

# THE WEEK:

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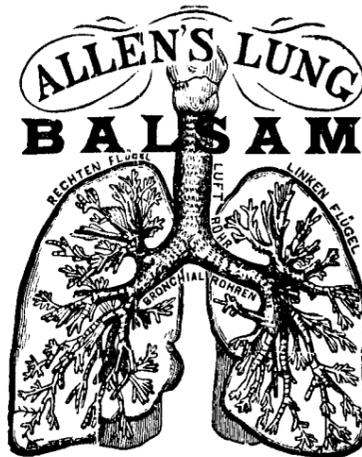
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### CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

TOPICS—	PAGE.
The Death of Professor George Paxton Young .....	195
An Illogical Customs Rule .....	195
The Ticket-of-Leave System .....	195
The Future of Immigration .....	195
General Middleton and the Rifle Association .....	195
The School Tax System in Quebec .....	195
The Collapse of Pigott .....	195
What will be the Outcome? .....	196
Local Government for Scotland .....	196
England's Navy Her Safety .....	196
A Question of Etiquette .....	196
A New Invention Needed .....	196
Innovations in New York Schools .....	196
Famine in China .....	196
AN AMERICAN ON CANADA .....	196
CHAPTERS FROM OUR NATIONAL HOUSEKEEPING.—I .....	Rambler. 197
MONTREAL LETTER .....	Ville Marie. 197
PARIS LETTER .....	M. A. B. 198
THE REED PLAYER (POEM) .....	Bliss Garman. 198
CANADIANS AND AMERICANS .....	J. H. Bowes. 198
ELIZABETH STUART PRELPS AND HER FIRST SUCCESSFUL BOOK, George Stewart, Jr., LL.D. 198	
COMPULSORY ARBITRATION .....	Phillips Thompson. 199
SONNET .....	J. H. Brown. 199
IDEAL MARRIAGE FROM TWO POINTS OF VIEW .....	D. Fowler. 199
MY BABY SLEEPS (POEM) .....	M. 200
TENNYSON'S UNDERTONES .....	200
JANE AUSTEN AND CHARLOTTE BRONTE .....	201
MUSIC AND THE DRAMA .....	B Natural. 201
LIBRARY TABLE .....	202
LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP .....	203
CHESS .....	206

All articles, contributions, and letters on matters pertaining to the editorial department should be addressed to the Editor, and not to any other person who may be supposed to be connected with the paper.

BEFORE this number is in the hands of its readers the sad news of the death of Professor Young, of the University of Toronto, will have been received with deep and sincere regret by many of our readers to whom the deceased was favourably known, personally, or by reputation. The loss to the University of Toronto will be well-nigh irreparable. It is no disparagement to the other able and learned members of the Professoriate to say that in the higher qualities of a College lecturer, in his power of critical analysis, of lucid exposition, and of compelling thought and stimulating mental effort to its highest pitch, Professor Young was without a superior, and, probably, without an equal in the University. Though the subjects pertaining to his Chair are often ranked amongst the driest and most unpopular in the College course, in his hands they became aglow with profound and living interest, for almost every student who attended his lectures. However sparsely occupied the benches in other class-rooms might be at times, the lecture-room of the department of Mental and Moral Science was always sure to be well filled. It is also pleasant to record that great as was the admiration excited by Professor Young's keen intellect and profound scholarship, as shown in the lecture room, it did not exceed the respect and affection inspired by his lofty moral character and unaffected kindness, as seen in domestic and social life. Those who were compelled to do homage to his talents were none the less constrained to respect his manly and Christian virtues. His somewhat sudden death was the result of a stroke of paralysis, by which he was prostrated a few days ago, shortly after his return from one of his lectures at the College. As an account of Professor Young's life and work appeared in these columns, a few months since, amongst our sketches of "Prominent Canadians," the particulars need not here be repeated. It has always been regretted by those who desired to get a full and complete statement of Professor Young's metaphysical and ethical views, that he did not give them to the public in permanent form. It is to be

hoped that material may be found amongst his papers for a posthumous publication, such as may to some extent supply the deficiency. But on this point we are without information.

ANYTHING more illogical or unfair in the way of a Customs regulation than Mr. Bowell's proposal to include the charges for transportation and shipment of imported goods in the value on which the duty is to be assessed, it is not easy to imagine. The Minister may, perhaps, when the subject comes up for discussion, be able to throw some light upon it which will change its aspect, but as it stands the rule certainly looks arbitrary and unreasonable in the extreme. Why should goods brought from a greater distance be chargeable with a higher rate of duty than those brought from a nearer point in the same country? Why should those imported from a far country be placed under a disadvantage as compared with those imported from a neighbouring country? One would naturally suppose that the principle underlying the National Policy would favour discrimination in the opposite direction, if at all. As a rule, articles brought from a great distance are such as cannot be produced at home, and should therefore be permitted to come in at the lowest possible cost to the consumer. On the other hand, those articles which are bought from our next door neighbours, whose climatic and other conditions are much the same as our own, are usually such as enter into direct competition with home productions. Against these protection is most needed. It is to be hoped that the rumour that Minister Bowell will modify his act in this particular may prove well founded.

THE principle of the Bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Abbott, described as "an Act to permit the conditional release of first offenders in certain cases," is one which not only commends itself to the common sense of non-experts in prison discipline, but is understood to be approved by the judgment and experience of some of the most careful and thoughtful students of penology. True, the stigma of being a "ticket-of-leave" man is a terrible one, and may, there is reason to fear, go far to hinder the culprit in his most honest efforts to retrieve his reputation and earn an honest livelihood. This is, we suppose, to some extent unavoidable, especially since the man or woman conditionally released must be kept in sight by the police. But this is one of the legitimate consequences of wrongdoing, and must be accepted. But anything is better than the present method of putting the young offender directly into the horrible school of vice which is to be found in the corridors of a prison. If with the "conditional release" system is joined the separate cell scheme, two great steps will have been taken for the better repression of crime.

REFERRING to the measure for the restriction of immigration proposed by the United States Congress, the abolition of grants in aid of immigration by the Canadian Dominion, and the discouragement of immigration which for years has been the settled policy of the of the Australian Legislatures, the *Colonies and India* says that the outlook for emigration to the usual camping grounds is, indeed, gloomy, and quotes a philosophic contemporary's opinion that the large probability is that before little children are fit to emigrate the opportunity of emigration will have disappeared, and that the most wonderful movement of our century, the march of the surplus European population across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, a march incomparably greater in volume than that of the barbarians upon Rome, will have almost suddenly died away. To us it seems more probable that this view greatly overrates the effect of any legislation, positive or negative, that is being, or is likely to be proposed, in America at least, for a long time to come, and greatly underrates the forces that are still working to promote the great movements of population. The aim of both the United States and Canada is not to check immigration, but to change its character. So long as this continent contains vast areas of unoccupied land, capable of cultivation, and vast stores of undeveloped resources suited for the supply of the world's needs, so long a steady, though possibly diminished, stream of population will flow in from the over-crowded centres of the Old World. Nor is it at all unlikely that with the increased

facilities for speedy transport the diminishing cost of the ocean passage may nearly or quite neutralize the effects of the discontinuance of assisted passages. The law of human gravitation, strengthened by the constant growth of intercourse and knowledge, will continue to work irresistibly to restore the equilibrium. The United States and Canada may have been taught by experience that not every incomer is worth to the country the \$1,000 at which he was formerly appraised, but neither can fail to recognize that the calculation holds good of every industrious and able-bodied immigrant who either brings with him or knows how to find, the means of gaining an honest livelihood.

ETERNAL vigilance is the price of efficiency in the management of public institutions. There is a very natural and constant tendency on the part of all organizations supported largely by public funds or permanent endowments to fall into easy-going habits and follow stereotyped methods, often without very close inquiry into their continued usefulness or special adaptation to specific ends. The criticism made the other day by General Middleton upon the operations of the Dominion Rifle Association affords an instance of this tendency. We have gone on year by year reading the reports of the meetings and doings of this Association, and taking, perhaps, a pardonable pride in the high scores made by individual members at the butts, without ever stopping to ask how much it is actually accomplishing in the way of making the rank and file of our volunteers skilful in the use of the great military weapon of the day. But, when once our attention is called to the point, we can all remember how frequently the names of a comparatively few famous shots recur in the reports and how small a proportion of these are of the rank and file, though we could not have supposed it possible, had the statement been made on less competent authority than that of Sir Frederick Middleton himself, and the reports of musketry instructors, that 30 out of every 37 of our militiamen could not be relied upon to hit a haystack with a rifle bullet and that only about 20 per cent. of those who are called out for drill can be regarded as first-class shots. General Middleton deserves the thanks of the country for his outspoken and telling criticism, albeit it may not have been agreeable to those who have been content to go on with the pleasant farce from year to year. That a radical change of methods must be brought about seems clear. Surely some means may be devised whereby the average militiaman can be taught to use his rifle with some approach to skill and precision, otherwise the organization might as well be given up and the money saved.

THE injustice which the Quebec Government persists in inflicting upon the Protestant minority in the distribution of the school taxes collected from Protestant corporations, is rather aggravated than otherwise by the curious reason given by Premier Mercier for refusing to correct the wrong. He and his Government can give no help, he says, to promote the introduction or passage of a Bill to change the mode of distribution because, forsooth, the Council of Public Instruction has unanimously passed a resolution recommending that no change be made in the School Legislation. This Council, two-thirds of whose members are Catholic Ecclesiastics, is as Mr. G. W. Stephens informs the *Witness*, a "subordinate body, created by the Legislature for the purpose of making rules for the Government of Normal and Common Schools, to select the books, make rules for the Board of Examiners, register the names of all classes and teachers holding certificates, and revoke teachers' certificates." That to such a body should be transferred the right of determining whether the Provincial Legislature may or may not legislate on a given subject is, to say the least, something new in Constitutional Government. To add to the complication, the Protestant members of the Council protest that no such resolution was ever passed, unanimously or otherwise, by the Council.

THE work of the Parnell Commission is, judging from present indications, practically over. It is undeniable that the events of the last few days have wrought a great change in the state of public opinion and feeling. The utter collapse of the testimony on which *The Times* seems

most unaccountably, to have built up its case, will, unless some new and unexpected developments should take place, be accepted by the public as equivalent to a failure in the main issue, and Mr. Parnell and his associates implicated will come forth from the ordeal unscathed. The public waited somewhat impatiently while the Attorney-General marshalled his long lines of witnesses, which at one time bid fair to stretch out to the crack of doom, whose testimony recalled vividly in detail the long, black list of most horrible crimes which have been committed in the name of Irish Home Rule. But all this was as ancient history to the expectant multitudes, especially when the prosecuting attorney had frankly admitted that he did not expect to be able to connect the accused Irish leaders directly with any of these outrages. It was but reasonable to suppose that the astute counsel for *The Times* was skillfully leading up to his grand climax. When the evidence of the arch-detective Le Caron had been given and that of Soames, Houston and others was being taken as to the manner in which the letters were procured, and the letters themselves were before the Court, the case looked dark for the defendants, and people began to think the climax was near. But when the astounding fact was elicited that the proof of genuineness rested solely upon the evidence of one unknown man, and that *The Times* manager had not even inquired into the antecedents of this man, or the source from which he had procured the letters, even the best friends of the Thunderer must have stood aghast, or doubted the testimony of their own senses. And now that this man Pigott has, in the merciless hands of Sir Charles Russel, been metaphorically turned inside out, and proved out of his own mouth to be an impostor, blackmailer and perjurer, it is no wonder that those friends are either dumbfounded or indignant, and think the sooner the farce is ended the better.

LOGICALLY, of course, there is no direct connection between the failure of *The Times* case and the merits of Irish Home Rule. If it be assumed, as according to British judicial principles it must be assumed, that Parnell and his associates are innocent until they are proved guilty of complicity with crime, it by no means follows that their cause is just, or their methods right. Much less does it follow that an Irish Parliament on College Green would not be the end of the Union and the beginning of anarchy, civil war and disruption. No doubt, however, something like those conclusions will follow in the minds of many. From being regarded as virtually convicted criminals Parnell, Egan, Walsh and others will take their place as heroes in the imaginations of many of the populace. Next to the astonishment felt at the unpardonable gullibility of *The Times* will be that caused by the extent to which the Government has allowed itself to become identified with *The Times* in the matter. What immediate effect this may have upon the strength of the Government cannot be foreseen, but the shock will, no doubt, be serious. All this is, of course, based on the assumption that the case is virtually ended. Had it not been admitted in court that *The Times'* sole reliance, so far as the source of the letters is concerned, was on the evidence of Pigott, we should expect to see the Attorney-General come to the front again with some unexpected trump card. On the other hand there is Labouchere's attempt at bribery to be explained. Unless this keen journalist's wits deserted with those of *The Times* manager, there are probably other surprises in store, and Labouchere's interviews with Pigott may prove to have been but another incident in a deep laid plot to out-general *The Times* and the Government.

AS was anticipated, the Queen's Speech at the opening of the Imperial Parliament foreshadows, as the chief features of the Government programme for the Session, a Local Government Scheme for Scotland and a large increase in the appropriations for national defence. The former measure could not be much longer delayed. Scotland has waited with exemplary patience for much-needed legislation, but of late her stock of patience has begun to show some signs of coming exhaustion. The Bill to be introduced will probably follow the lines of the English County Council Scheme as closely as a due regard to Scotch conditions and characteristics will permit—but important deviations will no doubt be necessary. The path of the Government will be made much smoother by the promise of success which has attended the inauguration of the system in England.

TOUCHING the two main questions of the insufficiency of Great Britain's present means of defence to insure the national safety in case of war with a combination of

maritime powers, and the direction which the increased expenditure must take in order to afford a satisfactory assurance of such safety, there seems to be little difference of opinion. "There is," says the *London Times*, "practically no escape from the conclusion that our navy is not at present strong enough for the adequate defence of the Empire and its commerce, and that it ought to be made strong enough with as little delay as possible. The City of London has now deliberately adopted this conclusion, and the country at large is of the same mind." This is not a mere newspaper opinion, but is based upon the careful statements of such authorities as Lord Charles Beresford, Lord Brassey, Sir Andrew Clark, and others of the most competent naval authorities in the realm. With regard to the other belief implied in this, viz., that the only adequate defence possible is the navy, there is almost equal unanimity. A rumour has, it is true, been for some time past afloat in well informed quarters concerning the existence of an ambitious scheme for defending London by means of extensive and costly permanent fortifications, and there is little doubt that such a project has been influentially pressed upon the attention of the Secretary for War. But the rumour has called forth strong protests from military authorities, and these have been followed by a semi-official declaration that it is not the intention of the War Department to ask Parliament for money to build a series of forts. The impossible magnitude of such a scheme would condemn it, even were it otherwise desirable. But, as has been pretty clearly established by elaborate argument, the life of the Empire depends absolutely upon its ability to keep open those channels through which its millions derive their food from all parts of the world. So long as her naval supremacy is sufficient for the protection of her commerce from interruption and her shores from invasion, and no longer, Britain is safe. The moment her fleet proves insufficient to protect at the same time her commerce from destruction and her shores from invasion, that moment she is lost. All the fortresses in the world could not save her people from being starved into submission.

RATHER a nice question in international etiquette is said to have been raised in the correspondence between Lord Salisbury and Mr. Bayard concerning the Sackville incident. Lord Salisbury, it is reported, maintains that a Minister should be permitted to remain at his post until his own Government sees fit to recall him, while Mr. Bayard holds that as soon as he ceases to be acceptable to the Government to which he is accredited, he may be dismissed by that Government. The *reductio ad absurdum* seems to be easily applied to either proposition, and it is probable that, when the correspondence is made public, it will be found that neither is correctly stated. The practice is clearly established that the Minister sent out should be in every case *persona grata* to the Government to which he is sent, and the corollary is easy, that when he ceases to be such the same rule of etiquette demands his withdrawal. But as the Minister is the servant of the Government which he represents, not of that to which he is accredited, it would seem to ordinary intelligence to be equally evident that he cannot, without unpardonable rudeness, be sent out of the country by the latter—"dismissal" proper is out of the question—until the former has either distinctly, or by long delay, refused to recall him.

COMMENTING, in his review of Mr. Bryce's "American Commonwealth," on the immense demand which American oratory makes upon the power of the voice, Mr. Goldwin Smith says, "To make himself heard in the House of Representatives, in a nominating convention, or in one of the enormous halls commonly used for political meetings, a man must have the lungs of Stentor. The consequence is that politics are in danger of being dominated by the mere power of producing a volume of sound, which bears a very slight relation either to wisdom or integrity." The remarks suggest a new field for the application of modern science. Why cannot some inventive genius perfect a simple and handy contrivance for increasing, artificially, the volume of the human voice, without impairing its quality, thus doing for speech what the telescope and the microscope have done in opposite directions for vision? Should it be necessary to call in the aid of electricity the newly invented pocket storage battery might be utilized. This suggestion may be taken as jest or earnest, at the option of the reader, but there is unquestionably a very serious side to Mr. Goldwin Smith's observation. In the presence of the vast audiences to be persuaded or propitiated, which are one of the logical sequences of modern democratic institutions, the process of

natural selection must inevitably eliminate from the list of possible leaders every man, no matter what his mental and moral qualifications, whose power of lung is not greatly in excess of the average.

RECENT educational discussions are evidently bearing fruit in some localities. The Board of Education of the City of New York has just resolved on some most radical innovations. The plan of marking pupils for proficiency in their studies is to be abolished. The teachers of the city, principals excepted, are to be classified in two grades, known respectively as the "maximum grade," and the "standard grade." No teacher will be placed on the maximum grade who has not taught in the public schools of the city at least five years successively. Those who do not come up to the standard grade in the test to be made will be dropped from the roll. This classification will be made under the supervision and direction of the Committee on Teachers and the city superintendent and his assistants. Teachers of the "maximum" grade are to be exempted from the surveillance of the Superintendent. This officer and his assistants are to be required to visit the city schools but once in the year, hence but one examination will be held. Strenuous opposition was offered to the measure, and large numbers of the city teachers, of both sexes, did what they could by petition, and even by "lobbying," to prevent its passage, but in vain. The radical element in the Board had full control, and would not brook even a fortnight's delay. In the absence of fuller knowledge of conditions no trustworthy opinion can be formed as to the wisdom of the new departure. The scheme is a bold one, and not without serious risks. Much will depend on the honesty and skill with which the grading is done, and very much more on the intelligence and ability of the teachers themselves. To sweep away at a stroke all the incitements to study afforded by the marking system is a bold step unless the Commissioners are quite sure that they have a class of teachers who are capable of applying better motives effectively. If the city has a sufficient number of teachers of the right stamp, the freeing them from supervision and hampering control, and giving them an opportunity to do their best according to their own ideas and methods will prove eminently wise. The five-years' test is an excellent one and should go far to secure efficiency and permanence. The experiment will be watched with great interest by educators.

LATE information from China is to the effect that the people in two large districts are starving by thousands. The famine in one of the districts was caused by drought in the other by the overflow of a river. Appeals for help are being liberally responded to in England. The Lord Mayor's Mansion House fund has already forwarded \$25,000 or \$30,000, which though a handsome contribution is of course but a bagatelle in view of the magnitude of the distress to be relieved. An appeal is also being made to the United States and Canada. Here is a grand opportunity for these two peoples to make some atonement to the Chinese for the harsh treatment to which they have been subjected in this Western World.

#### AN AMERICAN ON CANADA.

UNDER the very modest title of "Comments on Canada," Charles Dudley Warner contributes to *Harper's Monthly* for March the results of his observations during his recent tour on this side of the border. He, indeed, communicates much more than the results of his observations. His remarkably comprehensive article shows also the results of a careful study of the history, constitution, institutions, and people of the Dominion. Rarely, indeed, have we met in a discussion of these topics by a foreign writer, so near an approach to accuracy in statement, or so sound and dispassionate an estimate of the characteristics of our people, and the nature and tendencies of our incipient nationality. Mr. Warner has shown an unusual power of putting himself in the place of those of whom he speaks, and hence has succeeded admirably in understanding and describing them. Every Canadian who would like to see his country as it is seen by a keen-eyed, fair-minded and highly intelligent foreigner, should by all means read Mr. Warner's article. The simplicity and easy grace of the style will make the task a very pleasant one.

Mr. Warner's article is divided into three parts. In the first he sketches briefly but clearly the geographical features, history, political system, and railway development of the Dominion. Not only is full justice done to the vast extent of our territory, but the current misapprehen-

sion of all foreigners, Mr. Warner's fellow-countrymen included, in regard to the narrowness of the fertile and habitable belt is corrected. This misapprehension, which had its origin "before it was discovered that climate depends largely on altitude, and that the isothermal lines and the lines of latitude do not coincide," Mr. Warner's article should do much to remove. With the account given of the manner in which Confederation was brought about, and of the nature of the constitution as crystallized in the British North American Act, little fault can be found. Though the superiority of our political system in several respects, such as the direct responsibility of the Government, the independence of the judiciary, uniformity of laws relating to marriage and divorce, etc., is not directly admitted, the grounds of Canadian belief in that superiority are clearly and frankly given. With some of Mr. Warner's mild criticisms of what he considers weaknesses many Canadians may not be disposed to agree. The defenders of Provincial rights, *e.g.*, will scarcely admit that the veto powers of the Central Government are so absolute as Mr. Warner represents them, nor will they be quite ready to accept his view, though it is, we admit, a very common one, that the Dominion Government can, by the simple process of declaring it a work for the general advantage of Canada, acquire absolute jurisdiction over any railway. The question whether that is the actual intention of the Act must probably be considered as still *sub judice*. Mr. Warner, more than once, intimates his view that the system of Provincial subsidies is a most serious cause of weakness in our federal system. Many thoughtful Canadians will heartily endorse this view, though we are not aware that anyone is as yet ready to propose a satisfactory substitute.

The second division of Mr. Warner's comments contains a very interesting account of his trip from Montreal to Vancouver. The regions traversed are graphically described. The history of the acquisition of the Hudson's Bay Territory and its development up to the present, though familiar to us, will be useful to those for whom it is mainly intended. Some of the descriptions of the magnificent scenery of the Rockies and the Selkirks, though brief and unpretentious, are striking by reason of the clearness with which the picture is set before us. Speaking, for instance, of the station at Mount Stephen, the highest point on the line, 5296 feet above the sea, and of the manner in which the Mount itself, "a bald mass of rock in a rounded cone," rising 8000 feet higher, comes into view of the observer on the receding train, he says:

"As we moved away from it the mountain was hidden by a huge wooded intervening mountain. The train was speeding rapidly on the down grade, carrying us away from the base, and we stood upon the rear platform watching the apparent recession of the great mass, when suddenly, and yet deliberately, the vast white bulk of Mount Stephen began to rise over the intervening summit in the blue sky, lifting itself up by a steady motion while one could count twenty, until its magnificence stood revealed. It was like a transformation in a theatre, only the curtain here was lowered, instead of raised. The surprise was almost too much for the nerves; the whole company was awe-stricken. It is too much to say that the mountain 'shot up'; it rose with conscious grandeur and power."

Mr. Warner thinks that Banff will have an unique reputation among the resorts of the world, and that "if a judicious plan is formed and adhered to for the development of its extraordinary beauties and grandeur, it will be second to few in attractions." Speaking generally of the route through the Rockies, the Selkirks and the Gold range, he says: "I have no doubt that when carriage roads and foot-paths are made into the mountain recesses, as they will be, and little hotels are established in the valleys, and in the passes and advantageous sites, as in Switzerland, this region will rival the Alpine resorts."

The third part of Mr. Warner's article is given to an account of the Canadians themselves. Though in some respects the most interesting part of the paper, we must dismiss it with a few words. Nothing could, in Mr. Warner's opinion, be more erroneous than the idea that the Canadians are second-hand Englishmen. In spite of the strong English traditions and loyalty to British institutions of a portion of the people, the Canadians are, he thinks, a distinct type, scarcely more English in manner and in expectations than his own countrymen. They are, in short, what most of them, no doubt, prefer to be, neither English nor American, but Canadian. "The Canadian girl resembles the American in escape from a purely conventional restraint and in self-reliance, and she has, like the English, a well modulated voice and distinct articulation. But she belongs to a distinct Canadian type of woman."

This topic leads him necessarily into a lengthy discussion of the great variety and the remarkable racial diver-

sities in the population of Canada. Not only is there the Frenchman of Quebec, separated by the widest range of national characteristics from all other classes, but "the man of Nova Scotia is not at all the man of British Columbia or Manitoba." Into this fruitful field of observation we cannot follow him.

Mr. Warner sagaciously observes that the frequency of the question, "What do you think of the future of Canada?" shows that it is an open question. At the same time he recognizes clearly that whatsoever destiny the country may have in store in the far off future, there is at present no appreciable annexation sentiment, nor even a trend of feeling in that direction. Separation from England is, he thinks, calmly contemplated as a definite possibility. "In Canada to-day there is," he avers, in summoning up the results of his observations on this point, "a growing feeling for independence; very little, taking the whole mass, for annexation."

#### CHAPTERS FROM OUR NATIONAL HOUSEKEEPING.—I.

THE world, at least in its human aspect, is a community of nations, possessing, in a greater or lesser degree, interests that are either in harmony or in conflict with each other. A nation is a community of families, holding to each other a relation similar to the international, but where the opposing elements are expected to be kept in a stricter abeyance to those that are in common. And a family is a community of individuals bearing to each other a relationship identical to the international and the national, with the interests that are in harmony still more conspicuously predominating, and where the highest life is exemplified in balancing personal against mutual advantage and disadvantage, in restraining and correcting, in fostering and encouraging, into a perfect unity of interest; and, when we look for national or universal welfare, happiness and prosperity, the rudimentary and vitalizing principle which lies at the foundation of individual conduct in family life is the same which must govern individual families composing a nation and individual nations constituting mankind.

It is unnecessary in a Canadian journal, one of whose special departments is an impartial and complete enquiry into Canadian politics, to remind its readers that there is no royal road to greatness or stability, no Fortunatus' Cap which can convert what we see into what we wish. There are circumstances in which a substratum of soil would, in a hundred years, produce a giant oak. There are other circumstances in which the same substratum, the same atmospheric conditions would produce successive crops of striplings. The difference lies not so much in the soil, in the seed, as in the treatment of the sapling. In 1867 the Canadian people planted the germ of a nation. The germ came of stock pure and tested. The experience of cycles of nations lay before us as an example to warn and direct. It remains to be seen whether we shall have the oak or the forest of striplings. Official self-congratulation carries to the distant shores of the Dominion the sound as of the oak. A residence in the Capital, by the seat of Government, under the very shadow of the forestry, induces some scepticism.

The analysis might pass from the universe, the nation, the family, into the individual. The principle which governs *men* takes its colour from that which must govern a *man*, in the wholesome and healthful development of all his powers, physical, intellectual and moral, as well as to the development of all the possessions to which he is entitled as a member of the human race, of a nation, or of a family. The idea of regulating the present by the future, and the future by the present, lies at the root of the distinctions which have grown to be associated with civilized as compared with uncivilized society. The word which has come to be applied to this inter-regulation of the present and the future, of nation with nation, has its origin in the system of management in a well-appointed household, a system whose silent and simple operations sometimes lead us to ignore its importance, its necessity, its very existence. From two Greek words signifying *house* and *to rule* we derive the term *economy*, which means the principle of applying a means towards an end, of avoiding in the application of that means all waste and extravagance, of securing from a given expenditure of time, money, labour, natural resources, talents, physical—intellectual and moral—the most advantageous and fertile results. This standard of all government, great or small, is set into bolder relief by two pairs of antithetical ideas, whose association with the central idea serves but to define it with an irresistible clearness. *Extravagance* and *frugality*, *prodigality* and *parsimony*, indicate two conflicting expressions of manage-

ment, the two steps by which on either side of economy we may pass from positive virtue through passive virtue into positive sin.

In such a view of national economy the idea which is forced upon us first and most powerfully is—our Constitution. We are a national community of, roughly speaking, five millions of people. The latest census gives us 4,324,810. We are divided into eight Provinces, each of which appears to possess sufficient individuality of rights and resources to demand individual government in a Provincial Capital. These respective claims and interests are balanced and regulated for the common national good by a proportionate representation in the Dominion Legislature at Ottawa; and in order to trace our pedigree and perpetuate our connection with our ancestors, we have a representation of Imperial control in the Governor-General. The Queen's representative is aided and advised, in Dominion affairs, by a Privy Council (including the Cabinet), the Senate and the House of Commons, and in Provincial matters by corresponding institutions in each of the eight Provinces. For the House of Commons in Ottawa, and for the Lower Houses in the Provinces, representatives are *elected* by the people, must take the oath of allegiance, and hold their office merely for the term of Parliament; and the proportionate distribution is based upon the principles which regulated the relative provincial interests at the time of Confederation, altered and modified by the needs arising from the addition of fresh provincial claims consequent upon the accession of new Provinces to the Dominion. To the Senate and the Higher Houses in the Provinces, which may be said to correspond to it, members are not *elected*, but *nominated*. These nominations are made, in official diction, by the Crown—that is, by the Governor-General-in-Council, which means, in ordinary language, by the Government of the day. A Senator must be thirty years old; must be a natural-born or naturalized subject; must reside in the Province for which he is appointed; and must possess property at a minimum value of four thousand dollars. His nomination holds for life, unless he should be absent for two consecutive sessions; should cease to be a citizen of the Dominion; should become bankrupt or insolvent, or guilty of any crime which should unfit him for his high office. The Provincial Lieutenant-Governors are appointed by the Government of the day, and must take the same oaths of office as the Governor-General himself. RAMBLER.

Ottawa.

#### MONTREAL LETTER.

THE hall-door is hardly closed upon the last guest when parsimony puts down the lights and gathers up the fragments, and the last train has not whirled the Carnival visitors over the Victoria Bridge, before, like school-boys over their marbles, we sit down and count out our gains. The curtain of romance is rudely torn from our picture, and we see nothing but the why and the wherefore of our pot-boiling. When the glare of the foot-lights is gone, may we stare our paint and cosmetics in the face, and resolve that we have had the last of our Carnivals, that never again shall we be tempted to perpetrate a penny-show in the guise of hospitality.

A pleasanter topic is the thought of returning Spring-tide, begotten of certain steps which our Harbour Trust contemplates making for the accommodation of trade upon our classic river, the discussion of which suggests a return of manly self-respect in the invention of processes for the manufacture of wealth. When a stranger arrives upon our wharves it is, I suppose, taken for granted that he will naturally indulge in such sentiments of memory of his past or of hope for his future life, as will render him oblivious to the surroundings of his present. And the men who spend their lives there are of necessity so engrossed in an endeavour to obliterate both memory and hope, that the roughness and hardships of their lot may be consecrated into a species of voluntary religious penance. But our merchants, having overcome these early pioneering obstacles in our commercial civilization, and having leisure for the attendant desire for a little of the æsthetic even in steam launches and cranes, have made a bold representation to each other, and find a mutual response.

According to the retiring President of the Board of Trade, our Harbour does not see itself as he sees it. "It consists practically of wooden jetties, covered by water during summer floods, and under water the whole winter, badly paved, accessible from the city only by steep ramps, entirely destitute of permanent sheds or warehouses to protect goods, and cranes to assist in the loading or discharge of ships. . . . No aid whatever has been

given to the harbour by the city, nor does it even provide its lighting or police protection. . . . In consequence this port is regarded by shipowners and importers as a most expensive one, and avoided accordingly." Schemes have been from time to time submitted for the remedy of this appalling condition of affairs. At length Mr. St. George, city surveyor, and Mr. Kennedy, city engineer, in slowness and serenity, have come to the rescue. Two capable heads have been put together; the most capable features of the most capable plans have been selected, and a feasible whole is the result. The Harbour is to be improved, renovated, extended. The proposal has considered that the general trade of the centre of the city has a prior claim to that of local or individual interest. The old, unseemly, migratory, and sometimes evanescent freight sheds are to be replaced by permanent structures. In order to avoid encroachment upon existing rights on land, and narrowing the already too narrow frontage, new wharves will be built out into the river, and upon a plan which, by providing accommodation only in pace with the commercial requirements, will ensure an expenditure within the limits of the commercial credit. The plan also contemplates the removal of obstacles to loading and unloading arising from the exigencies of the current; but whether the much more serious difficulty in this respect consequent upon the immense and varying difference in the height of the water at different seasons has been scientifically faced, and will be scientifically overcome, the scheme does not at present pledge itself. Every season has many levels. Every ship has more. Is it easier to legislate for the seasons, or for the ships?

The City Council has voted one million dollars to inaugurate the scheme. Who shall live to know the cost of the venture?

Between McGill Street and the East End there is no easy access from Craig Street to the river, a drawback which has also been the object of some philanthropic penitence. Many proposals have, gourd-like, shot up, but having had "no deepness," have as suddenly withered away. Among them one, that Saint Lawrence Street be extended in a direct line to the Harbour, and another, that Jacques Cartier Square and Champ de Mars be levelled, and roads at angles east and west be opened to Craig Street, scarcely braved the glare of the noon-day sun. A third,—to secure a direct approach from Craig Street by tunnelling beneath the Square and the Champ, and opening upon a boulevard by the river, is understood to meet with favour in the eyes of the Government in Ottawa. The interest of the Minister of Militia in our defence (if not defiance) has been propitiated by the assurance of special attentions to our deserted battle-field in shape of fresh sod, renovated terraces, demolished wooden fences, new footpaths, and trees instead of stumps.

VILLE MARIE.

#### PARIS LETTER.

THE French seem to have the power of taking leaps in the dark and alighting on their feet. Now that the Boulanger affair is past, one begins to realize all that might have happened. If the General had been another sort of man he would undoubtedly have effected another *Coup d'Etat*. The Government completely lost their heads. I was told on good authority that the President and his family sat up two nights literally ready to leave Paris at a moment's notice. The most singular thing about the election was the utter feeling of uncertainty in every one's mind, even just before the results were announced. In England and Germany his defeat was looked upon as certain. Several Paris correspondents of leading London papers were giving imaginary figures, in which Boulanger was always beaten by forty thousand to eighty thousand votes. Even here no one took the election *au sérieux*. I speak of course of the *bourgeois*, for the workmen prudently kept their intentions quiet, and nothing could be gathered from their own special sheets, the *Lanterne* being Jacquist, and the *Intransigeant* Boulangist. The *Figaro* and more serious papers turned the whole thing into ridicule, but their tone has altered considerably since the the decision of King Mob.

The 27th of January being the Emperor William's birthday, the day is naturally kept as a holiday all through Germany. Almost before the probable results of the election were known in Paris the news of Boulanger's triumph was telegraphed to Berlin, and produced a deep impression. The rage of his political opponents, Floquet, Clemenceau, etc., cannot be described in words, and they show a want of dignity in allowing it to be so apparent.

There can be no doubt that Boulanger's extraordinary popularity is greatly owing to his personal charm, and to the lavish promises he makes to all, and which he sometimes really fulfils, even at the cost of personal trouble. If you have invented a system of balloons for conquering Prussia, or a patent leather with which you can walk on water with perfect ease, or if you can save your country from financial ruin by a lavish use of paper money, go to *Notre brave Général*; most people will laugh at you or rudely bid you go back to *Charenton* (the great lunatic asylum), but he will listen courteously, promise to think about it, is invariably struck by your good sense and genius, and generally ends by desiring his secretary to present you with one of his photos, those not in the trade which he reserves for "my friends." This amiable peculiarity is so well known that people—men and women—come from all parts of France to interview him about various affairs. For instance: Three days before his election he received a deputation of hackmen, cabmen, and hotel waiters, and sent them away fully convinced that once elected their

powerful friend would obtain from the Parisian Municipal Council everything that the heart of *Jehu* or *garçon* could desire in the way of extra fares or tips.

When it is considered that this system has been steadily pursued for at least four years, his widespread popularity ought not to excite the surprise it seems to do in the minds of his contemporaries, who, whilst in power, try to enforce their dignity by rendering themselves all but inaccessible to the public at large. In Legitimist circles the Comte de Paris is said to be going to make an effort to assert himself this spring, and the Imperialists are in a great state of excitement, for to them also Boulanger has made lavish promises which he will find it difficult to perform as time goes on.

In Cabanel, French Art has lost a most distinguished painter, and society a charming man, specially, however, as a lady's artist. His portraits will give to future generations of French women the truest impression of *la femme au XIX. ième siècle*. He lived and died in the curious old house inhabited by Alfred de Vigny, of "Cinq Mars" fame.

The death of the Crown Prince of Austria has produced a sad impression in Paris, for he was, rightly or wrongly, supposed to be an enemy to Germany, and this fact alone caused him to be popular here, and he was known to be well acquainted with French literature.

Notwithstanding the political and financial troubles which absorb just now so much attention, the spirit of gaiety has not deserted Paris. The ball of the Hotel de Ville, offered by the town to every citizen, came off last week with great *éclat*, and the Exhibition promises to be far more interesting than was at first expected, even by those who admired the original idea of its promoters, *i.e.*, to celebrate the centenary of 1889 by the erection of a new and singularly hideous Tower of Babel. M. A. B.

#### THE REED PLAYER.

[On the Flyleaf of Mr. Archibald Lampman's New Book of Poems.]

THERE is a crying on the Northern lakes,  
Lyric with sunrise, with the sundown low,  
Freed on waste reaches when the drifting snow  
Rides with the norwind, heard when June o'ertakes  
The hillward rivers and white sleep forsakes  
Them as the spent auroral streamers go,  
Elusive, tender, sad, enduring, slow,  
No rapture quickens and no sorrow slakes.

It brims the years with calm, yet few take heed.  
Only the loon and whippoorwill have known  
Where keeps the spirit in shy sequestering.  
Till now their brother hath notched a river reed  
From the blue limpid shallow-bars, and blown  
The surge and whisper of the heart of spring.  
BLISS CARMAN.

#### CANADIANS AND AMERICANS.

TO the ordinary foreigner, Canadians and Americans are one. They see no difference, apparently, in their manners, morals, or speech. This is not, however, so wonderful when we remember that even a Canadian has to consider with some care before an answer could be given to the question that is certainly asked more at the present juncture than in the past—the question, What is the difference between a Canadian and an American?

The first difference is one lying on the surface, and yet yielding a solution to further problems—or at any rate indicating one. Canadians are of better physique than the inhabitants of the States: broader shouldered, deeper chested, more heavily built, and, for the most part, lacking that air of anxiety that is common to the citizens of the Union. It is no gallantry, but simple truth, to say that Canadian women look brighter, more cheerful, more lovable, and more like Wordsworth's ideal woman, than our fair American cousins; and perhaps the cause of the difference lies in the fact that Americans do not take so much exercise in the open air, and eat luxuries that are more toothsome than nourishing.

In manner of speech we are assimilating more and more with the Americans, but some differences still exist to show that English influence has not altogether fled. Canadians speak more slowly and in a lower key than Americans, but without the pleasant and musical utterance that marks the inhabitants of the sea-girt isle, who seem gifted by kind nature with sweet and rich voices. No one who has attended the theatres in Canada or across the border can fail to notice the difference in speech between English and American actors. Canadians take a position midway between the two, but incline to the American more than to the English.

Slowness in utterance is to some extent an index of the manner of life. The whole life of Americans is more or less a rush onwards, and nothing could be better than such a life if the sole object were to speedily settle the vast territories to the west and north and to develop the resources of the continent. To many Americans that is the sole aim of life; and so, compared with England, or even with Canada, they are a fast-living people, wedded, however, to their idols, so that the wise words of Herbert Spencer fell upon their ears, but have had no perceptible effect upon their manner of living. Canada, again, stands between the two extremes afforded by England and by young America—more progressive than England, less hurried (and worried) than the United States.

In politics the two countries differ more widely, perhaps, than in anything else. It is not that our standard

of political ethics is much higher than that of Americans, though higher it certainly is. But the intense spirit of American democracy almost merged in demagogism does not exist in Canada. Canadians are democratic, certainly, but whether it be the result of the link that still unites us to England, or the result of more thorough training in professions and trades, democracy in Canada is a sober and rational goddess, whose worshippers never have to even affect a frenzy of devotion. If there were no stronger reason for maintaining our connection with the British Empire this would be almost sufficient—that our system of democratic and responsible government is just nicely balanced by the *souçon* of monarchy which we derive from British traditions. No honest Canadian wishes to see a Canadian House of Lords, but neither should an honest Canadian wish to see among us an American House of Representatives. In politics, therefore, as in so many other things, Canada appears as a link between the limited but unmistakably aristocratic monarchy of England and the hot and fiery democracy of the young republic.

Speaking of politics, reminds one that it has often been said that there was lamentable indifference in American elections to the personal character of the candidate—much more than is shown in our own country. This is hardly true, though undoubtedly the question of character is thrown greatly into the background by the more engrossing of "record." "What is his record?" is a more vital question in an American election, and one much more often asked than the question "What is his character?" Besides this, there is a general feeling among the better class of Americans that politicians are little better than knaves, that they are animated by a wish for the perquisites of office, that they bear an itching palm; and, in fact, are altogether corrupt. We have not gone so far as this in Canada. High-minded and honourable men yet take part in politics, and their honour is never called into question. Most of our leading statesmen have not profited pecuniarily from their position in Parliament, but have retired from politics poorer than when they entered them. The spirit of the time is sometimes reflected in the comic papers of a country, and no one who reads the numerous comic journals in the United States can doubt that the distrust of politics and politicians is universal. J. H. BOWES.

#### ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS AND HER FIRST SUCCESSFUL BOOK.

THE papers are telling a romantic little story about the courtship and marriage of that charming writer of entertaining books, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. Her latest book seems to have procured her a husband, though it was also the cause, in a way, of the accident which nearly sent her prospective father-in-law to his tomb. But there is no need to repeat the details of the very interesting episode here. My story is about Mrs. Ward's first great success as a writer of strong and bright fiction. The incident has not appeared in print before, so far as I can learn. It came to me from good authority, and its truth may be vouched for. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps began authorship at the bread and butter age of most school girls. Her productions were characterized by gracefulness of narrative and strength of incident. For the most part they took the form of short stories. In 1868, however, she turned her attention to more elaborate work, and one fine morning she rather tremblingly entered the sanctum of the late James T. Fields, at that time the head of the publishing firm of Fields, Osgood and Company, Boston. She carried the manuscript of *The Gates Ajar* in her hand. Fields knew her father well, and though he had not much confidence at first in the wares which the young authoress offered him, he received her graciously, and promised to give her story every consideration. Esteem for the old Massachusetts clergyman probably prompted him to give *The Gates Ajar* his best attention as much as anything else. Fields' manner was always captivating. Authors used to say that his refusal of a manuscript was oftentimes preferable to the acceptance of the same by other publishers. In this instance, however, he resolved for the sake of the girl's father to risk the expenses of publication. He was shrewd enough to make the edition small; so five hundred copies of the great book were printed and bound. Osgood, his partner, being more of a man of the world, did not quite share Fields' sympathies in the matter. He looked upon the venture as another evidence of his partner's "foolish, soft heart." Asked if he had read the book; he said, "No, he never read any book published by his house until it had reached a circulation of ten thousand copies." Well, *The Gates Ajar* was published. Copies were sent out to the reviewers and a few booksellers were supplied with small quantities of the work. The criticisms were not all unfavourable, but the orders came in very slowly. Nearly three months passed away, when, to the surprise and joy of Fields, there was a visible change in the fortunes of the book. Letters began to come to him from all parts of the country demanding *The Gates Ajar*. These demands increased, and edition after edition was put to press. The success of the work was phenomenal. It rapidly became the vogue and the subject of enthusiastic conversation everywhere, and Miss Phelps' name was on the lips of everybody. She had struck a new vein in fiction, and imitators of her style and manner sprang up on all sides. Less than two years after *The Gates Ajar* had seen the light, a friend dropped into Osgood's cosy library one night, and seeing him with a book in his hands, asked him the name of it. "*The Gates Ajar*," he replied, "and a mighty good book it is, too. We are printing our fortieth thousand." GEORGE STEWART, JR.

## COMPULSORY ARBITRATION.

"THE relations between capital and labour cannot be treated as a mere matter of private business, but involve social and political questions. The fact is becoming clearer and clearer every day, whether we like it or not." These suggestive words of Commissioner Arthur T. Hadley, of the Connecticut Bureau of Labour Statistics, have acquired additional significance since they were penned in 1885, owing to the character of the great strikes which have occurred in the interval. When labour troubles grow to such magnitude that the struggle affects the traffic of half a continent, or suspends the business and endangers the peace of a great city, argument to show that the issue has become a matter of public concern is clearly superfluous. As a matter of fact, there are few strikes or lock-outs of any importance in the settlement of which public opinion is not an appreciable factor—not often, it is true, to so noticeable an extent as in the Chicago street railway strike of last fall, where the victory of the employés was admittedly due to a very pronounced popular sentiment in their favour. In other cases, the mediation of leading public men has been employed to effect a settlement. Virtually, the principle is recognized, though in a vague, informal fashion, that where the conflict affects the general interest to any considerable extent, the people have the right to interfere. There is no reason, except the waning tradition of *laissez faire*, why this principle should not find expression in appropriate legislation instead of by crude, irregular and frequently inefficient methods.

The most obvious and practical proposal in this direction is that of compulsory arbitration, which has many advocates among labour reformers. Intelligent workmen are practically unanimous in favouring arbitration as a means of settling trade disputes. Voluntary arbitration resorted to, either before a strike is entered on or as a means of reconciling the contending parties, has often been productive of excellent results. But as a remedy for the periodical conflicts on a large scale between great corporations and their employés it is rarely available, simply for the reason that the same arbitrary disposition which causes the difficulty in the first place usually prompts a refusal to arbitrate. Just in proportion as the cause of quarrel is serious and deep-seated and the struggle embittered is voluntary arbitration out of reach. In nearly all railroad and street railway strikes the labourers are willing for a settlement by arbitration, while the corporations as a rule stand on their dignity, and return a contemptuous refusal to all offers of the kind. Only compulsory arbitration, therefore, will meet the case.

The principal objection raised to compulsory arbitration is that there would be no way of enforcing the decision of the arbitration, so far as the employés were concerned. It would be easy to do so against a public company. But supposing the decision were adverse to the men, how, it is asked, could an award fixing the rate of wages be carried into effect? "Surely," say the objectors, "it is not proposed to compel workmen to remain in the employ of a particular company against their will, which would be virtual slavery, and unless this were done of what avail is compulsory arbitration? If employés can play fast and loose with the decisions of a board of arbitrators, why not the employers?"

This sounds plausible, but it quite overlooks the fact that it is a matter of indifference to large employers whether the *personnel* of their working force remains the same or not, so long as they are able to supply the places of those who leave without trouble or the disturbance of their relations with the main body of their workmen. It is not the refusal to accept the terms by a few dozen, or even a few hundred, men that would inconvenience a corporation, but the inability, by reason of the hostile attitude of the labour unions, to supply their places out of the thousands who are always ready, under ordinary circumstances, to accept work. What would answer every purpose is the power of enforcing the decision of the arbitrators—not against individual workers, who must be left free to accept or reject the terms—but as against the unions, and this could readily be accomplished by giving the unions a recognized legal status. Instead of a body that is merely tolerated under protest, the unions should receive full acknowledgment as the representatives of the respective trades just as the professional organizations, such as the Law Society and the Medical Association represent in the legal and medical bodies. Give the labour organizations in like manner a legalized status—endow them with all the rights, obligations, and responsibilities of corporate and representative bodies—and there would be no trouble in making compulsory arbitration effective, and an award as capable of enforcement against the labour corporation as it would now be against that of capital. The rate of wages fixed by an award would be standard union rate. Individual workmen would be still free to refuse their labour on such terms, just as individual lawyers or doctors often put a much higher estimate on their services than the authorized scale of fees. But as in the latter case a less eminent or more accommodating member of the profession is at liberty to accept the terms refused by the other—so long as they are not below the regular tariff—without any loss of professional standing, so the workingman who was willing to sell his labour for the authorized union rate of wages would be free to do so without interference. This is all that would be necessary to make compulsory arbitration workable in a manner fair to both parties, and at the same time avoid even the appearance of trenching on individual freedom. PHILLIPS THOMPSON.

## SONNET.

FROM what fair western land, O crescent moon,  
Where carnival is held this happy night,  
Beams on our earth thy bow of silver light.  
The dusk air through which, moveless as in swoon,  
Stirs not the faint cloud-curtains whence thy boon  
To brooding thought brings store of fancies bright?  
The stars wan-misted nod in drowsy plight;  
E'en Mars glows meekly in this night's dim noon,  
These sleeping dream: but thou, O beacon fair,  
Lightest o'er liquid pathways of the deep  
To where Hesperian gardens bloom and bear:  
To where Romance on many an airy steep  
Her castles builds: where life knows naught of care  
And youth and love unending revel keep.

J. H. BROWN.

## IDEAL MARRIAGE FROM TWO POINTS OF VIEW.

IN the January number of the New York *Eclectic*, there is a reprint of an article in the *Westminster Review* on "Ideal Marriage," by Mrs. Mona Caird, who, it is to be inferred, was the writer of a former paper entitled "Is Marriage a Failure?" followed by some hundred or so replies in the current journals. Mrs. Caird cannot abide an optimist, he is the object of her utmost distaste; he says: "Unhappy marriages? Well, perhaps there may be one here and there, but if so there are faults on both sides, and the matter is of slight importance." It is rather to be feared that the "both sides" is what has the sharpest sting for Mrs. Caird. All through an article, with a slight reservation or two, the grievances are all on the wife's side.

"Though, as a rule," she says, "an unhappy marriage means utter shipwreck of the woman's life, while the husband can find interest and consolation outside the home," etc. Does she really believe that the destruction of a man's domestic happiness, upon which he has staked his all, is not utter shipwreck? I ask her pardon, but there is a pertinent proverb, *re sutor ultra crepidam*. With all apologies, may we beg Mrs. Caird to stick to the feminine last, and leave the masculine to men. Is there a more common, every-day spectacle than men wrapped up in their wives and children, without a thought but to work for them from morning to night, to be their protector and provider? When that happiness is wrenched from them, there is consolation and other interest, for the asking, forsooth. *Credat Judeus*. Even to condescend to this plea requires pardon from our fellow-men. The great offence that man has committed against woman is the enactment of marriage laws for the protection of women, for that is what they are in spite of all that Mrs. Caird or any one else may say. In her eyes all legal restrictions and responsibilities are odious where love alone should be supreme. But the crucial test comes when any real, permanent and innocuous remedy is to be formulated. Then she falters. There is outcry enough, but it all comes to a conclusion where nothing is concluded. The great stumbling place is the mean between binding laws and "promiscuity." Love is to be free as air, free from all the imperfections of human nature—a hopeless impossibility. Mrs. Caird relies upon "evolution." Very well; we shall not see what that may effect; time has done a good deal in amelioration of one thing and another, but in the vices, sins, crimes and failings of human beings, there has been little change beyond what differences in temptation and opportunity have made. Therefore it is that evolution holds out poor promise. Certainly no arguments can with any safety be founded on it. Mrs. Caird says: "The view which I advocate is diametrically opposed to all his dearest convictions," that is, to those of the optimist, which, nevertheless, are those which generally prevail as to the legal institution of marriage.

"At the present moment, indeed," says this would-be reformer—and all praise to her for it within practicable bounds—"the forces of barbarism are strong; the moral sense, though growing, is still feeble. Therefore, and only therefore, our desire is out of reach." Yes, "only" if she pleases. We come to an allusion to Count Tolstoy; has Mrs. Caird read his *Anna Karenina*? Was there ever a moral more powerfully put into shape? Anna has a most uncongenial husband—a cold-blooded prig, if you will; she wearies of him beyond bearing—for her; she flies from him, leaving her child, to the arms of a man whom she adores and who adores her—that is the common phrase. What does she get in exchange? The ecstasy of love and companionship that she has yearned for, but the scorn and contumely of all her sister-women, which casts her, for all in all, on the object of her passion alone. From all else she is shut out. She weighs his every word, watches his every action, with an agony of jealousy; it becomes an avenging fiend. Where shall it all end? Under the wheels of a railway engine where she flings herself. This was an ideal union without the legal sanction of marriage. Far be it from being said that Mrs. Caird would palliate Anna's conduct; but it is very hard to imagine *any* union, short of legal marriage, with its salutary restrictions and defences, which would not be open to such calamitous consequences. No doubt marriage is hardly more than a mere lottery; some people say, the chance of finding an eel in a basket of snakes. Young people of either sex are brought together; attraction ensues, love at first sight, perchance, like that of Romeo and Juliet—and what did that come to? From that moment each is playing a part, the part to please; true character is put in hiding; even

without deliberate intention it must be so; some sympathies there may be, but as to the thousand and one new situations which are to crop up by-and-by, and how they will be met by either, they are as innocent of all knowledge as unborn babes. It may turn out well; it may turn out ill; certain it is that the absolute sympathy of "ideal marriage" has never been reached and never will. Exceptions prove the rule. Such cases there have been, even in illicit connections—one that all the world knows of—but it is next to an impossibility, simply because not only was there never a man and woman joined together with exactly the same principles, the same feelings, the same tastes and the same prejudices, but not even were there ever two such women. The variations in character are as inexhaustible as in the leaves of a tree, no two the same, or in the faces of a thousand sheep which the shepherd knows as he knows those of his own children. And what then? Like the other manifold ills of life it must be borne and made the best of; there may be times, perhaps, for husband and wife when the heart eats itself out in bursts of uncontrollable mortification and sorrow, but, like all other ills, they pass away, as do quarrels between friends, and among brothers and sisters. There is nothing that we cannot induce ourselves to endure with habit and patience. It is only rare that any remedy would not be worse than the disease. It is from all this, and we all know it, that Mrs. Caird raises her bitter cry.

On one or two points she is manifestly wrong. She cannot hold the balance even between men and women; she wrongs herself if her milk of human kindness towards men has not turned to sour curds; she speaks of their "savage and sensual instincts;" how about fathers and brothers? After all, though, she is little less hard upon women. We have "the wonderful resources of British whitewash, applied with all the ardour of the British nation" over "inner festering" and "ugly sores." Again, of young girls: "your nature dwindling, shrivelling, rotting, day by day, like some cankered fruit-tree; weighed down by stupid authority, overshadowed by shams, tainted by false virtues, false shame, artificial sins, subject to the insults of all the hosts of the Philistines (men?), the manifold vulgarities which swarm, vermin-like, beneath the coarse propriety and proper coarseness of Mrs. Grundy!" (There is nothing like "going the entire animal.") Well, under whose auspices do all these horrors germinate unless it be under those of the "British matron?" Of what sex is Mrs. Grundy, male or female? Once more! "And this is the bewildered being, stunted in intelligence and self-respect; frightened, indoctrinated, sermonized, with a swollen, unwholesome conscience spreading in all directions like some rankly-growing gourd," and so on. "She marries. But, alas! the marriage turns out unhappily." What wonder, if with such a being? Then, with respect to the bringing up of children, "imbibing, with every breath they draw, ideas that are barbarous and irrational." "While the poor little girls learn those lessons of abject self-suppression and humility of which I have already spoken at length." Our writer seems to have a prevailing idea that girls are "forced or persuaded" into matrimony "when not experienced enough to judge for themselves. But that is their own affair; the State has no right to force upon them the martyrdom," etc. Marriage an assumed martyrdom! One grins to think how young girls rush to that stake, "forced or persuaded" by the "British matron," an expert. One laughs consumedly to imagine them making terms beforehand that fire shall not be set to the pile. Old heads on young shoulders! O, ravishment of courtship which would fly away from them! But by no means let us do our Mentor injustice. She hedges. Reformers cannot be too careful. "Herbert Spencer emphatically insists on the supreme importance of monogamy for the progress of the race." Still she vibrates to and fro, "We have to go a step further, and emphasize still more the importance of the bond of affection and friendship, and the baseness of a union sanctioned only by a mere legal formality." Who ever doubted that importance, and who ever thought that it was incompatible with legal security for mother and child? Show us the woman who would madly fling away that inestimable security. "The child of average parents is sacrificed in the most ruthless manner to tradition, ignorance and prejudice, yet nobody comes to the rescue." But we must not go on picking out the plums from Mrs. Caird's pudding; it is not fair, and gives no true idea of the whole composition, whether for better or worse; we commend the whole article for perusal, as we are unable to come near it within the space allowable by THE WEEK. One extract more we must not, however, deny ourselves or its readers: "Our present twin-system (!) of marriage and prostitution will be attacked from different standpoints, but the attack will be persistent, and the blows thick and fast." (May they be so; thicker still and faster!) "Prostitution is as inseparable from our present marriage customs as the shadow from the substance." (Only *prove* that, madam, and who will not cheer your efforts to the echo?) "They are the two sides to the same shield, and not the deepest gulf that ever held human beings asunder can prevent the burning vapours of the woman's Inferno, which is raging beneath our feet, from penetrating into the upper regions of respectability and poisoning the very atmosphere." Brava, and twice brava! Only *show* all this to be *true*, and not a man or woman who are worth their salt but will go heart and soul with our crusader to stamp out this foul pestilence.

Just in the nick of time comes comfort, comfort in the far distance, it is true. We learn from a recent number of *Harper's Magazine* that there have been discovered in some remote corner of the great southern ocean, a people who

by evolution (evolution again) have lost or abandoned the use of speech and have become a dumb race of mind-readers. A ship-wrecked voyager is cast away among them. With commendable foresight they have preserved a dynasty of interpreters—after a sort—who have retained a rudimentary power of expressing themselves in crippled words. Through the existing official the castaway learns all about them. He is hospitably received and kindly treated. They all read him off at sight and take to him. He says: "In their perfect frankness the adorable women told me that what I felt was only friendship, which was a very good thing but wholly different from love, as I should well know if I were beloved. When I found that I was affected in the same way by every gracious woman I met I had to make up my mind to adapt myself to a world in which friendship being a passion, love must needs be nothing less than a rapture." In due course the rapture comes. "With people who become acquainted at a glance and old friends in an hour, wooing is naturally not a long process. Indeed, between lovers there is no wooing but merely recognition. The day after we met she became mine." "A genial temperament, a wide-grasping, god-like intellect, a poet-soul are incomparably more fascinating to them than the most dazzling combination conceivable of mere bodily graces."

Having brought our enamoured couple to a bliss far surpassing any enjoyed by mere speakers of words, we may pick up a few dropped threads in the traits of character of this most interesting people. The speech of those who talk is in their ears "a gibberish like the growling of animals." Politeness can never take the form of insincerity "as among talking nations," for the "real and inmost thoughts are read." "No one need fear being misjudged. Justice is a necessary consequence of mind-reading." "Mind-reading so heightens sympathy that the lowest order of friendship becomes a mutual delight such as only rare friends enjoy among other races." "An invincible distaste is induced for the laborious impotence of language." "Think no longer that the sense of a gulf fixed between soul and soul, which mocks love, is any necessity of human nature; for our fellowmen whom I describe it has no existence."

"The lying-hid within the soul of a contained chamber where we may go to grovel out of sight of our fellows, a secure refuge of lies, has always been the despair of the saint and the exultation of the knave. It is the foul cellar which taints the whole house above. Imagine the delightful exhilaration of moral health and cleanness, the breezy oxygenated mental condition from the consciousness of absolutely nothing concealed."

"It may be supposed that for all men there are certain women expressly suited by mental and moral as by physical constitution. But how painful the thought that they may not recognize each other even if they meet, seeing that speech is so inadequate and so misleading a medium of self-revelation! No such fear for mind-readers." (Apology is made for inevitable condensation by stress of limited space here, with trust, however, that, though the letter is less, none of the exquisite spirit has evaporated.) To proceed, then, "I discovered that my love had no idea of the colour of my eyes or hair or complexion. Of course, as soon as I asked her the question, she read the answer in my mind. On the other hand, if in the blackest midnight I should come to her, she would not need to ask who the comer was. It is by the mind, not the eye, that these people know one another. It is really only in their relation to soulless and inanimate things that they need eyes at all." "Art is with them confined to the inanimate, the human form having for the reason mentioned, ceased to inspire the artist." "A woman of mind and heart has no more need of beauty to win love, than a beauty elsewhere of mind or heart. Still, they are a singularly handsome race, from the absolute compatibility of temperaments in all the marriages, and also from the state of ideal, mental and moral health and placidity." "Of course my love knew that her rare beauty had no little part in attracting my devotion, but, reading my limitations, she tolerated and forgave the element of sensuousness in my passion." "As I considered what mutual love must be where both parties are mind-readers, I realized the high communion which my sweet companion had sacrificed for me. It was because I might not hope to attain this enfranchisement from the false ego of the apparent self, without which life seemed to her race scarcely worth living, that my love was moved to depths of pity for me." "Among a people, who are compelled by the very constitution of their minds to put themselves in the places of others, the sympathy, which is the inevitable consequence of perfect comprehension, renders envy, hatred, and uncharitableness impossible." Alas! for our inferior selves, we cannot choose but feel envy of so admirable a people.

Ah! lamentable catastrophe which cut short this banquet of felicity and virtue beyond all ordinary human power of taste. The poor, ill-starred fellow had scarcely passed the threshold of an undreamed-of happiness when he was carried out to sea in an open boat, and for five days drove before the storm. His one companion—not his love—perished under the strain. "He died very quietly—indeed with great appearance of relief. The life of the mind-readers, while yet they are in the body, is so largely spiritual that the idea of an existence wholly so, which seems vague and chill to us, suggests to them a state only slightly more refined than they already know on earth." The luckless fellow was picked up in an unconscious state by an American ship, homeward bound, where, when he came to his senses, he found himself "surrounded by a people whose only means of communication is to keep up a constant clatter of hissing, guttural, ex-

plosive noises, eked out by all manner of facial contortion and bodily gestures."

"I often find myself staring open-mouthed at those who address me, too much struck by their grotesque appearance to bethink myself of replying." "I find that I shall not live out the voyage, and I do not care to. I can judge how I should fare amid the stunning Babel of a nation of talkers. What satisfaction or consolation, what but bitter mockery could I ever more find in such human sympathy and companionship as suffice others and once sufficed me—I who have seen and known what I have seen and known! Ah, yes, doubtless it is far better I should die."

And, in effect, the poor unfortunate only survived long enough to commit his unparalleled narrative to the care of the captain. That whole narrative, from which we could only afford all-insufficient extracts, we most cordially commend to all readers. It contains no mention of it, but it may well be that his mind had become unhinged from the contemplation of such disastrous matrimonial unions as are pictured in the earlier portion of our article, and the shock was greater than he had strength left to bear. *Requiescat in pace.*

D. FOWLER.

### MY BABY SLEEPS.

The wind is loud in the west to-night,  
But Baby sleeps;  
The wind is blowing with all its might,  
But Baby sleeps.  
My Baby sleeps, and he does not hear.  
The noise of the storm in the pine trees near.

The snow is drifting high to-night,  
But Baby sleeps;  
The bitter world is cold and white,  
But Baby sleeps.  
My Baby sleeps, so fast, so fast,  
That he does not heed the wintry blast.

The cold snows drift, and the wild winds rave,  
But Baby sleeps;  
And a white cross stands by his little grave,  
While Baby sleeps;  
And the storm is loud in the rocking pine,  
But its moan is not so deep as mine.

M.

### TENNYSON'S UNDERTONES.

UNDER the title, "Is Tennyson a Spiritualist?" there appeared recently in the *Pall Mall Gazette* an account of a letter which has been published in Chicago. The original—in the Laureate's own handwriting—is said to be dated from Farringford, May 7th, 1874, and contains this extraordinary account of his experiences:—

"A kind of waking trance (this for lack of a better name) I have frequently had, quite up from boyhood, when I have been all alone. This has often come upon me through repeating my own name to myself silently till all at once, as it were, out of the intensity of the consciousness of individuality the individuality itself seemed to dissolve and fade away into boundless being, and this not a confused state, but the clearest of the clearest, the surest of the surest, utterly beyond words, where death was an almost laughable impossibility, the loss of personality (if so it were) seeming no extinction, but the only true life. . . . I am ashamed of my feeble description. Have I not said the state is utterly beyond words?"

It has been pointed out by Professor Thomas Davidson, who had seen the letter, that the same conviction is described in "In Memoriam" (xcv). Students of Tennyson, however, will recall many other passages which are, as it were, explicit vouchers for the authenticity of this letter. The subject is one of large interest, and the writer of these lines is not aware that it has before been followed up at any length. It may be set down clearly at once that Tennyson is no spiritualist in the ordinarily accepted sense of that term. At the same time, the sense of an underlying life, so to speak, is strong in him; and he shares with others that attentiveness to its sounds and movements which makes it more or less a reality to him. There is no denying the fact—if personal testimony is of any value at all as proof—that the profoundest issues have come to some men out of what, to the large majority of their fellows, can only appear as the voids of being. While it is no doubt true that very few indeed would be disposed to assert with Thoreau that "the most glorious fact of our experience is not anything we have done, or may hope to do, but a transient thought, or vision, or dream that we have had," most men who have, not acquired, but found themselves in possession of, a certain nimbleness of spirit and open outlook, would not care to deny the revivifying power that dwells in those brilliant visitants which outline themselves for a moment on the background of our every-day life, and—are gone! Remembering, however, that an illustration is often a final court of appeal, crystal in its authoritative import, when explanation merely seems to throw a giant shadow in which the subject of search is enveloped and lost, as much as may be the poet should be allowed to speak for himself.

An exact parallel passage to that which appears in the letter referred to may be found in an early poem of Lord Tennyson's:—

Off  
On me when boy there came what then I called,  
Who knew no books and no philosophies,  
In my boy phrase, "The Passion of the Past."

The first grey streak of earliest summer-dawn,  
The last long stripe of waning crimson gloom,  
As if the late and early were but one—  
A height, a broken grange, a grove, a flower,  
Had murmurs, "Lost and gone, and lost and gone!"  
A breath, a whisper—some divine farewell—  
Desolate sweetness—far and far away—  
What had he loved, what had he lost the boy?  
I know not and I speak of what has been.  
And more . . . for more than once when I  
Sat all alone, revolving in myself  
The word that is the symbol of myself,  
The mortal limit of the self was loosed  
And passed into the Nameless, as a cloud  
Melts into heaven. I touched my limbs, the limbs  
Were strange, not mine—and yet no shade of doubt,  
But utter clearness, and through loss of self,  
The gain of such large life as matched with ours  
Were sun to spark—unshadable in words  
Themselves but shadows of a shadow-world.

A portion of these lines vividly recalls one of the songs in "The Princess," and the latter part, bringing to mind a passage in Lord Beaconsfield's *Contarini Fleming* is at the same time akin to those "weird seizures" to which it will be remembered, the Prince in "The Princess" was subject:—

While I listened came  
On a sudden the weird seizure and the doubt:  
I seemed to move among a world of ghosts;  
The Princess with her monstrous woman-guard,  
The jest and earnest working side by side,  
The cataract and tumult and the kings  
Were shadows; and the long fantastic night  
With all its doings had and had not been.

The fascination of such subjects for the Laureate's mind reveals itself again in "The Golden Supper." Sometimes there is a vagueness of feeling which—unpronounced though it be—instantly discredits the things that are, as though with a gentle uplifting of the finger. Again there are hauntings of the memory of an earlier life, with which many, before and after the "Phædo" made its appearance, have been tolerably familiar. These hauntings are seldom definite in any sense whatever. They seem to come from quarters far withdrawn, like those of "the happy dead" described in "In Memoriam":—

The days have vanished, tone and tint,  
And yet perhaps the hoarding sense  
Gives out at times (he knows not whence)  
A little flash, a mystic hint.

In an early sonnet, we have a more or less common, yet curious, impression referred to:—

As when with downcast eyes we muse and brood,  
And ebb into a former life, or seem  
To lapse far back into some confused dream  
To states of mystical similitude;  
If one but speaks or hems or stirs his chair,  
Even the wonder waxeth more and more,  
So that we say, "All this hath been before,  
All this hath been, I know not when or where."

Coleridge also, it may be mentioned, has thought his feeling worth recording in sonnet form. Here are some very delicately touched lines from "The Two Voices":—

Moreover, something is or seems,  
That touches me with mystic gleams,  
Like glimpses of forgotten dreams—

Of something felt, like something here;  
Of something done, I know not where;  
Such as no language may declare.

Beside these instances may be placed that transcendently beautiful passage in "The Holy Grail," in which the King admits no right to see "visions," or submit to "seizures," in the face of duty undone. Surely it would be impossible to find a lovelier conditioning of the higher experience than we have here—the gates of the Unseen, as it were, turning only on the hinges of absolute performance which takes place under the common sunlight of our working day. The King says that Duty—a home-abiding worker for the most part—

being done,  
Let visions of the night or of the day  
Come as they will; and many a time they come  
Until this earth he walks on seems not earth,  
This light that strikes his eyeball is not light,  
This air that smites his forehead is not air,  
But vision—yea, his very hand and foot—  
In moments when he feels he cannot die,  
And knows himself no vision of himself,  
Nor the high God a vision, nor that One  
Who rose again.

Very rich in suggestiveness—if feeble in outline—are the couple of lines found in "In Memoriam":—

The glory of the sum of things  
Will flash along the cords and go.

What Edgar Allan Poe called the Great Secret exercises peculiar mastery over the poet. The subject is introduced in "The Day-Dream":—

For all his life the charm did talk  
About his path, and hover near  
With words of promise in his walk,  
And whispered voices at his ear.

And again, in "The Lover's Tale":—

When first we came from out the pines at noon,  
With hands for eaves, uplooking and almost  
Waiting to see some blessed shape in heaven.

Sometimes trifles overturn great things, coming as they do charged with strange import, which demands, and never fails, in certain mental conditions, to receive instant recognition. In times of grave moment, even the intensest of our lives, the imprint left upon the mind is frequently not the thrilling event itself, which has gathered the interest of our life together, but some trifle in remote relation to the whole affair. In "Maud," for instance, we have:—

Strange that the mind, when fraught  
With a passion so intense  
One would think that it well  
Might drown all life in the eye,—  
That it should, by being so overwrought  
Suddenly strike on a sharper sense,  
For a shell, or a flower, little things  
Which else would have been passed by!

In "Morte d'Arthur," again, we find Sir Bedivere, meditating on the wonders of Excalibur, and wrestling with his temptation to conceal the sword, while walking by the mere's edge,—

Counting the dewy pebbles, fixed in thought.

While speaking of such things as these, mention may be made of that gentle form of tyranny to which no one, perhaps, is wholly a stranger—the tyranny of trifles, as it may be called. Thus, in "Elaine" (and here, again, we find words perfectly in keeping with those in the letter quoted in this paper) it is said:—

As when we dwell upon a word we know,  
Repeating, till the word we know so well  
Becomes a wonder, and we know not why;  
So dwelt the father on her face, and thought  
"Is this Elaine?"

In "Aylmer's Field," again the weird passage occurs:—

Star to star vibrates light: may soul to soul  
Strike through a finer element of her own?  
So—from afar—touch as at once? or why  
That night, that moment, when she named his name,  
Did the keen shriek, "Yes, love, yes, Edith, yes,"  
Shrill, till the comrade of his chambers woke.

These odd experiences, which seem to live on a borderland between this and another life—adequately to depict which requires, as it were, the impossible marriage between the vision of the one life and the language of the other—are, wherever found, necessarily associated with a certain sensitiveness to touch, and indisposition to declare themselves. They come and go, fitfully, unmasked; but their visits are like those of the angels, in the too well-authenticated matters of shortness and paucity. They but reveal openings: what lies beyond is never reached. For the faculty of vision is dim; yet not so much dim as short-lived. The result, however, is much the same. The picture is inadequate, fragmentary, abrupt in its beginnings, shadowy in its outlines. The thing seen recoils from reproduction, as does a sensitive plant from the touch, because—in the Laureate's words—

Because all words, though culled with choicest art,  
Failing to give the bitter of the sweet,  
Wither beneath the palate, and the heart  
Faints, faded by its heat.

Ulysses-like, the poet may say of himself in such connections:—

I am a part of all that I have met:  
Yet all experience is an arch wherethrough  
Gleams that untravelled world whose margin fades  
For ever and for ever when I move.

That these illustrations may, in the mind of some, seem not a little separate from each other, one may not pretend to disbelieve. Yet have they not all, without exception, underground connections? They are at least part and parcel of the life that lies beyond deliberate choice. More than this, they are, to some minds, doubtless not without a very real kind of witness-bearing to what we call the supernatural; not on the side of revelation of any kind, it may be, but rather by way of un- and not always quiet insistence of the fact of incompleteness, which demands from us a larger theory of life than the material one can afford:—

A deep below the deep,  
And a height beyond the height  
Our hearing is not hearing,  
And our seeing is not sight.

It may be, that could we but see aright, we should find that this subtle presence—this power, to borrow a phrase from Emerson, "which trifles with time and space"—that ever and anon stings our dull souls into recognition of its nearness to us, is none other than that over which, with pauseless, and in measure, irresponsible activity, flows the current of our outer life; is that, indeed, which, alike unacknowledged and unconditioned, gives to that very life much of its form, its very mystery of colour, and its hints of ideal significance.—*London Spectator.*

### JANE AUSTEN AND CHARLOTTE BRONTË.

In fact, humour would at all times have been the poorest excuse to offer to Miss Brontë for any form of moral dereliction, for it was the one quality she lacked herself, and failed to tolerate it in others. Sam Weller was apparently as obnoxious to her as was Falstaff, for she would not even consent to meet Dickens, when she was being lionized in London society—a degree of abstemiousness on her part which it is disheartening to contemplate. It does not seem too much to say that every short-coming in Charlotte Brontë's admirable work, every limitation of her splendid genius, arose primarily from her want of humour. Her severities of judgment—and who more severe than she?—were due to the same melancholy cause; for humour is the kindest thing alive. Compare the harshness with which she handles her hapless curates, and the comparative cruelty of her treatment, with the surpassing lightness of Miss Austen's touch as she rounds and completes her immortal clerical portraits. Miss Brontë tells us, in one of her letters, that she regarded all curates as "highly uninteresting, narrow, and unattractive specimens of the coarser sex," just as she found all the Belgian school-girls "cold, selfish, animal, and inferior." But to Miss Austen's keen and friendly eye the narrowest of clergymen was not wholly uninteresting, the most inferior of school-girls not without some claim to our consideration; even the coarseness of the male sex was far from vexing her maidenly serenity, probably because she was unacquainted with the Rochester type. Mr. Elton is certainly narrow, Mary Bennet extremely inferior; but their authoress only laughs at them softly, with a quiet tolerance and a good-natured

sense of amusement at their follies. It was little wonder that Charlotte Brontë, who had at all times the courage of her convictions, could not and would not read Jane Austen's novels. "They have not got story enough for me," she boldly affirmed. "I don't want my blood curdled, but I like to have it stirred. Miss Austen strikes me as milk-and-watery, and, to say truth, as dull." Of course she did! How was a woman, whose ideas of after-dinner conversation are embodied in the amazing language of Baroness Ingram and her titled friends, to appreciate the delicious, sleepy small talk, in *Sense and Sensibility*, about the respective heights of the respective grandchildren? It is to Miss Brontë's abiding lack of humour that we owe such stately caricatures as Blanche Ingram, and all the high-born, ill-bred company who gather in Thornfield Hall, like a group fresh from Madame Tussaud's ingenious workshop, and against whose waxen unreality Jane Eyre and Rochester, alive to their very finger-tips, contrast like twin sparks of fire. It was her lack of humour, too, which beguiled her into asserting that the forty "wicked, sophisticated, and immoral French novels" which found their way down to lonely Haworth gave her "a thorough idea of France and Paris,"—alas, poor misjudged France!—and which made her think Thackeray very nearly as wicked, sophisticated, and immoral as the French novels. Even her dislike for children was probably due to the same irremediable misfortune; for the humours of children are the only redeeming points amid their general naughtiness and vexing misbehaviour. Mr. Swinburne, guiltless himself of any jocular tendencies, has made the unique discovery that Charlotte Brontë strongly resembles Cervantes, and that Paul Emanuel is a modern counterpart of Don Quixote; and well it is for our poet that the irascible little professor never heard him hint at such a similarity. Surely, to use one of Mr. Swinburne's own incomparable expressions, the parallel is no better than a "sublimous absurdity."—*Atlantic Monthly.*

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

#### THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

It is not often that a young lady with auburn locks has the strong mind that will allow her to look upon that gift as a means of furthering her temporal welfare, yet such an one was Miss Minnie Maddern, if report be true; for the newspapers say that she had the hardihood to go out driving and enjoying our fine, bracing, Canadian climate behind a distinctly white horse, thus emphasizing the modern saw that a red-haired girl and a white horse are always seen together. Whether the horse was a particularly good or fast animal was not specially mentioned, and a reasonable inference would be that the fair comedienne knew the value of having the town talk about the inevitable association of auburn locks and Messenger stock, to the advantage finally of the theatrical treasury. Be this as it may, Miss Maddern had a successful though short season at the Grand last week.

This week opened with Mr. Robert Buchanan's comedy drama of "Fascination," in which Miss Cora Tanner played the part of *Lady Madge Slashton*, an impulsive, generous-hearted girl, who is made jealous of her lover, *Lord Islay*—not without good reason—by the machinations of the stage villain, *Count la Grange*. She dons male attire, and, under the protection of her brother, follows *Islay* to the luxurious rooms of a St. John's Wood beauty, *Mrs. Delamere*, and some pretty complications ensue, only to be finally cleared up, as a matter of course. Either Mr. Buchanan or the management wisely forestall criticism by calling the play "improbable" in the bills, for it is very unlikely that a gently-nurtured English lady would commit such a venturesome act as that of *Lady Madge*, and still more unlikely that a sensible brother would permit such a wild and reprehensible action. The un-English air of all the actors, as well as their decidedly American pronunciation of the English supposed to be spoken by titled personages heightens the improbability, and makes the play appear more a satire upon the society of the Mother Country than a portrayal of its life.

A detail, slight though it may be, which shows the pseudo-Anglicism of this representation, is the fact that the gentlemen when in evening dress carry shiny and carefully brushed high hats instead of the opera hat in vogue for such purposes. An exception to this American-English must be recorded in the person of Mr. Charles Coote, whose *Rev. Mr. Colley* was a splendid bit of comedy, and very like a good many young clergymen we have seen here. Miss Tanner herself developed no strength, as she might have done in the scenes delineating her disappointment in her too susceptible lover, but was only a commonplace woman, and a commonplace woman would never have worn a man's costume and departed on such a quest. As *Charles Marlow*, the young Jamaican, she was probably true to the picture the New York *Anglophobists* love to draw of the *jeunesse dorée* of Great Britain, but I regret to say the result was just a trifle vulgar. Miss Eleanor Carey as the adventuress was in the main satisfactory, and her French accomplice, with *Islay* and *Lord Sam Slashton*, occasionally showed strength, but it was melodramatic rather than dramatic strength.

#### SAMSON.

The Philharmonic Society on Tuesday evening gave the first of its regular concerts of this season, when Handel's *Samson* was sung. While lacking the inspiration offered by the great subject of the *Messiah*, there is a human as well as a dramatic interest in *Samson* that makes

its action and movement more easily understood by the multitude, and there is also a richness in its music that is not heard in the severely classical lines of the *Messiah*. The soloists represent people with human hearts and feelings and wrongs, and the choruses represent alternately the worship of the Israelites and that of the Philistines. In this performance the chorus sang well. It was weak in tenors; and the small but devoted band of these gentlemen evidently tired of the demands made upon them, for the excellence with which they commenced faded into decided weakness of intonation towards the end. Generally speaking the attacks were good and certain in all voices, and the solidity of tone throughout was most praiseworthy, the sopranos and basses especially being clear and distinct beyond the ordinary criterion. The orchestra was principally distinguished by a decidedly thick, woolly tone in the strings and by indecision in the wind parts. In some places, such as the short interludes in the choruses, the band seemed to take a nervous fit on being deprived of the support of the voices and played very timidly. In the minuet of the introduction there was a total absence of accentuation, so that it was nearly concluded before it became evident that the band was playing in triple time. Still as the orchestra was mainly composed of the ladies and gentlemen who constitute Mr. Torrington's orchestra, the standard of judgment must not be set up too high, and considering this fact many little faults must be condoned, and a feeling of congratulation should rise uppermost because we have a budding orchestra in our midst, which can present so creditable an assistance in so massive a work as *Samson*. Mr. Torrington's efforts to keep his forces under control were so evident that no one can deny him the praise due to a thorough understanding of his subject, and to his striving after a correct and proper performance of it, and to-day, as always, the pride of the Philharmonic Society must be its splendid chorus, on which most of his work and effort is lavished.

The soloists were not at all equal in their excellence. First must come Mr. D. M. Babcock, whose splendid singing delighted every one, and whose full, large voice was a pleasure to all who heard it. But even he showed signs of weariness in his "Honour and Arms" before it was finished. Next, I think, should be ranked Mlle. Adele Strauss, whose earnest singing and excellent vocalization showed that oratorio is a congenial field of effort for her. Her voice is full and strong, and her training showed to better advantage than in any previous public effort. In her last solo the minor strains seemed to cause a slight uncertainty of intonation, but beyond this her performance was all that could be desired. Miss Hortense Pierse, a young lady of splendid appearance, was the soprano. She has a voice of most agreeable timbre, well trained and always certain in its intonation, and she knew her music thoroughly and sang it faithfully. Her florid work was fluent and easy in its performance, and, if not great, Miss Pierse was certainly excellent. The only drawback about her singing was its level character and the absence of any attempt at dramatic representation. Mr. Warrington well upheld the credit of Toronto's vocalists, though I have heard him sing with greater fulness and solidity of tone. The part of *Manoah* gave him an excellent opportunity to show feeling and pathos, and he made full use of it. Mr. Charles A. Rice, the tenor, was a decided disappointment. His voice is small, light and not disagreeable, but his style lacks finish and is absolutely devoid of dignity. Besides this, he did not know his music, made frequent mistakes and caused the dissolution of the duet with *Delilah*, which had to be commenced over again. A new voice, that of Mr. A. E. Dent, was presented to sing the part of the *Messenger*, and the young gentleman sang it very creditably.

MR. FREDERIC ARCHER was in Toronto again last week and played at St. Basil's Church on Thursday evening, and at the College of Music on Saturday evening. At the former he was assisted by Mons. Boucher, Miss Bolster, Miss Ormsby, Mrs. C. Smith, and Messrs. Kirk and Kelly.

ON Friday of last week the organ in the New Richmond Methodist Church was opened by Mr. G. H. Rider, its builder, and Mr. A. S. Vogt, with Mrs. C. W. Harrison, Mrs. Galloway, and Messrs. Warrington, Coates, and Huestis as vocalists.

NEXT week will see *The Twelve Temptations* at the Grand Opera House, a spectacular extravaganza with handsome scenery and clever mechanical effects. A ballet will be *en evidence*, and an amusing and enjoyable departure from the later attractions offered by Manager Sheppard may be anticipated.

ON Thursday evening next the Canadian Order of Foresters will offer a programme of musical excellence. In addition to Mlle. Adele Strauss, Mrs. Mackelcan, Mr. E. W. Schuch, Master Georgie Fox, Mr. J. Fax, and Mr. H. L. Clarke of local fame, Mr. S. E. Walt, a Boston tenor, has been engaged, together with Miss Maud Morgan, of New York, a harpist of great celebrity.

MR. GEORG HENSCHEL and Madame Henschel may be expected to give one of their song recitals in Toronto soon. These entertainments are spoken of as being of the highest artistic value, and have been very popular in London, England.

MONDAY next will see the great Levy with a company to support him, of whom good things are said. The *Cincinnati Commercial Gazette*, October 1st, 1888, says: The magnificent playing of Levy is a great card and attracts crowds to the Exposition. He is the great cornetist of the world, and was never in better form than at present.

It is a new experience to watch the hush which comes over the multitude packed into Main Hall, when this great musician raises his cornet to his lips, and as he proceeds to perform impossibilities, to whisper as light as the zephyr's murmur to the rose, or ring out a challenge like him "whose blast upon a bugle horn was worth ten thousand men," the excitement becomes painfully intense.

This is how they advertise talent in Baltimore. Some of our local *impresarios*, when at a loss how to describe their artists, may find the descriptions of service: "The flute-voiced cantatrice, Miss Lulu Richardson; the melting tenor soloist, Mr. L. G. Gibbs; sympathetic tenor soloist, Mr. G. W. Palmer; the mellow, rich basso soloist, Mr. S. G. Wesley; the world-entrancing basso soloist, Mr. F. Johnston, and the grand *ore rotundo* baritone soloist, Mr. William F. Taylor."

PATTI begins another "farewell" American tour on December 8. The United States, Canada, and Mexico will be included and grand opera will be played. Let us hope that it will be modern grand opera, and not altogether that of the past generation, and we also devoutly pray that she will not, this time, adopt the baneful "star" system, but bring a support that may be in a measure worthy of her. In the meantime, as long as America pays her about four times as much per performance as England does, Patti's farewells may fairly be expected to be perennial.

MR. TORRINGTON has been the recipient of a complimentary notice in the *American Musician* nearly a page in length, with illustrations of his well-known face and of the College of Music.

B. NATURAL.

#### NOTES.

JOSEF HOFMANN's young rival, Hegner, appears to be a genuine musical prodigy. The *London Times* speaks of one of his recent performances as follows:—"The piano-forte recital given by little Otto Hegner at St. James' Hall was an occasion of special interest for those among the numerous audience who have watched, and continue to watch, the progress of the boy pianist's powers as time goes on and programmes become more ambitious. All controversy as to the nature of those powers may be considered at an end. Events by this time have clearly shown that, as far as young Hegner at any rate is concerned, no undue strain upon the faculties has been imposed either by study or by the fatigue incidental to public appearances; that here, in short, is one of those cases, familiar enough to readers of musical biography, where an exceptional gift, following its natural course, obtains exceptionally early development, and the so-called precocity is a thing of seeming, not of reality."

A NEW operetta, by B. C. Stephenson and Alfred Cellier will be produced at the Lyric Theatre, April 30. "Dorothy" will be withdrawn April 13, after a run of 938 performances.

NAT. GOODWIN opens his new play, *A Gold Mine*, in New York, on March 4. He claims that the character of "Silas K. Woolsoke" will fit him better than any he has ever had before.

THE 200th performance of *Nadja* takes place on March 8th. *Nadja* is highly remunerative to its managers, but not to its composer, M. Chassaigne, who disposed of his rights in the opera over a year ago for £1,000; since then it has been performed in America at the Avenue Theatre, London, to upwards of \$400,000, and royalties have been paid to the amount of \$40,000.

MDLLE. RHEA has completed negotiations for a new play on a historical subject, which will admit of handsome scenery and beautiful costumes. The accomplished actress is delighted with the principal rôle. She will produce it next season.

PSALMODY in its modern sense may be regarded as having originated in the sixteenth century, when Clement Marek, the court poet of Francis I., translated fifty-two psalms into French verse. Psalm-singing was at first a fashionable amusement of the gay courtiers of Francis.

THE Czar of Russia has donated the St. Petersburg Balshey Teatr' (Grand Theatre) to Anton Rubinstein, the director of the local Imperial Conservatory, who intends to transform the immense edifice into a concert hall and class rooms for the use of the institution over which he presides. The Grand Theatre was for many years the home of the Imperial Italian opera and was abandoned owing to doubts as to its stability; it will be entirely rebuilt at a cost of 3,000,000 roubles (about \$1,200,000) and it is expected that it will be ready for occupancy about 1892.

#### NEW MUSIC.

WE have received from Messrs. Oliver Ditson and Company, Boston, the *Popular Piano Collection*. A splendid collection of good piano music, in one large book, sheet music size, finely printed and bound, which has just been published, and will, without doubt, find a ready welcome among all who admire music that is above the ordinary, and yet not too difficult for the young player. The choice piano pieces in this new book are by the well-known composers, Bohm, Behr, Ardit, Wilon, Mack, Sudds, King, Hoffman, Eilenberg, Lange, Popp, Goerdeler, Smith and others, and have been carefully selected, with the view of satisfying tastes and meeting the requirements of ordinary performers on the piano. \$1.

The same publishers have recently issued:—*Gethsemans* ("Thy will be done"). A sacred song; words by Alois Volkmer; music by Odoardo Barri. 35 cents.

*Across the Bridge*. A song by George L. Brun.  
*Sleep, Baby, Sleep*. A lullaby; words by Ada M. Simpson; music by J. DeW. Lovett.  
*Polonaise*, by L. Gobbaerts.  
*An Old Garden*. A song; words by Helen M. Burnside; music by Hope Temple.  
*Expand Thy Wings Celestial Dove*; Soprano Solo and Quartet, by F. D. Andrews.  
*The Angels' Serenade (La Serenata)*, by Braga. Transcription by Sidney Smith.

MESSRS. SUCKLING AND SONS, Toronto, have recently published Canadian Copyright Editions of two songs—*Thy Captive*. Words by William Boosey; music by Frank L. Moir. 50 cents.  
*More and More*. Words by John Muir; music by F. Paolo Tosti. 50 cents.

#### LIBRARY TABLE.

DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY. Edited by Leslie Stephen. Vol. XVII. Edward—Erskine. New York: Macmillan and Co.; London: Smith, Elder and Co., 1889; Toronto: Williamson and Co. \$3.75.

When it is remarked that this volume begins with the Edwards, it will readily be judged that it will be one of the most interesting of all which have yet appeared; and so in fact it turns out. There is indeed a prodigious amount of information on English history furnished in the present volume, with marvellous accuracy, and in a form so interesting as to be still more marvellous in a book which is described as a "Dictionary."

The very first article on Edward the Elder, son and successor of Alfred the Great, is brief, yet full, and gives an excellent notice of the reign of the "unconquered King," as Florence of Worcester, calls him. This article, like most of those on this period is from the pen of Mr. Hunt, who is thoroughly at home in this period of history, and shows himself a true and loyal disciple of his great master, Dr. Freeman. He writes the following article on the brief reign and tragic ending of Edward the Martyr, murdered at the instigation of his step-mother, so that his place might be taken by Ethelred the Unready—a crime which proved the cause of "woes unnumbered," directly and indirectly, to the English people.

Very admirable, too, is the article on Edward the Confessor, giving as complete and accurate an account of the disputed questions of the time as perhaps will ever be possible. Here we see the truth about Godwin and Harold and the great William; and how the fortunes of nations are determined by what seems to men the merest accidents, although there are higher points of view from which such subjects may be regarded. The account of the founding of the great Abbey of Westminster, with the brief references to its subsequent history, is, of course, full of interest.

The article on Edward I., "the greatest of the Plantagenets," is admirable from beginning to end. It is one of the strange contradictions of character that Henry III., the English king who was the most completely under foreign influences of any sovereign of the period, should have been precisely that member of the great Angevin family who was most jealous of his rights to be an Englishman. He was the first descendant of the Conqueror who was English-born, and in whose reign English began to be the prevailing language of high and low throughout the kingdom. Glorifying in his descent from the old Saxon stock, he rebuilt the choir of Westminster Abbey in honour of the Confessor, and called his eldest son by his name. Hence, all the line of the Edwards from the First to the Sixth. To the present generation it will probably be given to see a Seventh. As far as we can judge, Mr. Hunt's treatment of the difficulties of the first Edward's reign is thoroughly satisfactory. The story of his wildish youth among his foreign retainers will be new to many readers of English history. The story of Queen Eleanor sucking the poison out of her husband's wound is discredited, and still more strongly under "Eleanor." The question of the rights of the English Crown over Scotland or any part of it is stated accurately, and probably neither Scotsmen nor Englishmen will find any serious fault with the writer's statements, especially if they are tolerably well informed and sensible. Mr. Hunt mentions the king's dying request that his bones might be carried at the head of the army in the campaign against the Scotch, and the manner in which it was disregarded. Dean Stanley used to point out that the tomb of Edward I., with its well-known inscription, "Malleus Scotorum," was the only royal tomb in the Confessor's chapel which had no canopy—a difference which may have been occasioned by the wish to preserve the appearance of conforming to the desire of the king. As a matter of fact, there was a wooden canopy which was destroyed by fire and never restored. And this circumstance may equally harmonize with the Dean's theory of the tomb being left in such a condition that the body might, if necessary, be removed.

The history of Edward II., and his miseries and misfortunes is treated at considerable length. Mr. Hunt here gives place to Professor Tout, who has no doubt that the ordinary account of the king's death is the correct one. He mentions the story of Edward's having escaped from Berkeley Castle, and, "after long wanderings in Ireland, England, the Low Countries and France, ended his life in a hermit's cell in Lombardy," and some of our readers may remember an attempt made, a few years ago, in some of the periodicals, to give evidence to this story; but there is no real doubt that Edward was murdered, in the most barbarous manner, in Berkeley Castle, and that his remains

were deposited and still remain in the splendid tomb which stands on the north side of the choir in Gloucester Cathedral.

Of the great Edward III., Mr. Hunt says: "In person he was graceful, and his face was 'as the face of a god.' His manners were courtly and his voice winning. He was strong and active, and loved hunting, hawking, the practice of knightly exercises, and, above all, war itself." The glorious story of his reign—with the eternal memory of Crécy and Poitiers—and, alas! also the inglorious end of it, are too well-known to need anything more than a reference to them; and the same may be said of his great son, Edward the Black Prince.

Touching King Edward VI. we have a very excellent article, but is Mr. Lee correct in saying that "no monument marked the grave?" Unless we are greatly mistaken, an altar tomb was placed over the remains of Edward VI. to the west of Henry VII.'s tomb. This altar tomb, in memory of the only Puritan King that England ever had, Dean Stanley used to tell visitors, was the only monument destroyed by the Puritans in Westminster Abbey during "the great rebellion." Stanley, however, found a piece of the white marble of the tomb in the king's grave, and from that had the whole tomb reconstructed, working the fragment of the old one into the structure. It may be interesting to remember that it was at this altar that Stanley gathered the New Testament revisers in 1869, to receive the Holy Communion before beginning their work.

We are indebted to Dr. Jessopp for an enjoyable article on Queen Elizabeth, written with his usual literary ability, although perhaps not with the exact accuracy which is generally found in these columns. As one instance of a slight slip, attention has been drawn to his speaking of "Shane O'Neil's savage murder in a characteristic Irish brawl and massacre," whereas O'Neil was murdered by the Scots under young Alister McDonnell. This has been pointed out in the *Academy* by the Rev. H. S. Fagan; and we imagine that there is no doubt of the fact. We must, however, add that Dr. Jessopp's view of the character of the great queen commends itself to our judgment, and we recommend it to those who have formed hasty and superficial views of her character and reign.

Among the minor notices, we came upon the name of one who had somewhat more than a local reputation, especially among campanologists, the Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe. We need hardly say that we have crowds of Ellises and Elliots and Eliots and Elliotts and Eliotts. But we must hold our hand. We think we have said enough to show the extreme value and interest of this volume; and we can assure our readers that it would be quite easy to pass over all the illustrious names which we have mentioned, and yet find matter no less attractive than that which we have indicated.

THE MANIFOLD CYCLOPEDIA. Vol. XI. Debt—Dominie. New York: John B. Alden. Pp. 640. Cloth, 50 cents; half Morocco, 65 cents.

This volume has all the commendable characteristics of its predecessors. All the subjects have been treated with sufficient fulness for all practical purposes, and we cannot see that any title of importance has been omitted. Among the articles treated at some length we notice that Debt with its subheads has over seven pages; while kindred topics such as Debtor and Creditor occupy over six pages more. Democracy has about seven pages; Denmark nearly ten pages; Dentistry about six pages; Descent of Man six pages; Development, eleven pages. Diet, eight pages; Digestion, twenty-three pages; Diphtheria, five pages, and nearly eight pages are devoted to the Devil, demonology, witchcraft, etc. Detroit occupies four pages, while two were deemed sufficient for a statesman like Disraeli.

PORTFOLIO PAPERS. By Philip Gilbert Hamerton. Boston: Roberts Bros; Toronto: Williamson & Co., 1889.

In this volume Mr. Hamerton has collected a number of biographies and essays originally published in the *Portfolio* of which he is the editor. He has made his "selection on the principle of keeping only what was of permanent value, at least as to subject." Mr. Hamerton is one of the most accomplished and authoritative of living writers on matters pertaining to art; and the attractiveness of his style is no less conspicuous than the soundness of his judgments. In the first part of the present volume he gives biographical and critical sketches of Constable, Etty, Chintreuil, Adrien, Guignet and Goya. The "Notes on Aesthetics," "Essays" and "Conversations" are full of instruction and suggestion. The essays are on "Style," "Soul and Matter in the Fine Arts," "The Value of the Fine Arts" and "Can Science help Art?" The "Conversations" are on the subject of "Book Illustration," and the discussions, which are carried on by the Poet, the Artist, the Critic and the Scientist, and present the art of illustration from many points of view, have a distinctly practical value altogether apart from their literary charm. The volume, which is printed in clear, bold type and tastefully bound, has for frontispiece a portrait of the author sketched from the life by Henri Manesse.

THE STORY OF MEDIEVAL FRANCE. By Gustave Masson, B.A. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; London: T. Fisher Unwin; Toronto: Williamson and Co. \$1.50.

This volume of the "Story of the Nations" series covers the period of French history from 987 to 1515, from the accession of the first Capetian king to the death of Louis XII. and the dawn of the Reformation. The period is

one full of interest. It was the age of feudalism, of the Crusades, and of the almost unceasing wars between England and France. In the earlier part of it the great feudal barons obtained an importance and power that rendered them almost independent of their sovereign, whom they often openly defied. Towards the close of it the power of the barons was broken, the ascendancy of the king completely established, and the rights of the people to some extent recognized. Mr. Masson has done his work with commendable success. His book is not a mere tale of battles and political intrigues. The condition of the people is described and the growth of literature and art is carefully noted. The value of the "Story" is enhanced by the chronological table showing the political, ecclesiastical, and literary events of the period in parallel columns; a long list of historical authorities; a chronological list of the chancellors of France during the period; a genealogical table of the Capetian kings; a tabular view of the states-general from their commencement to the reign of Louis XII.; a glossary of mediæval words, and a full index.

THE *Methodist Magazine* for March contains "Vagabond Vignettes," by Rev. Geo. J. Bond, B.A.; "In the German Fatherland," by S. D. Green, D.D.; "The Moral Freedom of Man," by Professor Goldwin Smith, abridged from an article in the *London Daily News*; a continuation of Senator Macdonald's interesting "Recollections of British Methodism in Toronto"; "Etchings by Shakespeare," by Rev. S. B. Dunn; "Methodism in Great Britain," by Rev. Dr. Steward, of Sackville University; and "Sam Naylor," a story by Mrs. Amelia E. Barr, illustrative of Methodism in the back country.

"ENGLAND AND GERMANY IN EAST AFRICA" forms the subject of the opening paper in the February *Fortnightly*. Professor Dowden writes on "Hopes and Fears for Literature." Mr. Swinburne continues his notice of "Victor Hugo's Poetry." Professor Tyndall furnishes another instalment of his articles on "English Lighthouse Management." Dr. Ingram writes on "Two Centuries of Irish History," and Mrs. Lynn Linton begins her series on "Characteristics of English Women." Among the other articles the unsigned one on "The Trade of Author" will probably attract most attention.

"BELLA DEMONIA," by Selina Dolaro, the complete novel in *Lippincott's* for March, occupies more than two-thirds of the number. It was the last work of the authoress who died in December last, and of whom Mr. Edward Heron-Allen writes for this number a short memorial sketch. John Sartain in his "Reminiscences of Edgar Allan Poe" gives the little song of eighteen lines, written by the poet for *Sartain's Magazine*, out of which he ultimately developed "The Bells" as we know it. John Habberton's "At Last" is continued. Charlotte Adams tells of her literary struggles and successes in "How I succeeded in Literature," and C. Davis English contributes "The Apotheosis of Travel." The poetry of the number is by Edgar Fawcett and Elliott Coues.

THE *Popular Science Quarterly* for March, opens with a striking article by H. L. Osgood, upon "Scientific Anarchism," reviewing the theories of Proudhon and showing the aims of American Anarchists. Professor Gustav Cohn of Göttingen, taking the progressive income taxes of Switzerland as his text, indicates the merits and the dangers of this democratic scheme of taxation. Mr. Arnold Forster (son of the late Irish Secretary) presents forcibly the Unionist view of the Irish question. A conservative Frenchman, M. Gauvain, explains the causes of the present crisis in France and the significance of "Boulangism." Mr. Bernheim sketches the history of the ballot in New York, and argues for the Australian system. Professor Woodrow Wilson analyzes and criticizes Bryce's "American Commonwealth."

*Cassell's Family Magazine* for March has for its frontispiece a charming picture of a handsome young girl, and looking into her youthful face from across the page is the sharp-featured, sour visaged "Miss Jigger," a character in Mr. Barrett's serial, "Under a Strange Mask." The Family Doctor this month treats of coughs and colds which are very apt to prevail at this season of the year. The Rev. S. Baring-Gould writes of the "Elixir of Youth;" while "J. W. S." describes "All Night at a Junction," which gives us an excellent idea of the life of the man who works the switches from the signal tower. Housekeepers will be interested in "Our New House and its Plenishings," also in the monthly instalment of "Our National School of Housewifery." One who has suffered from "Stammering and Stuttering" gives himself as a warning to parents who do not have their children broken of this difficulty while they are young, which is the only time that anything can be done. "Our Second Visit to Mars" takes the reader up among the stars, and the fashion letters from London and Paris bring her down again to this terrestrial ball. There are the serials of the New Year still running, and there are short stories and poetry and a "Gatherer" full of useful information.

THE opening paper in the March *Scribner* is "The Railway Mail Service" by Thomas L. James, at one time Postmaster of New York and afterwards Postmaster-General in Garfield's Cabinet; Mr. Stevenson's "Master of Ballantrae" is continued, and William McKendree Bangs contributes a short story, entitled "Extenuating Circumstances;" William F. Althrop, the musical critic, describes some of Wagner's heroes and heroines, the illustrations being from photographs of prominent personators of the parts. Under the title of "A German Rome," Prof. Scott, of Princeton, describes the little-known German town of

Treves, which was the capital of a large part of the Roman world for more than a century. "Economy in Intellectual Work," by Wm. H. Burnham, Ph.D., is a thoughtful paper, full of valuable suggestions to overworked men and women, and to parents and teachers. The End Paper, "An Animated Conversation," in dialogue form, is by Henry James. Col. Higginson, Graham R. Tomson and Zoé Dana Underhill contribute the poetry of the number.

WE have received two books which profess to forecast "coming events" affecting the political future of Canada. *The Battle of the Swash and the Capture of Canada*, by Samuel Barton (Montreal: J. Theo. Robinson. Paper, 25 cts.), relates the causes which led to a declaration of war by Canada against the United States, the incidents of the war, and the terms upon which peace was concluded. New York was bombarded and laid in ruins by British ironclads, and the United States Government was ultimately compelled to accept peace on the terms proposed by Great Britain—terms involving the forced purchase of Canada and the assumption of her national debt.

*The Storm of '92*, by W. H. C. Lawrence (Toronto: Sheppard Publishing Company. Paper, 25 cts.), is "a grandfather's tale told in 1932." It attributes the outbreak of the war to somewhat similar causes, but the incidents and results are entirely different. It is the Americans who rashly declare war, the conflict is not so quickly decided and the end is more glorious for Canada. Mr. Lawrence tells the story of invasion and resistance with much animation and no little skill; and the patriotic spirit which is manifested in every page cannot fail to strengthen the national pride and national hope of all Canadians. Both these works are political pamphlets rather than stories. *The Battle of the Swash* is intended to rebuke the United States Congress for its penny-wise neglect of the navy; *The Storm of '92* is a plea for Imperial federation. We should mention that with the former is bound Dr. W. George Beer's patriotic speech at Syracuse last October.

#### LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

MR. GEORGE ILES, formerly of Montreal, has a paper in the *March Popular Science Monthly*, on "Competition and Trusts."

In *Harper's Bazar*, published last Saturday, there is a short story by Mr. W. Macdonald Oxley, of Ottawa, entitled "Love Triumphant."

It is reported that 1,000 copies of Professor Bryce's *American Commonwealth* have already been sold in England and 3,000 in the United States.

THE new edition of Mr. Wemyss Reid's *Life of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Forster*, about to be issued, is in one volume, and will contain additional matter and a new portrait.

THE *Atlantic* for March contains a timely article on "The Isthmus and Our Government," by Mr. Stuart F. Weld, giving a history of the diplomatic negotiations in regard to the canal.

No less than eight editions have been called for of the *Contemporary Review* for February containing the article on the Bismarck Dynasty. This article is said to be circulating freely in Germany.

MR. CORDY JEAFFRESON, author of *Lady Hamilton and Nelson*, is writing an additional volume, clearing the Queen of Naples from Lady Hamilton's charge of being the mother of Nelson's daughter, Horatia.

THE first edition of Mr. Cockin's *Gentleman Dick o' the Greys and Other Poems* is already exhausted and a second edition will be issued immediately. The success of Mr. Cockin's book is gratifying, but by no means surprising to those who know its merits.

THE June number of the *Political Science Quarterly* will contain an article by Prof. Sloane of Princeton, editor of the *New Princeton Review*, and will continue and bring down to the 1st of May the "Record of Events" heretofore published in the *New Princeton Review*.

*Micah Clarke: His Statement* is the title of an autobiographic tale of Monmouth's Rebellion which is soon to be published by Longmans, Green & Co. It is rather a narrative of personal adventure than a romance, yet the author's art recalls both *Lorna Doone* and *Kidnapped*.

A RECENT number of *America* contains a post-card in fac-simile from the Hon. W. E. Gladstone, testifying to his study of Washington "forty years ago with love and admiration." Although mailed at Chester, England, November 30, and received at Chicago December 12, the card was not delivered until January 29.

MR. FROUDE is writing a novel describing wild country life in Ireland a century ago. According to *The Evening Post*, Lord Coleridge, addressing the Archaeological Society, describes Froude's history as a romance, and says he is a brilliant and fascinating writer, but that neither Oxford nor Cambridge includes him among the authorities in history at the examinations.

THE *Contemporary Review* for March (New York: Leonard Scott Publishing Co.) will contain an important paper on the Panama Canal by the eminent traveller, Mr. Edward Whymper, illustrated by a large chart of the scene of operations, etc. An interesting and full result of the financial condition of the Canal Company appeared in the *Nineteenth Century* for February, 1888, which is particularly valuable in view of the recent collapse of the enterprise.

MR. JOHN A. TAYLOR, for many years connected with the Toronto News Company, has retired to enter into business for himself as proprietor of the National Publish-

ing Company. Mr. Taylor has arranged to bring out shortly cheap editions—the "Red Letter Series"—of a number of popular novels: *The Ladies Gallery*, by Justin McCarthy and Mrs. Campbell Præd, who made such a hit last year in their joint production, *The Right Honourable*; *Long Odds*, a new novel by Hawley Smart; and *The Match of the Season*, a society novel by Mrs. Alex. Fraser.

GEORGE KENNAN's next article in *The Century* will be an episode of his Siberian journey, and will have nothing to do with the exiles. Mr. Kennan had a very strange and amusing experience which he will describe in this article, viz.: "A Visit to One of the Grand Lamas of Asia." The Grand Lama of Thibet is the one best known to the world, but there is also a Grand Lama in the Trans-Baikal—one whom no European is known to have visited in sixty years except Mr. Kennan. Mr. Kennan exchanged photographs with this Incarnation of the Divine, and the portrait of the old dignitary will form the frontispiece of the *March Century*.

THE 22nd of February was the seventieth anniversary of the birth of James Russell Lowell, and the *New York Critic* of February 23 celebrated the event by printing a "Lowell Birthday Number," containing seventy letters and poems of greeting and congratulation addressed to the distinguished poet, scholar and patriot by American and English men and women of letters. Lord Tennyson heads the English list, and the venerable John G. Whittier the American; and among the contributors are Mr. Gladstone, Chief Justice Coleridge, Prof. F. T. Palgrave, Frederick Locker, Andrew Lang, Dr. O. W. Holmes, Edmund C. Stedman, Charles Dudley Warner, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Bishop Potter, Frank R. Stockton, Edith M. Thomas, President Gilman of Johns Hopkins, President Barnard of Columbia, President Patton of Princeton, Richard W. Gilder, Edward Eggleston, George William Curtis, Dr. Howard Crosby, Marion Crawford, George W. Cable, Phillips Brooks, Prof. Boyesen and Thomas Bailey Aldrich. This "Birthday Number" of *The Critic* to Mr. Lowell is a noteworthy tribute to the genius and character of the still youthful if no longer young poet in whose honour it is published. Mr. Clinton Scollard contributes the following apt lines:

When late you struck so clear a youthful note,  
We did not dream life's turning goal was near;  
Long may your fingers press the minstrel's out  
Whose vibrant strains the world delights to hear;  
And may the future years that flower for you  
Yield sweet "Heartsease" and not the bitter "Rue."

THE CANADIAN MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION.—The report of the eighth annual meeting of the Canadian Mutual Aid Association must be gratifying, not only to policy holders, but to those who may be ultimately interested in the policies. The volume of business during the past year was so far in advance of any previous year that after paying a large amount to beneficiaries the directors were able to carry a very considerable sum to the "Reserve and Disbursement Fund." The funds of the association are not only safely but profitably invested, the greater portion bearing interest at the rate of six and seven per cent. The policy of "reliable insurance at reasonable cost," adopted by the Canadian Mutual is evidently growing in popularity.

WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.—The report presented by the directors at the thirty-eighth annual meeting of this company, held on the 21st ult., fully justified the buoyant and congratulatory tone which characterized the President's speech in moving its adoption. The business of the company during the past year was of the most satisfactory character, and the prospects of increasing and profitable business in the future seem well assured. To carry out still further the prudent policy pursued by the management heretofore it is intimated that certain lines of business in the marine branch will be discontinued altogether.

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY.—This veteran company held its fifty-sixth annual meeting on the 20th ult. The Directors were able to report a profitable general business and a specially marked improvement in the Marine Branch. The financial statement speaks for itself and can scarcely fail to be satisfactory to policyholders and to shareholders. A gratifying feature in the report is the intimation it gives of a general revival of trade throughout the country. A company with a business so widely extended as that of the British America should be able, through its agents, to gauge pretty accurately the commercial condition of the country.

THE CANADA PERMANENT LOAN AND SAVINGS COMPANY.—The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Shareholders of this Company, held on the 20th ult., was of more than ordinary interest. Mr. J. Herbert Mason, who has been Manager of the Company from its inception, and whose zeal, energy and ability have contributed largely to make it what it is—one of the strongest and most important financial institutions in the Dominion—met the shareholders for the first time as President. With a paid up capital of nearly two and a half millions, a reserve fund amounting to \$1,320,000 and nearly \$10,000,000 invested in mortgages on real estate in Ontario and Manitoba, the Canada Permanent is not only the first Mortgage Company in the country but its interests are closely identified with the interests of the people. Perhaps there is no man in Canada who has devoted more intelligent study than Mr. Mason has to questions pertaining to mortgages, land transfers and land values, and it was quite natural that he should, in moving the adoption of the Directors' Report, travel a little out of the beaten path. His speech, which with the report we publish elsewhere, is worthy not only of perusal but of study, and we commend it to the attention of our readers.

# CANADA PERMANENT LOAN AND SAVINGS COMPANY

## ANNUAL MEETING.

The Thirty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the Shareholders was held on Wednesday, the 20th inst., in the Company's building, Toronto Street, the President, J. Herbert Mason, Esq., in the chair.

In opening the meeting, the President explained that the late President, Mr. E. Hooper, had resigned in consequence of advancing age, and that Mr. Nordheimer, the late Vice-President, had kindly and voluntarily retired from that position in order that Mr. Hooper might be elected thereto. The following is the

### DIRECTORS' REPORT.

It is with much satisfaction that the Directors present their Thirty-Fourth Annual Report of the affairs of the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company, and direct attention to the accompanying duly audited financial statements. The volume of business transacted exceeded that of any preceding year, and the results are such as the Directors feel assured will be gratifying to the Shareholders.

The Cash Receipts for the year were \$3,613,510. Of this no less than \$1,910,937 were received from borrowers and on account of mortgage loans. A new and important item appears among the receipts of the year, that of Perpetual Debenture Stock. As foreshadowed in last year's report, the first issue of £100,000 sterling of this 4 per cent. guaranteed stock was offered in London in June last, and was all subscribed for at the issue price. A small amount, £1,850, in excess of the issue has been taken by Debenture holders in exchange for terminable Debentures. The reception of this large sum in July compelled the Directors, till towards the close of the year, to stop accepting supplies of money on Deposit and Debenture, which were freely offered both here and in Great Britain. Notwithstanding this restriction there were received on Deposit \$301,585 and on Debenture \$590,928. To keep within the borrowing powers limited by Statute, it became necessary to issue one million dollars of additional Capital Stock upon which twenty per cent. was called in. This was allotted to the Shareholders *pro rata*, at a premium of fifty per cent., and largely taken by the allottees. With the exception of a small sum since received, the call, together with the premium, was fully paid. The shares not taken were sold at a considerable advance on the issue price.

The demand for money throughout the year was active, and loans on Real Estate to the amount of \$2,081,525 were effected. Rates of interest averaged about the same as in the previous year. As the lending rate has now reached the lowest line at which money can be profitably imported, it may be assumed that no further material reduction will take place, at least for some years.

The profits of the year enabled the Directors, after providing for all expenses, and the Discount and other charges, necessarily heavy, connected with the first issue of Debenture Stock, to declare the usual half-yearly dividends of six per cent. each, to pay the Shareholders' Income Tax thereon, and to add a considerable sum to the Reserve Fund, which now amounts to \$1,320,000. With the Contingent Fund of \$114,089, the sum now reserved to insure the maintenance in the future of the customary dividends, exceeds fifty-seven per cent. on the paid up Capital Stock.

The general aspect of affairs in the two Provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, to which the loaning business of the Company is confined, has improved during the past year. The Directors see no reason to doubt that the constantly progressive development of the rich natural resources of these Provinces, and other parts of the Dominion, will continue to afford employment for all the funds the Company can supply, at rates of interest which, while much lower than those that prevailed a few years ago, will yield a fairly remunerative profit to the Institution.

With a view to make provision for necessary changes in the internal management of the Company, the Directors have made certain alterations in the Bylaws, which will be submitted to this meeting for confirmation.

In consequence of prolonged absence, Mr. Henry Cawthra tendered his resignation as a Director. The vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. Ralph K. Burgess to the position.

The Directors regret to have to record the decease of one of their number, Mr. Joseph Robinson, who has held a seat at the Board for the last twenty-two years, and who was announced as coming forward for re-election at this meeting.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. HERBERT MASON, *President.*

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

#### PROFIT AND LOSS.

56th Dividend .....	\$138,000 00
57th Dividend .....	138,000 00
Municipal Tax on Dividends .....	3,769 70
Discount on Debenture Stock .....	4,866 66
Reserve Fund, addition thereto .....	40,000 00
Contingent Fund, December 31st, 1888 .....	114,089 97
	\$438,726 33
Contingent Fund, January 1st, 1888 .....	\$114,375 38
Net Profits, after providing for Interest on Deposits, Debenture Stock and Debentures, Cost of Management, estimated deductions, &c. ....	311,670 06
Additional Premium on New Stock sold .....	12,680 89
	\$438,726 33

### ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

#### LIABILITIES TO THE PUBLIC.

Deposits .....	\$ 963,021 77
Debentures—Sterling (£903,026 10s.) .....	4,394,728 79
Debentures—Currency .....	484,480 08
Debenture Stock—Sterling (£101,850) .....	495,670 00
Interest due and accrued .....	162,771 51
Sundry Accounts .....	12,641 77
	\$ 6,515,313 92

#### LIABILITIES TO SHAREHOLDERS.

Capital Stock paid up .....	\$ 2,000,000 00
Capital Stock (\$2,500,000, 20 per cent. paid) .....	499,208 56
Reserve Fund .....	1,320,000 00
Contingent Fund .....	114,089 97
Dividends unclaimed .....	\$ 6 60
57th Dividend declared .....	138,000 00
	138,006 60
	\$10,586,619 05

#### ASSETS.

Mortgages upon Real Estate .....	\$9,975,860 48
Mortgages upon other securities .....	60,648 79
	\$10,036,509 27
Municipal Debentures .....	245,341 69
Company's Building .....	114,254 88
Accrued Rentals .....	1,643 00
Cash on hand .....	\$ 211 95
Cash in Banks .....	188,658 26
	188,870 21
	\$10,586,619 05

We, the undersigned, beg to report that we have made the usual thorough examination of the Books of the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company, for the year ending 31st December, 1888, and hereby certify that the above statements are strictly correct, and in accordance with the same.

J. E. BERKELEY SMITH, }  
JOHN HAGUE, F.R.S.S., } *Auditors.*

Toronto, Jan. 30, 1889.

The President said:—

GENTLEMEN,—In moving the adoption of the Directors' Report, I desire to call your attention to some of the more salient features of the Financial Statement for the past year.

The year 1888 will always stand out in bold relief as a red letter year in the history of the Company, from the extent of business done, exceeding in volume that of any preceding year; from the addition to the Assets of upwards of one million dollars, an increase only equalled in two previous years; and from the fact that the first instalment of £100,000 of our contemplated issue of £500,000 of four per cent. Debenture Stock was, through the good offices of our Bankers and Agents in London, at once taken up, and has since been listed and quoted on the London Stock Exchange. The importance of placing a portion of the Company's Liabilities in this shape will be appreciated when it is remembered that one-tenth of our Terminable Debentures mature every six months, and the Company must be prepared to pay them. If the money is not called up we have the expense of renewal, and frequently loss in interest and exchange on money remitted to England, which it turns out is not required and has to be sent back. Besides this, there is the risk of the disturbance to our business which might arise if a large sum should happen to fall due at a time of monetary panic. A perpetual Debenture Stock is free from these contingencies. An office for the Registry and Transfer of Debenture Stock has been opened in Edinburgh, and Messrs. Mylne & Campbell, who have represented the Company for nearly fourteen years, have been appointed Agents therefor.

The net profit result is shown in the distribution of Dividends on Capital Stock to the amount of \$276,000, and the addition of \$49,000 to the Reserve Fund.

The conduct of all this additional business, and the attainment of these very satisfactory results, while it has occasioned much anxious thought, and has taxed the energies of the Directors and officers to a more than usual degree, has been accomplished without haste or undue strain, and without material addition to our efficient staff, or to the expense of management, except in the item of commissions. It has been the practice of this Company to write off all charges on money received or lent in the year in which they were incurred, although the transactions are made for several years. In this first issue of Debenture Stock, which is perpetual, the initial charges might fairly have been spread over a long period. But we have not departed from previous usage, and have not only wiped them all off, but have also, as will be seen by the Profit and Loss Account, written off the discount of one per cent., at which the stock was issued, and which of course we never received.

In a business so extensive as this, spread over the whole country, and where the loans are made for long terms of years, it is inevitable that from death, disappointment and other causes, instances of default will happen, and occasionally the Company has no resource but to proceed to the sale of the property mortgaged. These cases throw much unremunerative labour on the Company's officers, and I am happy to say amount to only a small percentage on the number of loans effected. At the end of each year some of these properties remain on our hands for sale, and sometimes, through the original advance having been a little too liberal, or from deterioration or reduction in value, or from our having yielded too indulgently to importunity, and not pressed with sufficient promptness, or perhaps from all these causes combined, we are unable to realize the full claim of the Company. Our excellent staff of inspectors is constantly employed in examining and looking after our securities, in minimizing losses and in revising the work of our local appraisers. Every property in default is carefully examined, and wherever a doubt exists as to the full amount of the debt being recovered no interest is charged, and if necessary the claim is written down. So rigidly is this rule observed that in Ontario in the past, as in several previous years, the amount of these deductions has been nearly or quite counterbalanced by previously written off deductions, which, on closing the transactions, were found to be unnecessary, and have therefore been credited back to profit and loss.

Even in Manitoba, which has not yet recovered from the effects of the "boom," as it is called, we are beginning to find this to be the case. It will be remembered that three years ago we wrote off Manitoba Securities all the surplus profits of the year, amounting to more than \$48,000. The hope was expressed at the time that much of that sum would be recovered. Last year, a beginning in that direction has been made. The amount of property in the Company's hands for sale at the end of the year was less than the year previous, the most of it is yielding rental, and the average amount at which it stands on the Company's books is considerably less than we expect to get, or would now accept for it.

With the commencement of the current year the Manitoba business has been placed on a more permanent footing than previously. Mr. J. H. Brock, who with his partner, Mr. Carruthers, has represented the Company in Winnipeg for the past eight years, has been appointed Agent of the Company for Manitoba. An office has been opened in Winnipeg, where the books and papers of the Manitoba business will be kept.

Several requests to extend the operations of the Company to the Maritime Provinces, to the North-West Territories, and to British Columbia have been received, but no action has been taken thereon. Numerous similar applications have also been received from the Western States of the American Union, and tempting inducements in the shape of high rates of interest have been offered; but the one invariable reply to these overtures has been, that the Company's Charter does not permit of its lending money on properties outside the Dominion of Canada.

The wide extent to which the business of this Company has reached, and the high position it has so long maintained among the financial institutions of the Dominion, suggest the question of the economic value of Loan or Land Mortgage Companies generally. With your permission, gentlemen, I purpose availing myself of this opportunity to offer a few observations on this subject.

It is customary in some quarters to treat slightly the functions of land mortgage companies, to assume that they are only resorted to by the ignorant, unthrifty and impecunious, and that they are gradually absorbing the real property of the country; to speak of their growth, if not as an evil, as an unfavourable omen, and of their prosperity as an evidence of decadence on the part of their customers. Those who are better informed know that these assumptions are not true, and a little consideration and a reference to well authenticated statistics will convince even superficial observers that they are not founded on fact.

To develop the resources and carry on the business of this or any country two things are essential: First, individual labour, intelligence and skill; and second, capital, or the accumulated results of labour. Progress is necessarily slow where capital is scarce, whether it be in commerce, manufacturing industries, agriculture or the building up of cities and towns. For supplying this capital banking institutions are to commerce and personal property interests generally what land mortgage institutions are to agriculture, building and other real property interests. To a great extent they run on parallel lines and do not cross each other's paths. The bank is the merchant's loan company. The loan company is the land owner's bank. When banking institutions are prosperous it is not to be inferred that commerce is unprofitable and the mercantile community approaching insolvency. On the contrary, increase in the amount of indebtedness to the banks in the shape of discounts is, within reasonable limits, held to be an indication of healthy activity in trade. And the same holds good with respect to loan companies and real property. Neither banks nor land mortgage companies can be permanently prosperous where the interests they are respectively identified with are the reverse. Although the Company holds and relies on real property as the main basis of its security, and is therefore not so entirely dependent as the Bank on the character of those it lends to, both endeavour to avoid shiftless, improvident customers, and transactions that are likely to result unpleasantly or unprofitably to the persons concerned.

In order to carry on their business profitably both classes of institutions have to become borrowers as well as lenders. It is their aim generally, and by stress of competition the especial aim in each institution in particular, to be able to supply money at the lowest possible rates consistently with safety and profit. On the credit which their high character and large assets secure, they obtain capital on the best terms and in the cheapest markets, and are thus enabled to furnish it more conveniently and cheaper than could be done by individual lenders, who have only their own funds to invest. This fact accounts for the expansion of land mortgage companies in the last fourteen years; the period during which cheap money from Great Britain has been chiefly obtained by Canadian Loan Companies. At the beginning of that period this Company was paying for money deposited with us here as high a rate of interest as we now are able to lend at, and the supply even then was very limited. That rate (six per cent.) is now freely offered in the Atlantic cities of the American Union by companies doing business in the Western States.

The total assets of Loan Companies in the Province of Ontario at the end of 1874 was \$14,032,380. In 1886 it amounted to \$91,072,221. Ready access to capital has not only stimulated improvements, but has given a marketable value to property in many districts where it was before almost unsaleable. During that period it appears from the Official Report of the Bureau of Statistics for Ontario that the assessed value for Municipal Taxation of Real Estate increased from \$325,484,116 in 1874 to \$632,140,062 in 1886. A larger proportion of this increase appears in rural districts than in cities and towns, the former showing an increase from \$205,892,278 to \$424,630,202, the latter from \$118,591,838 to \$207,509,860. The actual value of real estate is much greater than the assessed value, as appears from the same return, which gives the value of farm property in 1886 at \$31,758,040, nearly double the assessed value. These figures do not include the value of live stock and farm implements, amounting to \$157,739,871, nor the value of crops and produce. The value of urban property is not given in the report, but assuming it to be twenty-five per cent. more than its assessed value—or \$259,387,325, and adding thereto \$31,758,040, the value of farm lands, the total value of real estate in 1886 was \$1,091,145,335. From the official returns it appears that the mortgages held by Land Mortgage Companies doing business in Ontario in 1886 was \$80,400,076. Of this sum about \$10,000,000 was lent on lands situate in Manitoba and other Provinces, so that the total interest of Land Mortgage Companies in all the real property in this Province, valued at more than one thousand millions of dollars was seventy millions of dollars, or six and one-half per cent. of the actual value; a sum considerably less than half the value of farm implements and live stock alone. These figures show conclusively, I think, that the capital controlled by Canadian Land Mortgage Companies, even supplemented as it is by that of private lenders, Insurance Companies, and other uncertain and irregular sources, is not more than sufficient to furnish necessary facilities for buying and selling, and for improving and in otherwise promoting the vast and extending real estate interests of the Provinces. In the discharge of these their legitimate functions Canadian Land Mortgage Institutions supply an indispensable need, and do good service to the community.

In Ontario and throughout the Dominion the ownership of the soil is widely distributed. Tenant farmers as a class are unknown. Farmer or Practical Agriculturist and Land Owner are almost synonymous terms. A smaller, but still considerable, proportion of the inhabitants of cities, towns and villages are also land owners. The enhanced value, or "unearned increment," as it is termed, of land, which results from increase in wealth and population, and which in less favoured communities enriches the absentee landlord, in Canada is enjoyed by those who, by their occupation and labour, contribute to it. A mortgagor, as distinguished from a lessee, has all the advantages of ownership, subject to repayment of the debt. It is a mistake to suppose that all, or a large proportion of, land mortgaged is permanently encumbered. The larger proportion of advances are repaid by instalments spread over from two to twenty years. In a great majority of cases the property is redeemed by the owner. This, which, though decried, is believed to be the best system ever devised for repayment of a mortgage debt. This Company has made more than thirty thousand loans, of which two-thirds have been paid off and about one-third remain on our books. Last year we made 1,534 loans, but far more than that number of other loans were reduced, and 895 were entirely paid off and the mortgages discharged. As, with the exception of its office premises, we cannot own real estate, the Company holds no real property, except as mortgagee, liable to be redeemed by payment of the debt.

In conclusion, gentlemen, it may be expected that I should give some indication of what are the prospects of the Company in the near future. I have always been anxious to avoid giving encouragement to over sanguine expectations, preferring to appeal to the recorded accomplishments of past years, and let Shareholders and the public draw their own conclusions. But I think it only right to say that in my judgment the profit-earning capacity of the Company has not been so great at any time for several years as it is now, that the augmentation of our Reserved Funds, reduced *pro rata* expenses, increased efficiency in management, arising from enlarged experience and the sub-division of labour, which is only practicable in large concerns, together with our improved facilities for obtaining low-priced money, equalize the loss from the decrease in the rates of interest obtained. So that the comparatively low rates at which money is now lent are as remunerative to the Stockholders as the higher rates which formerly prevailed; while borrowers are better able to meet their diminished engagements, and we get a better class of customers and securities, there is less default and less necessity for resort to compulsory proceedings. If, therefore, you continue to elect as Directors men of high character and business ability, chosen for their special fitness for the position, and the management be conducted on the same progressive and yet conservative lines as hitherto, from all that appears the dividend paid last year, which is the average amount paid during the past thirty-four years, may be considered assured. And I am not without hope that we may also be able, from time to time, to make still further additions to that sheet anchor of our position, the Reserved Funds.

If any Shareholder present desires any further information I shall be happy to furnish it.

The Directors' Report was unanimously adopted, as were also votes of thanks to the President, Directors, Officers and Agents of the Company. The following Shareholders were elected Directors for the ensuing two years: J. Herbert Mason, S. Nordheimer, Judge Boyd and Henry Cawthra.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board, the President, Mr. J. Herbert Mason, and the Vice-President Mr. Hooper, were also re-elected.

**THE CANADIAN MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION.**

**ANNUAL MEETING.**

The eighth annual meeting of "The Canadian Mutual Aid Association" was held at the Company's offices, 10 King St. East, Toronto, on Thursday, 24th inst., a good representative gathering being present.

The President, Mr. William Rennie, occupied the chair and in opening the meeting expressed his pleasure at seeing so many of the policy-holders present, and was also specially pleased to see the number of the active agents of the Company present. Great success, he said, had been the experience of the past year. Although steady progress had marked the work of the Association from its organization yet the past year far exceeded its predecessors in the volume of new business. He attributed this to the growing popularity of the assessment system of insurance and more especially to the equitable and popular plan of our Company. We issued during the year 1888, new and renewed policies, 1,508, representing insurance to the amount of \$2,306,000; the total number of policies now in force being 4,393, representing a total insurance of \$9,017,000. In Reserve Fund there is now to the credit of policy-holders \$40,000. During the past year there was paid out to beneficiaries the large sum of \$88,776; and the many flattering testimonials from the widows and orphans of policy-holders show how it has been appreciated. This system of insurance, he said, evidently filled a long felt want, giving, as it did, insurance at such rates as were within the reach of the people who most needed such protection. Our Company aimed, not alone at cheap insurance, but rather reliable insurance at reasonable cost, and our success is the best evidence of the wisdom of our plan of insurance. He then referred, in flattering terms, to the work of the agents of the Company, who, he said, were the chief factors in its progress.

The Manager, Mr. W. Pemberton Page, was then called upon to read the Directors' Report. The following is condensed from the Financial Statement:—

ASSETS.	
Amount loaned upon real estate by mortgage, first lien— (Reserve funds).....	\$34,390 00
Cash at head office.....	\$ 803 46
Cash in banks.....	7,888 10
Agents' ledger balance.....	1,125 46
Interest due and accrued.....	\$9,817 02
Amount due from members on assessment to be made for claims accepted.....	1,072 13
Furniture and fixtures.....	20,400 00
	366 77
<b>Total assets.....</b>	<b>\$66,045 92</b>
LIABILITIES.	
Claims for death losses—	
1. Due and unpaid.....	None.
2. Adjusted but not due.....	\$24,000 00
Resisted in suit.....	1,000 00
Due on account of general expenses.....	\$25,000 00
	2,128 80
<b>Total liability.....</b>	<b>\$27,128 80</b>
Surplus to credit of policy-holders (Assets in excess of liabilities.).....	38,917 12
INCOME.	
Membership fees.....	\$13,769 60
Annual dues.....	9,847 30
Reinstatement fees, change of policies and all other income.....	1,201 47
Collected on assessments for the year.....	95,582 31
Medical examiners' fees.....	3,136 00
Total paid by members.....	\$123,536 68
Interest.....	1,944 44
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$125,481 12</b>
Amount on hand at beginning of year.....	1,887 45
<b>Total income.....</b>	<b>\$127,368 57</b>
EXPENDITURE.	
Cash paid for death and disability losses.....	\$88,776 25
Legal expenses.....	130 33
Commissions and fees retained by agents from membership fees.....	\$13,430 13
Cash paid for salaries and other expenses of officials including general agents.....	7,254 00
Cash paid for rent and taxes.....	375 15
Medical examiners' fees.....	3,136 00
Postage, printing, etc.....	\$24,195 28
	3,953 77
<b>Total expenditure.....</b>	<b>\$117,055 63</b>
Amount of cash on hand (including amount carried to "Reserve and Disbursement Fund").....	10,312 94
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$127,368 57</b>

**AUDITORS' REPORT.**

To the President and Directors of the Canadian Mutual Aid Association:

GENTLEMEN,—We have carefully audited the books and accounts of your Company, and compared vouchers with expenditure for the year ending 31st December, 1888, and have found them correct. We have also had free access to all bonds, mortgages and other securities held by the Company, and have much pleasure in certifying to their accuracy as shown in the Directors' Report.

We find \$23,000 of the funds (Reserve and Disbursement) invested at 6 per cent., \$11,390 at 7 per cent., and all deposits in banks are drawing 4 per cent.

We would also express our approval of the very satisfactory manner in which we find the affairs of the Company.

JOHN PETERS, Hastings, } Auditors.  
JOHN WALES, Oakville, }

Toronto, January 24, 1889.

Following the reading of these reports were congratulatory speeches made by several policy-holders present, among whom we mention Rev. Dr. Smyth, of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Montreal, and Wm. Petley, Toronto.

Votes of thanks were tendered to President, Manager, Board of Directors, etc., after which the meeting closed.

**WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS.**

The thirty-eighth annual meeting of the Shareholders of the Western Assurance Company was held at its offices in this city on Thursday, the 21st instant, the President, A. M. Smith, Esq., being in the chair. The Managing Director, J. J. Kenny, read the following

**DIRECTORS' REPORT:**

The Directors beg to submit the Annual Statement of the Company's Accounts for the year ending 31st December last, and have pleasure in being able to report to the Shareholders so favourable a condition of the affairs of the Company as these exhibit.

The total income, it will be observed, was \$1,659,877.56, and after providing for all losses incurred during the year, and expenses of management, two half-yearly dividends at the rate of ten per cent. per annum have been paid upon the Capital Stock, and \$50,000 added to the Reserve Fund, while \$7,853.72 remains at the credit of Profit and Loss Account. The total surplus funds of the Company now amount to \$832,853.72, but out of this the unexpired risks under policies current at the close of the year have to be provided for. The sum estimated as necessary to reinsure or run off these is \$536,096.24, which leaves a net surplus over and above the capital and all liabilities of 296,757.48.

While congratulating the Shareholders on the gratifying result of the year's transactions, the Directors desire to acknowledge their appreciation of the efficiency and zeal displayed by the officers and agents of the Company in securing and supervising the large volume of business which is summarized in the accompanying accounts.

**REVENUE ACCOUNT.**

Fire premium.....	\$1,286,129 58
Marine premium.....	647,760 43
<b>Less re insurance.....</b>	<b>\$1,933,890 01</b>
	316,261 50
<b>Interest account.....</b>	<b>\$1,617,628 51</b>
	42,249 05
<b>Fire losses, including an appropriation for all losses reported to Dec. 31st, 1888.....</b>	<b>\$1,659,877 56</b>
	\$672,919 65
<b>Marine losses, including an appropriation for all losses reported to Dec. 31st, 1888.....</b>	<b>382,775 84</b>
General expenses, agents' commis'n and all other charges.....	496,646 16
Balance to profit and loss.....	107,535 91
<b>PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.</b>	<b>\$1,659,877 56</b>
Dividend paid July, 1888.....	\$25,000 00
Dividend payable Jan. 8, 1889.....	25,000 00
Carried to reserve fund.....	\$50,000 00
Balance.....	50,000 00
	7,853 72
<b>Balance from last year.....</b>	<b>\$317 81</b>
Profit for the year as above.....	107,535 91
<b>LIABILITIES.</b>	<b>\$107,853 72</b>
Capital stock paid up.....	\$500,000 00
Losses under adjustment.....	114,970 19
Dividend payable January 8, 1889.....	25,000 00
Reserve Fund.....	\$825,000 00
Balance, profit and loss.....	7,853 72
	832,853 72
<b>ASSETS.</b>	<b>\$1,472,823 91</b>
United States bonds.....	\$534,095 00
Dominion of Canada bonds.....	179,917 50
Loan company and bank stock.....	124,530 00
Company's building.....	65,000 00
Municipal debentures.....	85,599 42
Cash on hand and on deposit.....	186,753 18
Bills receivable.....	59,531 48
Mortgages.....	22,100 00
Re-assurance due from other companies.....	31,218 31
Interest due and accrued.....	6,071 39
Agents' balances and sundry accounts.....	178,007 63
	\$1,472,823 91

A. M. SMITH, President. J. J. KENNY, Man. Director.  
Western Assurance Office, Toronto, Feb. 14, 1889.

**AUDITORS' REPORT.**

To the President and Directors of the Western Assurance Co.:  
GENTLEMEN,—We hereby certify that we have audited the books of the Company for the year ending 31st December, 1888, and have examined the vouchers and securities and find the same carefully kept, correct and properly set forth in the above statements.

R. R. CATHRON, } Auditors.  
JOHN M. MARTIN, F.C.A., }

Toronto, Feb. 14, 1889.  
The President, in moving the adoption of the Report, congratulated the stockholders on the favourable showing which the Company made at the close of the thirty-eighth year of its existence. He referred to the wide field over which the Company's business extended, embracing nearly every State in the Union, as well as some of the West India Islands, while in "this Canada of ours" the "Western" had become almost a household word from Nova Scotia in the East to Manitoba and British Columbia in the West.

The aim of the management during the past year has continued to be to make quality rather than quantity of business the first consideration, and in carrying out this policy they are working as far as possible upon the lines of the experience gained in the Company's various fields of operation, reducing the amounts carried on certain classes of risks, or cutting off altogether such as have yielded no profit in the past. There would have been no difficulty, had they been less conservative, in showing a large increase in the premium income; but this might perhaps have been at the expense of the profit balance, and it would, moreover, have left a corresponding increased liability on current policies at the end of the year.

In the Fire Branch the results of the past year show an improvement on those of 1887, and with the maintenance of existing tariffs he thought that they might continue to look for a fair return upon the business transacted. He need not tell the shareholders that at home the "Western" continues to maintain its position in the front rank, both as to the amount of its income and its low loss ratio; and he was happy to say that the efforts during the past few years to place the Company's fire business in the United States on an equally satisfactory footing are meeting with encouraging success.

In its Inland and Ocean Marine Business the Company appears to have had a varied experience, for while a good profit is shown in some departments, in others this branch shows a considerable loss. Changes, however, which have been decided upon in the direction of discontinuing altogether certain lines of business, will, it is hoped, bring about more uniformly satisfactory results in the future.

The total expense of conducting the business bears, within a small fraction of one per cent., the same ratio to income as last year, and he thought he was safe in saying that it is as low, if not lower, than the average expense ratio of companies doing a similar business.

The assets of the Company, amounting to nearly a million and a half dollars, consist of unquestionable securities, and would readily realize the figures at which they stand on the books.

The only item of the liabilities that might call for any reference was outstanding losses, of which in such a large business there must necessarily be a considerable number at all times awaiting further proof, and under adjustment; but he might say that by far the larger proportion of those that were outstanding on the 31st December were settled and paid in the early part of January.

He was sure that they would agree with him that in all that constitutes material prosperity, either from a shareholder's or a policyholder's point of view, the statements presented show that the "Western" during 1888 had made a most gratifying step forward, and while they had not got far enough into the present year to venture to forecast what 1889 might bring forth, he felt that they might confidently look forward to at least a fair share of any good fortune it may have in store for those engaged in the business of Fire and Marine Underwriting. Wm. Gooderham, Esq., Vice-President, seconded the adoption of this Report, which was carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks was passed to the Directors for their services during the past year.

Messrs. Wm. Anderson and J. K. Nevin were appointed to act as scrutineers, and reported the following gentlemen unanimously re-elected Directors for the ensuing year: Messrs. A. M. Smith, Wm. Gooderham, Hon. S. C. Wood, Robt. Beatty, A. T. Fulton, Geo. A. Cox, Geo. McMurrich, H. N. Baird and J. J. Kenny. At a meeting of the Board held subsequently, A. M. Smith, Esq., was re-elected President and Wm. Gooderham, Esq., Vice-President for the ensuing year.

**BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

**THE FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.**

**ANNUAL REPORT, 1888.**

The fifty-sixth annual meeting of the stockholders of this Company was held in the Company's offices, Front Street, on Wednesday, Feb. 20th, the Governor, Mr. John Morison, occupying the chair. Among the gentlemen present were Henry M. Pellatt, W. J. Macdonnell, Thos. Long, J. Y. Reid, G. M. Kinghorn (Montreal), Robert Thompson, George H. Smith (New York), A. Myers, Dr. Robertson, John Leys, J. Wardrop, H. D. Gamble, John Downey, Alex. Wills, George P. Hamilton, J. Morison, jun., Wm. Adamson, J. K. Niven, Alex. Smith, John Hoskin, J. Jackes, J. M. Brooks and R. M. Gilkison. The Assistant Secretary Mr. W. H. Banks, read the following:

**ANNUAL REPORT, 1888.**

The Directors have the honour of submitting the fifty-sixth annual statement, exhibiting the financial position of the affairs of the Company, accompanied by the balance sheet for the year ending 31st Dec., 1888, duly audited. The marine branch shows a very marked improvement resulting from the action of the Board in abandoning the ocean business, as mentioned in last year's report. The following amounts have been written off to profit and loss, namely, bills receivable amounting to \$2,898.26, and from office furniture account, \$494.35. Your Directors have pleasure in bearing witness to the efficient work done by the Company's agents and special agents throughout Canada and the United States. The reports received from these gentlemen indicate a decided improvement in rates and in the quality of the business, and it cannot but be gratifying to know that with the present general revival in trade, together with the thorough supervision of the Company's business, the prospects of the coming year lead to the conclusion that it will prove more profitable than the past.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN MORISON, Governor.

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1888.**

ASSETS.	
United States Bonds.....	\$417,400 00
Bank and other Dividend Paying Investments.....	413,856 86
Cash in Office.....	1 72
Cash in Banks.....	47,545 06
Real Estate.....	150,000 00
Business Maps, Office Furniture, etc.....	\$19,774 20
Less Depreciation.....	494 35
	19,279 85
Agents' Balances.....	92,246 88
Interest due and accrued.....	7,589 73
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,147,919 10</b>

**LIABILITIES.**

Capital Stock.....	\$500,000 00
Losses under Adjustment (Fire).....	93,236 11
Losses under adjustment (Marine).....	7,608 55
Dividend No. 89.....	3,293 62
Dividend No. 90.....	17,500 00
Balance.....	526,282 82
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,147,919 10</b>

**PROFIT AND LOSS.**

Fire Losses, paid.....	\$456,921 55
Fire Losses, unsettled.....	93,236 11
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$550,157 66</b>
Marine Losses, paid.....	\$68,210 08
Marine Losses, unsettled.....	7,606 55
	75,816 63
Commissions and all other charges.....	245,355 16
Government and Local Taxes.....	17,404 81
Rent Account, including Taxes.....	3,888 41
Balance.....	43,785 61
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$935,408 26</b>

Fire Premiums.....	\$812,819 98
Less Reinsurance.....	62,876 77
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$749,943 21</b>
Marine Premiums.....	\$88,533 74
Less Reinsurance.....	12,208 04
	86,325 70
Interest.....	33,743 22
Rent Account.....	5,928 35
Profit and Loss, increase in Investments, etc.....	60,467 78
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$936,408 26</b>

**SURPLUS FUND.**

Dividend No. 89.....	\$ 17,500 00
Dividend No. 90.....	17,500 00
Balance.....	526,282 82
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$561,282 82</b>
Balance from last Statement.....	\$517,497 21
Profit and Loss.....	43,785 61
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$561,282 82</b>

**REINSURANCE LIABILITY.**

Balance at credit of Surplus Fund.....	\$526,282 82
Reserve to Reinsure Out-standing Risks.....	391,346 88
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$917,629 70</b>
Net Surplus over all Liabilities.....	\$134,935 94

To the Governor and Directors of the British America Assurance Company, Toronto.

Gentlemen:—We, the undersigned, having examined the securities and vouchers, and audited the books of the British America Assurance Company, Toronto, certify that we have found them correct, and that the annexed balance sheet is a statement of the Company's affairs to 31st December, 1888.

R. R. CATHRON, } Auditors.  
HENRY M. PELLATT, }

Moved by the Governor, seconded by the Deputy Governor, that the report now read be adopted and printed for distribution among the shareholders. Carried.

Moved by John Hoskin, seconded by Alex. Smith, that the thanks of the shareholders are due and are hereby tendered to the Governor, Deputy Governor and Directors of this Company for their attention to the interests of the Company during the past year. Carried.

Moved by John Wardrop, seconded by J. Jackes, that Messrs. W. J. Macdonnell and Henry M. Pellatt be appointed scrutineers for taking the ballot for Directors to serve during the ensuing year, and that the poll be closed as soon as five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being taken. Carried.

The following is the scrutineers' report: We, the undersigned scrutineers appointed at the annual meeting of the British America Assurance Company on the 20th February, 1889, declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year: Messrs. John Morison, John Leys, Hon. Wm. Cayley, J. Y. Reid, A. Myers, G. M. Kinghorn, George H. Smith, Thomas Long and Dr. H. Robertson.

W. J. MACDONNELL, } Scrutineers.  
HENRY M. PELLATT, }

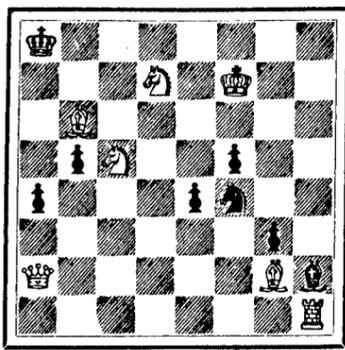
The meeting then adjourned.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board Mr. John Morison was unanimously re-elected Governor, and Mr. John Leys Deputy Governor for the ensuing year.

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 335.

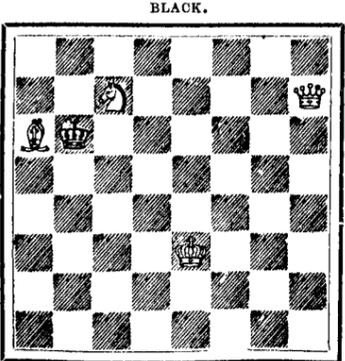
By F. H. BENNETT.



White to play and mate in two moves.

PROBLEM No. 336.

By J. HANAWER.



White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

No. 329.  
Kt-B 6.

No. 330.  
White. Black.  
1. P-B 4 P-B 3  
2. Q-R 4 K-K 3  
3. Q-Q 7 mate.

Correct solutions received from W. L. S. to Problems No. 327 and 328.

SECOND GAME OF THE MATCH PLAYED AT HAVANA BETWEEN MESSRS. STEINITZ AND TCHIGORIN. (From the Columbia Chess Chronicle.)

IRREGULAR OPENING.

STEINITZ. White.	TCHIGORIN. Black.	STEINITZ. White.	TCHIGORIN. Black.
1. Kt-K B 3 (a)	P-Q 4	20. P-Q 5	Q-Q 2
2. P-Q 4	B-Kt 5	21. B-Q B 3	R-Q 1
3. Kt-K 5	B-R 4 (b)	22. R-R 5	P x P
4. Q-Q 3 (c)	Q-B 1	23. P x P	Castles (c)
5. P-Q B 4	P-K B 3	24. P-Q 6	Q-K 3 (f)
6. Kt-K B 3	P-K 3	25. Q-Q Kt 3	Q x Q
7. Kt-B 3	B-Kt 3	26. P x Q	B x P
8. Q-Q 1	P-B 3	27. Kt x B	R x Kt
9. P-K 3	B-Q 3	28. B-Kt 4	R-Q Kt 3
10. B-Q 2	Kt-K 2	29. B x R	K x B
11. R-B 1	Kt-Q 2	30. R-B 8 +	K-B 2
12. Kt-K R 4 (d)	P-K B 4	31. R-B 7 +	K-B 3
13. P-K Kt 4	Kt-K B 3	32. R-K B 5 +	K-B 3
14. P-K R 3	Kt-K 5	33. R on B 5-B 7	R-Q Kt 5
15. B-Q 3	P x Kt P	34. R x Q Kt P	R x K Kt P
16. Kt x Q B	Kt x K Kt (?)	35. R x K Kt P	P-R 4
17. B x Kt	P x B	36. R x Q R P	K-B 4
18. Kt x P	B-K 2	37. P-K B 3	R-K Kt 7
19. P x P	P-K 4	38. R-Q R 6 and Black resigns.	

NOTES.

(a) A favourite opening of the late J. H. Zukertort. It ordinarily leads to a Queen's gambit; it was played by the British Chess Club in their correspondence match against St. Petersburg. That Mr. Steinitz adopted it for the first time indicates that he had found a flaw in the defence of the Russian Committee of whom Mr. Tchigorin was the leading player.  
(b) Mr. Steinitz, in his notes to the game referred to, prefers B-B 4, which, however, would not have interfered with his line of play.  
(c) Apparently on the strength of this move Mr. Steinitz chose this opening never played by him before. The Queen has a commanding position without being subject to any attack.  
(d) We would have preferred B-K B 2.  
(e) If Q x P then Q x Q and P-B 4.  
(f) Kt-R 5, suggested by a strong Cuban player, Dr. Finlay, would have secured at least a draw by perpetual check: 25. Q-Kt 3+, K-R 1; 26. K-B 1 best (if P x B instead, then Kt-B 6+; 27. K-B 1, Q-Q 6+; 28. K-Kt 2, Q x Kt; 29. P x R queening, R x Q; 30. K-Kt 3, Kt-R 7; 31. R x Kt, R-B 6+; 32. K-R 4, P-Kt 4+ and mates next move); 26. Q x Kt P; 27. B x P, Q-R 6+; 28. K-K 2, Q-B 6; 29. K-K 1, Kt-Kt 7+; 30. K-B 1, Kt x P+.

AN English newspaper has been making a collective investigation regarding the questions given below: "1. Does your experience suggest to you that the race of Englishmen is degenerating physically? 2. Do you think that the great advance in the healing art is responsible for keeping alive much weak life that will in time affect the whole race injuriously? 3. Do you think that the increased indulgence in physical sports has, on the whole, a good influence on health? 4. Has it ever struck you that probably the great attention paid to health in these days may be producing an anxiety about bodily ailments which is a disease in itself?" Answers have been received from a long array of practitioners, among whom are the names of eminent London physicians. The general view taken, according to the *Medical Record*, is that Englishmen are not degenerating, but that, on the whole, the race is improving in vigour.

PORTRAIT PAINTING.

A LITTLE book by the Russian soldier and artist, Verestchagin, is interesting to the student. As a realist, he condemns all art founded on the principles of picture-makers, and depends only on exact imitation, and the conditions of accident. In our seeking after truth, and endeavour not to be unreal or affected, it must not be forgotten that this endeavour after truth is to be made with materials altogether unreal and different from the object to imitated: nothing in a picture is real; indeed the painter's art is the most unreal thing in the whole range of our efforts. Though art must be founded on nature, art and nature are distinctly different things; in a certain class of subjects probability may, indeed must, be violated, provided the violation is not disagreeable. Everything in a work of art must accord. Though gloom and desolation would deepen the effects of a distressing incident in real life, such accompaniments are not necessary to make us feel a thrill of horror or awaken the keenest sympathy. The most awful circumstances may take place under the purest sky and amid the most lovely surroundings. The human sensibilities will be too much affected by the human sympathies to heed the external conditions; but to awaken in a picture similar impressions, certain artificial aids must be used; the general aspect must be troubled and sad. Verestchagin says the old-fashioned way of setting a portrait head against a dark ground is not only unnecessary, but being usually untrue when a person is seen by daylight, should be exploded as false and unreal. But it is certain a light garish background behind a painted head will not permit that head to have the importance it would have in reality, when the actual facts, solidity, movement, play of light and shadow, personal knowledge of the individual or his history, joined to the effects of different planes, distances, materials, &c., will combine to invest the reality with interests the most subtle and dexterous artistic contrivances cannot compete with, and which certainly the artist cannot with reason be asked to resign. A sense of the power of an autocrat, from whose lips one might be awaiting consignment to a dungeon or death, would be as much felt if he stood in front of the commonest wall-paper, in the commonest lodging-house, in the meanest watering place, but no such impressions could be conveyed by the painter who depicted such surroundings.—*Magazine of Art*.

PERSIA is one of the foreign lands that is attracting the attention of American railway builders. The legislature of Maine has been asked to charter "The Persia Railway Company," and it is said that citizens of that State have contracted with the Shah to build a road extending from Teheran to the Persian Gulf, 500 miles or more.

THE STUDIO.

CLARENCE COOK, MANAGING EDITOR.

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## Chronic

Catarrh destroys the sense of smell and taste, consumes the cartilages of the nose, and, unless properly treated, hastens its victim into Consumption. It usually indicates a serofulous condition of the system, and should be treated, like chronic ulcers and eruptions, through the blood. The most obstinate and dangerous forms of this disagreeable disease

### Can be

cured by taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla. \*\*I have always been more or less troubled with Scrofula, but never seriously until the spring of 1882. At that time I took a severe cold in my head, which, notwithstanding all efforts to cure grew worse, and finally became a chronic Catarrh. It was accompanied with terrible headaches, deafness, a continual coughing, and with great soreness of the lungs. My throat and stomach were so polluted with the mass of corruption from my head that Loss of Appetite, Dyspepsia, and Emaciation totally unfitted me for business. I tried many of the so-called specifics for this disease, but obtained no relief until I commenced taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla. After using two bottles of this medicine, I noticed an improvement in my condition. When I had taken six bottles all traces of Catarrh disappeared, and my health was completely restored. — A. B. Cornell, Fairfield, Iowa.

For thoroughly eradicating the poisons of Catarrh from the blood, take

## Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

saparilla. It will restore health and vigor to decaying and diseased tissues, when everything else fails.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

## Catarrh

Is usually the result of a neglected "cold in the head," which causes an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the nose. Unless arrested, this inflammation produces Catarrh which, when chronic, becomes very offensive. It is impossible to be otherwise healthy, and, at the same time, afflicted with Catarrh. When promptly treated, this disease may be

### Cured

by the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. \*\*I suffered, for years, from chronic Catarrh. My appetite was very poor, and I felt miserably. None of the remedies I took afforded me any relief, until I commenced using Ayer's Sarsaparilla, of which I have now taken five bottles. The Catarrh has disappeared, and I am growing strong and stout again; my appetite has returned, and my health is fully restored. — Susan L. W. Cook, 909 Albany street, Boston Highlands, Mass.

I was troubled with Catarrh, and all its attendant evils, for several years. I tried various remedies, and was treated by a number of physicians, but received no benefit until I commenced taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla. A few bottles of this medicine cured me of this troublesome complaint, and completely restored my health and strength. — Jesse Boggs, Holman's Mills, Albermarle, N. C.

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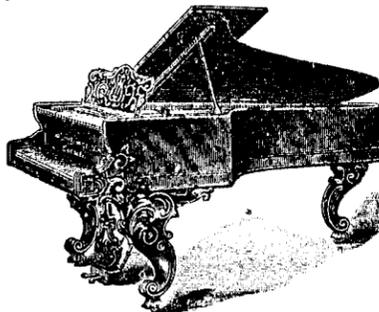
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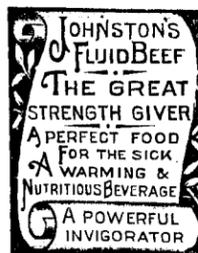
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