem of the garment of this

People with weak nerves will find a strong tonic in Mr. Arthur Harvey's paper, "A Physical Catastrophe to America," in the Canadian Magazine for March. Mr. Harvey combines the functions of the scientist and seer and in this brochure calmly foretells the destruction of a great city, the disappearance of a vast river, etc. Two soothing descriptive papers are those of E. Molson Sprague on "The Garden of British Columbia," and P. H.

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We invite correspondence with any who are interested in such matters.

Bryce on "Mexico and Its People," and Faith Fenton writes vivaciously of "The Winter Fenton writes vivaciously of "The Winter Carnival at Quebec." Dr. Ferguson argues for the abolition of the death penalty. Mr. J. A. Cooper compares the functions of the Canadian Premier and United States President not at all to the detriment of the former, and other papers, poems, etc., make up a most readable number.

Mr. Henry Jones begins the New World for March with a critical appreciation of "Lotze's Doctrine of Thought," and says of its author, "We is intelligible to any careful reader, and he gives the student of German of metaphysics the somewhat rare impression of being a "count thin" metaphysics the somewhat rare impression obeing a "sound thinker, as to both matter and method." P. S. Moxom, in a forceful paper on "The Wuman Element in the Bible," says, "The human element is the body, the form, the letter the diving stagent is the the form, the letter; the divine element is the tne torm, the letter; the divine element is the mighty, interpreting and regenerating soul." Mr. Karl Budde, of the University of Strassburg, contributes an able critical paper on "The Song of Solomon," and it is related to a prior article on "The Folk Lore of Israel in the mouth of the Prophets." Messrs M. V. Savage, Josiah Royce, T. R. Slicer and A. G. Allan also contribute able papers.

LITERARY AND PERSONAL

Mmc. Octave Feuillet, the widow of the novelist, is about to publish two volumes of "Souvenirs," which are said to be delightful.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons will publish at once "The Story of Margredel, being a Fireside History of a Fifeshire Family," by a new writer, uniform with "Ships that Pass in the Night."

the late Lord Tweedmouth; a sympathy in which our good Governor-General and all his family will be included.

Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin, M.P., begins in another column a short serial story, entitled in 200 and the Gulf and by the Sea." It is written in that sparkling, witty, scholarly style, so characteristic of its author. Our readers will, we are confident, welcome and rise, the bril. we are confident, welcome and enjoy the brilliant pleasantry of our gifted Irish Canadian contributor. from when contributor, from whom we have heard so little of late

The Earl of Aberdeen recently taught the travelling orchestra at the Patti performance in Montreal a word in Montreal a much needed lesson in common courtesv. when at the courtesy, when at the close of the concert, in default of musical rendering, he personally led the audience in singing "God Save the Queen. There is, we regret to say, too little appreciation of that grand old song among our duty to dian audiences. It should not only be a duty to tion of that grand old song among our duty to dian audiences. It should not only be a duty to our good and gracious Queen, but a privilege and a delight to ourselves, most heartily to sing at the close of all our concerts "God Save the Queen." From the Colonies and India we learn that Sir William Windeyer, the eminent Sydney judge, writing to Mr. Patchett Martin on the subject of that gentleman's "Life and Letters of Lord Sherbrooke," states that "all the copies of the book that first came out were bought up so quickly that it was difficult to get one, and every one competent to judge of its merits speaks highly of it." Sir William also informs Mr. Martin that on the political redivision of New South Wales, under the new Electoral Act of 1893, the name "Sherbrooke" has been given to one of the electorates—a compliment paid to no other English statesman.

The Regina Leader of 1st March celebrates the anniversary of its 12th year, in an able retrospective article which reflects great credit on the statesman-like work done for the North West by its founder, editor and proprietor, Mr. Nicholas Fleod Davin, M.P. Two portraits of Mr. Davin are given. What that of to-day lacks in the youthful vivacity, the sparkle of the eye, the curl of the hair of the earlier portrait is more than compensated for by the calm and resolute expression of the latter, betokening increased strength of character and resoluteness of will. It goes without saying that in the triple capacity of litterateur, publicist and legislator, Mr. Davin has few if any peers and certainly no superior in the Dominion of Canada.

Colonies and India has the following interesting note of the man of mark in South Africa:

Mr. Rhodes has aged more in the past four months than in the preceding four years, writes a Cape Town correspondent who saw him upon his return from Buluwayo the other day. He is thin and haggard to a degree telling of long and toilsome travel of body, and probably quite as tiresome travail of mind. To judge by appearances, he was wearing the same suit of clothes as when he left Cape Town for the north in September. His hair has gone grey dence of being tired out. It was not until he began to speak that the true Rhodes came out, and then there was no mistaking him. His eye lit up, his form became creet, and his voice had a ring in it which spoke of work done and a mind made up as to future action."

The Methodist Book and Publishing House of Toronto are about to bring out a second edition of McIlwraith's "Birds of Ontario." This new edition has been carefully revised and enlarged, and will present a concise account of every species of bird known to have been found in Ontario (316 in all), with a description of their nests and eggs. Mr. McIlwraith has added to the new book "instructions for collecting birds and preparing and form a collecting birds and preparing and form a collection of eggs." The publishers are embellishing the volume with numerous illustrations, distributed over some 420 pages of letterpress. This should prove a most attactive and useful edition of a very creditable a new book by "Pansy," entitled "Wanted," which latter book will appear in the Canadian copyright edition of that authoress' works.

A FARMER'S SON TORTURED.

CONFINED TO THE HOUSE FOR MONTHS AND UNABLE TO WALK.

A Sensational Story From the Neighborhood of Cooksville—The Father Tells How His Son Obtained Release—What a Prominent Toronto Druggist Says.

From the Toronto News.

Four miles from the village of Cooksville, which is 15 miles west of Toronto on the Credit Valley division of the C.P.R., on what Thomas O'Neil. In the village and for miles around he is known as a man always ready to it. Because of this trait in his character,

whatever affects himself or his household is a matter of concern to the neighbors generally. So it happened that when his eldest son, William O'Neil, was stricken down last spring, and for months did not go out of the door, those living in the vicinity were all aware of the fact and frequent inquiries were made regarding the young man. When after suffering severely for some three months, young O'Neil reappeared sound and well his case was the talk of the township. Nor was it confined to the immediate vicinity of Cooksville, as an outer ripple of the tale reached the News, but in such an indefinite shape that it was thought advisable to send a reporter to get the particulars of the case, which proved to be well worth publishing in the public interest. On reaching Cooksville the reporter found no difficulty in locating the O'Neil farm, and after a drive of four or five miles the place was reached. Mr. O'Neil was found at the barn attending to his cattle, and on being made aware of the reporter's mission told the story in a straightforward manner. He said: "Yes it is true my boy has had a remarkable experience. I was afraid he wasn't going to get better at all, for the doctor did him no good. At the time he was taken ill he was working for a farmer a couple of miles from here, and for a time last spring he did a lot of work on the road, and while he was working at this there was a spell of cold wet weather, when it rained for nearly a week. He kept working right through the wet and he ame home with his shoulders and wrists so sore that he couldn't work. He got gradually worse, the pains spreading from his shoulders and wrists to his hands and then to his legs, finally settling in his knees and ankles and feet, so that he couldn't stir at all some days. I sent for a doctor from Streetsville. He said the trouble was an attack of rheumatism, and although he kept visiting him every few days and giving medicine, it did not seem to do any good. The pains did not quit and the boy was Why, when he would suffering dreadfully. wake in the morning he couldn't stir a limb, but gradually during the day he would get a little easier so that he could sit up for awhile. His feet were swollen so much that he could not get on either boots or stockings. After he had been doctoring for nearly two months without getting a bit better, I concluded to try something else, so the next time I went to Toronto I got three boxes of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills at Hugh Miller's drug store. We followed the directions with the Pink Pills, but the first did not seem to do him any good, but he had scarcely begun the second box when he began to improve greatly, and by the time the third box was gone he was as well and sound as ever, and has not had a pain since. He is now working on a farm about six miles from Cooksville, and is as sound and hearty as any young man can be."

On his return to Toronto, the reporter called at the store of Messrs. Hugh Miller & Co., 167 King street east, to hear what that veteran druggist had to say about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. He remembered Mr. O'Neil getting the Pink Pills, and on a second visit Mr. O'Neil had told him that Pink Pills had cured his son. Mr. Miller, in answer to a question as to how this preparation sold, said that of all the remedies known as proprietary medicines Pink Pills was the most popular. He said he sold more of these than he did of any other remedy he ever handled. This is a valuable testimony, coming from a man like Hugh Miller, who is

probably the oldest and most widely known druggist in Toronto. The Dr. Williams Medicine Co. are to be congratulated on having produced a remedy which will give such results, and which can be vouched for by the best dealers in the province.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a perfect blood builder and nerve restorer, curing such diseases as rheumatism, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus' dance, nervous headache, nervous prostration and the tired feeling therefrom, the after effects of la grippe, diseases depending on humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic crysipelas, etc. Pink Pills give a health glow to pale and sallow complexion and are a specific for the troubles peculiar to the female system, and in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of any nature.

Bear in mind that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are never sold in bulk, or by the dozen or hundred, and any dealer who offers substitutes in this form is trying to defraud you and should be avoided. Ask your dealer for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and refuse all imitations and substitutes.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., or Schnectady, N.Y., at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. The price at which these pills are sold makes a course of treatment compartively inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

BANK NOTES AND BACTERIA.

It is said that two Viennese bacteriologists have been examining some bank-notes that have been in circulation for a few years, and estimated the number of microbes on them at 19,000 or more on each note. Besides a specific microbe, which has a deadly effect on animals "inoculated" with it, they are reported to have found eight pathogenic species, amongst them the bacilli of tuberculosis and diphtheria, and the streptococcus of crysipelas. It would be interesting to learn how many bacilli of the pathogenic sort could be found on some of the most freely circulated books of a lending library.

MUSCLES AND MUSCLE-BUILDING.

To the practical anatomist who may be said to know something about nuscles, strong men in the "nude," afford an object study of no small attraction. Doubtless, in many cases, the exhibition of such splendid muscularity raises feelings in the anatomist of speculation and envy-of speculation with respect to the exact details associated with the attachment and insertions of the various muscles, of envy on account of the utter impossibility of his ever having the opportunity of satisfying his curiosity on these points. In the days, however, osity on these points. when criminals executed by the State had their bodies sent for dissection to the medical schools, occasionally a fine muscular subject would come under notice. One such man was dissected in St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School many years ago. A noticeable feature in this case was the decussation of the fibres of the pectoral muscles under the sternum. A propos, however, of the subject of "strong men," Dr. Frank Lydston, of Chicago, contributes an interesting paper to an American contemporary on Sandow, whose name for feats of strength is well-known in this country. Sandow is now twenty-six years of age, and weighs upwards of thirteen stone. His height is 5 feet 8½ inches. The measurements which he claims are: Chest, 46 inches; waist, 29 inches; biceps, 19¼ inches; thigh, 27 inches; forearm, 19 inches; calf, $17\frac{1}{2}$ inches; under axilla and over deltoid, 17 inches; under axilla and over the shoulder 21 inches. The maximum chest expansion is said to be 14

inches. With respect to the points of interest which Sandow affords the anatomist, the author observes: "Special stress has been laid upon the 'checker-board' appearance of the abdomen seen in various works of art by the old masters as an illustration of this defect. In Sandow, however, the anatomist will notice a division of the abdomen into rectangular areas of muscular eminences which are more promin-

ent than those of any painting or statue with which I am acquainted." Not without interest, too, is the statement that when at rest Sandow's muscles and skin are soft and pliable, but when the muscles are contracted from vol-

untary effort, it is well-nigh impossible to pinch up the superlying tissues. But the process by which Sandow has ac-But the process by which Sandow has acquired his phenomenal muscularity will probably cause most surprise to those who learn it for the first time. Strictly speaking he had a system, and this system consisted "essentially in the acquirement of perfect voluntary control over the anxious groups of pursules and control over the various groups of muscles, and where possible, of single muscles. By this specializing he was able to localise his muscle building where it appeared to him to be most needed. Having acquired a fair degree of development and control of the group selected, he then devoted his attention to another, and so on, until he had succeeded in acquiring the foundation of the papears also general development. foundation of the remarkable general develop-ment which he now presents." In his prelim-In his preliminary training the only apparatus used was a pair of five-pound dumb bells night and morn-ing, and this is all that is necessary to attain a superb natural development. Regarding his mode of living, astonishment can only be felt that Sandow observes no rules of diet or restriction. He cats, drinks and smokes just as he pleases, and even practises no abstention from food, wine or eigars before giving one of his marvellous performances. In contradistinction to what might have been the case, examination of this strong man's lungs and heart reveals that they are sound. The heart is not dis-proportionately developed, and its action is normal. Even under severe strain the respiration and heart's action are but little disturbed. Speculation has always been rife as to what the effect would be if, as a pugilist, Sandow were to strike a man. Sandow furnishes the answer himself: he says that he would not dare to do so. This opinion certainly bears the impress of truth about it when it is further qualified by the statement that this strong man can break a four-inch plank with a blow of his tist! Unhappy man, therefore, would be be who unfortunately happened one day to take the place of the four-inch plank. Dr. Lydston's prognosis of the ultimate effects of the great muscularity upon Sandow is not a a very reassuring one. In either case he thinks trouble is in prospect for this athlete, whether the feats be continued or whether he retires to a wellearned repose. In the first place, he holds that the probable disastrous effects of a continuance of his work will involve degeneracy of the blood-vessels, degeneration of arterial walls and cardiac fibres will occur, and dilatation of the heart with trouble with the coronary and minute cerebral arteries is likely to develop. In the second case, disuse, he holds, and degeneracy offers a constant invitation to disease of various kinds. After all, Sandow, even if this prognosis in the end proves to be true, may congratulate himself upon having achieved a most enviable reputation in the world.—Medical Press.

I was cured of Acute Bronchitis by MIN-ARD'S LINIMENT.

Bay of Islands.

J. M. CAMPBELL. I was cured of Facial Neuralgia by MIN-ARDS LINIMENT.

Springhill, N.S. I was CURED of Chronic Rheumatism by MINARDS LINIMENT.

GEORGE TINGLEY. Albert Co., N.B.

PUBLIC OPINION.

Hamilton Spectator: In all new countries there will be some failures. There have been failures in the Canadian Northwest. But it remains true that the man who understands farming, who has enough money for a fair start, and who is gifted with industry can do well in Manitoba, or in the territories beyond Manitoba.

Ottawa Free Press: Newfoundland has been ordered by the Imperial Government to legislate for the enforcement of the French treaty rights, and asked to agree to the appointment by the British Government of the judges who will see that the proposed law is carried out. Premier Whiteway is said to have introduced such a bill but finds a strong section of his party opposed to it.

Regina Leader: It is reported that negotiations are in progress with the object of inducing Mr. Meredith, leader of the Opposition in the Ontario Legislature to accept a portfolio in the Dominion Cabinet. Mr. Meredith's entrance would greatly strengthen the Government, especially in Ontario, where he is regarded as one of the noblest and ablest characters in Canadian politics.

St. John Telegraph: Senator Hill's declaration of his opposition to the income tax feature of the tariff bill, and his statement in regard to protection, show clearly enough that there was some truth in the rumors which were in circulation some time ago that he had made a deal with the Republican senators. It now looks as if all hopes of tariff reform in the United States were about to be defeated by the action of the

Quebec Chronicle: It is believed that Mr. Gladstone himself favors Lord Rosebery, and the Queen is not at all averse to him. Indeed, he is said to be a great favorite with Her Majesty and the Prince of Wales. Not many months ago, it was even rumored that the For-eign Secretary intended marrying one of the Prince's daughters. His wealth is very great, he is an untiring worker, and the stiff and bold manner in which he has conducted the affairs of his department—notably during the Egyptian and Siamese crises—and his remarkable tact, have given great satisfaction to the

Montreal Star: It is, of course, impossible for a Protectionist to agree with some of the phraseology apparently borrowed by Mr. McCarthy from the Liberals; but nevertheless he stands to many Conservatives as a stalwart tariff reformer, clearly differentiated from the Liberal camp and representing in italic the demand of the country for tariff reduction on some lines. This it is that makes McCarthy strong when—happily for the life of the country-racial and religious differences fade away; and the circumstances should warn the Federal Ministry, with a penetrating voice, of the imperative need of really reforming the tariff in the bill about to be presented to Parliament.

Victoria Colonist: There are large stretches of the coast which vessels are compelled to navigate as best they may, without either a light or a buoy. The contrast between the lighting and buoying of the East coast of the Danvision and its West coast is most marked. Dominion and its West coast is most marked. In the East there are lights and buoys wherever they are required, in the West they are in many places few and far between, and in others, as we have already stated, they are altogether wanting. There is no reason why this should be so. The Dominion treasury gets enough every year from this Province to warrant it in keeping all its services in the very best condition. It pays into the Federal Treasury many times as much per capita as the richest of the Eastern Maritime Provinces, yet it is not half so well served.

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THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF LETTERS. 196 Summer St., Boston.

MARCH, 1894.

LITERATURE AND THE SCIENTIFIC SPIRITIFIC SPI

CHARACTER IN 'MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.' I. C. A. Wurt; burg.

'PIPPA PASSES.' Papers of the Boston Browning Society. Isabel Francis Bellows.

THE SEVEN PRINCESSES. Conclusion. Maurice Maeterlinck.

A SCHOOL OF LITERATURE. How to Study Longfellow's 'Spanish Student.' P. A. C.

BOOK INKLINGS.

NOTES AND NEWS. The Æsthetic Needs of Labor.—An Essay on Weather.—Coleridge as a Father.—London Literaria. William G. Kingt-land

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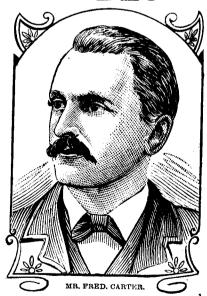
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SCIENTIFIC AND SANITARY.

Submarine masonry is now made impervious to water by coating it with coal-tar, a process that is quite efficacious, even at a depth of fifty feet.

The total tonnage of war-ships launched during the year 1893 by the most active naval Powers was as follows: France, 52,188 United States, 40,050; Great Britain, 28,290; Russia, 17,326.

In an article in the Revue Scientifique, M. L. de Djeri claims that aluminium will soon replace tin for many purposes. For equal volumes the price of the two metals is not very different, and the alloys of aluminium with copper, etc., are superior to those of tin.

Some experiments have recently been made for the purpose of developing an aluminium bullet, to be used in place of lead in rifle cart-ridges. It is calculated that a soldier can carry about 200 rounds. In testing the penetrating properties, it is said that they have been found to be superior to lead.

Fulgurite is the name given to the new explosive brought out a short time ago in France by Raoul Pictet, of ice machine fame. It is claimed to be superior in its effects, both as an industrial and as a military agent, to any of the explosives now known and in use, and to entail none of their dangers of manufacture

A four-wheeled waggon whose motive power is supplied by a benzine engine has been satisas supplied by a benzine engine has been satisfactorily tested in Germany. It is intended to carry passengers through city streets or country roads, and can be run at the rate of half a cent a mile. The waggon and engine can be made for \$500. The speed is as high as 15 miles an hour.

Recent experiments made in France show that a vibrating steel disk attracts a light mica disk, placed near it, with great force. This effect is due to the action of the vibrating disk on the air around it, and is about 250 times as powerful at a distance of two millimeters (11) inches) as it is at 10 millimeters. To produce the same result electrically would require a difference of electrification of 600 volts.

At the North Pole there is only one direction-south. One could go south in as many ways as there are points on the compass card, but every one of these ways is south; east and west have vanished. The hour of the day at the pole is a paradoxical conception, for that point is the meeting place of every meridian, and the times of all hold good so that it is any hour one cares to mention. Unpunctuality is hence impossible.

Did you ever think of taking a lung bath ! One's lungs need cleansing as surely as do the hands or face. This is especially true after one has been in a crowded hall or church, breathing in so many impurities. How can one take ing in so many impurities. There exist one case is a lung bath? By simply drawing a deep breath, and then expelling the air from the lungs. You will feel wonderfully refreshed thereby, and the general health will be improved—Harper's Young People.

The great electrical manufacturing concern at Berlin has introduced a new insulating material which is intended to replace rubber vulcanized fibre. It can, it is claimed, be turned, filed and drilled more easily than hard rubber; fine screw-threads can be cut on it, and it can be polished. It does not attack metals, and can be used in place of marble and slate for switchboards. It resists a tempera-ture of 450 degrees F., and is unattacked by hydrochloric or dilute sulphuric acid.

Analysis of a large number of specimens of soda water in India, make it probable that it is a source of infection, that supplied by one dealer having about 9,000,000 microbes to the pint. Though most of these are harmless, the same means for reaching the water that are open to these are of course open to dangerous ones. The longer the water stands after making, however, the less harmful it is, the gas with which it is charged poisoning the bacteria, and the high pressure due to the warm climate of India probably aiding its action.

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Romance has been elegantly defined as the offspring of fiction and love. - Disraeli.

There is no genius in life like the genius of energy and activity. - D. G. Mitchell.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A wonderful nugget of tin has been discov-A wonderful hugget of the has been discovered in the mines at North Dundas, Tasmania. It is estimated to weigh 2 tons 14 cwts. The assay of a small piece shows that the large mass of ore contains 67 per cent of metallic

The decline in silver in London the past week to 26 1-4 pence, or about 63.6 cents per ounce brought the quotations to the lowest recorded level. At this price the silver in our "standard" silver dollar is worth 49.18 cents. -Baltimore Sun.

A despatch from the City of Mexico says that a syndicate of Mexican and American capitalists has been organized for the purpose of constructing a Pan-American telegraph line to extend along the Pacific Coast from Victoria, British Columbia, to Santiago, Chile.

In 1892 the Russian railroads carried about 36,000,000 gallons of wine, produced in Bessarabia (along the Roumanian border), in the Crimea, and in the country on the slopes the Caucasus, the southern side of which is like many vine-growing districts of Western Europe.

The Engineering and Mining Journal says that lake shipbuilding has shared in the de-oression which has affected all other business, and on January 1st there were reported under construction in the lake yards only 28 vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 26,100 tons, against 49 ships of 68,470 tons a year ago.

It is evident that there is a general movement in the greater cities and their suburbs, as well as in the large manufacturing centres, towards a revival of building. The motive for this is in the cheapness of material, the abundance of labor and the lowered rate of wages, and in the plentifulness of loanable funds.-Northwestern Lumberman,

The "penny-in-the slot" apparatus has been arranged to deliver tickets on the Berlin Elevated Railroad. There are tickets for two classes and of different rates for different distances on the road, but the apparatus supplies only second-class 15 pfennig (3.6 cents) tickets. You put two 10-pfennig pieces into the slot, and take out a ticket and a 5 pfennig piece.—Railroad Gazette.

It now seems likely that work on the proposed Washington and Baltimore electric railway will soon begin. The distance is something like thirty miles. It is the purpose of the company to equip the line with model vestibule trains, make the trip between the two differences in the conditions of the condition of th cities in one hour and the rate \$1 for the round trip. It is also reported that the plan to connect the cities of New York and Philadelphia by a trolley line has assumed definite shape. - Inventive Age.

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The exports of iron and steel from Great Britain in 1893 were 2,884,279 tons (of 2,240 pounds) an increase of 144,062 tons, or 5.3 per pounds) an increase of 144,052 tons, or 5.3 per cent. over 1892. The exports were made up as follows: Pig iron, 839,869 tons; rails, 558,826 tons; hoops, sheets and plates, 195,370 tons; bars, angles and rods, 148,931 tons; iron, cast or wrought, 280,578 tons; steel unwrought, 169,764 tons; tinplates, 379,233 tons; wire, 37,137 tons; old iron, 118,551 tons; manufactures of iron and steel, 18,531 tons. Imports of iron and steel in 1893 were Imports of iron and steel in 1893 were tons. 297,773 tons, a decrease of 3,584 tons or 1.1 per cent. from 1892. The imports of iron ore in 1893 were 4,065,863 tons, being 287,210 tons or 7.6 per cent. greater than in 1892.—
Engineering and Mining Journal.

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QUIPS AND CRANKS.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the tariff bill the sugar men will get along somehow if they only have enough sand.

One of the best methods of carrying fractions in the head is to make a remark which detracts from the dignity of a New York po-

"You have a far away look in your eyes to-hight, Maud," said Borely. "Yes. The eyes often betray the dearest wishes of our hearts," Maid Maud.

She (with conviction): I don't believe in on hats. He: Oh, how good you are! She: It's so much prettier to use the whole bird.

"Just one more, Katie," pleaded the young athlete. "Let me alone!" said Katie, pushing half-back. You're not half as backward as you ought to be, sir."

First Tramp: These Fifth Avenue people are very unreasonable with us. Second Tramp: being dirty. First Tramp: And yet when I rang and asked for a bath only, I was refused.

"I always wait for a snowstorm if I want always wait for a snowstorm II I want to discover the characters of my neighbors." How's that?" "I notice how closely each one observes the line dividing his sidewalk from his neighbor's when he is shovelling

Mr. Skidds (feeling his way) : Miss Fosdick, what salary do you think a young man ought to have to marry? Miss Fosdick (with well-mulated surprise): My gracious, Mr. Skidds, do young man or a galaxy for marrying do young men demand a salary for marrying nowadays?

Struggling Pastor: I never saw such enortuggling Pastor: I never saw such chiusiasm as there is about our next church entertainment to raise money for my salary.

When I collect the soll tickets the When I called for persons to sell tickets the whole congregation arose and came forward. Wife: Yes; at the last entertainment those who sold tickets were let in free.

A certain man in the city of Cork got mar-A certain man in the city of Cork got mar-ried to a beautiful young lady some time ago. Ady or two after the marriage a neighbor met the bridegroom. "Well, Pat, you have end;" "What course," "Says Pat. "Oh, the first end, of "replied the neighbor.

The Professor of the Chair of Political Reconomy had talked to the class an hour and a half, "I have tried to make this whole question of the tariff perfectly plain to you," he hald, wiping the perspiration from his glowing face; "and I trust I have succeeded. Still, if there should be appearance you who desire there should be some among you who desire turthan it dere should be some among you who desire further light on the matter I am ready to answer any questions you may ask." "I think leasor," spoke up a deeply interested young an on the front seat; "but I'd like to know whether this Ad Valorem you've been talking whether this Ad Valorem you've been talking about is a man or a woman.

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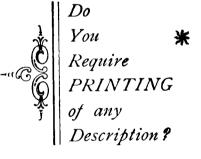
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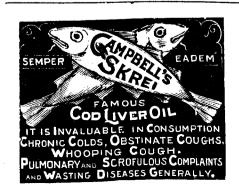
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Deputy of the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs. HAYTER REED,

Department of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, January, 1894.

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