## THE WEEK:

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Fifth Year.
Vol. V., No. 7
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Tee Empire has kindly undertaken to enlighten the public in regard to the "real difference" between the independent press and the party organ. That difference is, we are told, that "the former, as a rule, represents the wishes of a few persons, while the latter gives voice to the hopes and convictions and wishes of the masses." By "the masses," we learn from another paragraph, is meant "the majority of the people." The Empire calls it the "great" majority, conveniently forgetting that the party majority is as likely to be small as great, and that its criterion must apply in either case. This conception of the office of a public journal has at least the merit of simplicity. We have no doubt that the Empire would claim, equally with the independent journals, that it is set for the defence of the truth. "What is truth ?" is a question that has perplexed the wise in all ages, but with the exception of members of the infallible Church who are favoured with authoritative decisions as required, few inquirers have the advantage of so simple a means of decision as the party organ. Herein lies its great advantage. Whereas the independent press is always liable to have its opinions modified by better light or fuller reflection, the stability of the organ's creed is assured. It has only to watch the division lists in Parliament, and pin its convictions to the sleeve of the leader of the Government. Whether the Empire is prepared to follow its confession of faith to its legitimate issue, in case of a change taking place in the Government, that is, in the majority, we are not informed. Supposing, for mere argument's sake, that Commercial Union, or Free Trade, or some other party "fad" should secure a majority for the Liberals at the next election, would the Empire feel in duty bound to invert its political views, in order still to represent the majority, or, in other words of its own, to be "guided by principle?" We do not suppose we should move our contemporary from its fixed base, ballasted as it is with the dead weight of a solid majority, by reminding it that most great reforms in politics and society have originated with an independent few, who could not at the outset have elected a single representative to Parliament. But when it proceeds to pile a Pelion upon the Ossa of its argument by declaring that "the people will have nothing to do with 'independents,'" we may be pardoned for asking what it was, if not the independent vote, at the last Presidential election, which gave to the United States the best Administration it has had since the days of the Rebellion.

By what may probably be regarded as a semi-official announcement, a considerable increase in the militia expenditure is foreshadowed, as a part of the Government programme for the approaching session of the Dominion Parliament. It is possible that the necessity for such increase may be satisfactorily shown. It may be indispensable, for instance, in order to secure the best results from the considerable amount already expended. But the sober sentiment of the Canadian people will, it may be safely predicted, shrink from any considerable increase of expenditure for any unproductive purpose. The national relations of the Dominion do not demand, its financial condition will not warrant, any such outlay. We, as a people, have neither need nor inclination to cultivate the military spirit, or to lay heavy burdens upon productive industry in order to provide large sums for unproductive uses. The nations of Europe at the present moment present a spectacle which should be a lesson to all the world. Even Great Britain herself is expending every year upon her armaments a sum a tithe of which devoted to useful public works would provide permanent employment for the vast army of the unemployed who now threaten the peace of the great cities. A writer in the Contemporary Review, dealing with the terrible problem of London's destitute thousands, points out that if only the money were forthcoming, profitable employment could at once be found for 100,000 in the vicinity of London alone. In the demolition of slums, the erection of dwellings for artisans, the construction of cheap baths, the extension of the sewage system, the reclamation and drainage of the Thames marshes and flats, works of the highest utility to the city and the nation might be carried on, and at the same time tens of thousands of deserving men and women be rescued from direst want. But there is no money for such uses, although the Ministers of the Crown could in a few hours raise ten millions for war purposes. Canada most certainly needs all her capital for the development of her resources, the emplogment of her people, and the payment of her debts, and Canadians will be very shortsighted if they permit any military ambitions to betray them into permitting the thin edge of the wedge to be entered, to make way for a standing army of any dimensions.

Commenting on the discussion which will probably soon take place in the Ontario Legislature, in regard to that resolution of the Inter-Provincial Conference which proposes to transfer the veto power from the Dominion to the British Privy Council, the Mail quotes the prediction of Mr. Joly, in the Debate on Confederation, that the prerogative in the hands of a partisan Canadian Government would "become an intolerable nuisance," as an instance of remarkable political sagacity. Mr. Joly was not alone in foresesing the evil. In the same debate, Hon. Christopher Duncan, a strong Conservative, in the course of one of the ablest speeches ever delivered in a Canadian Parliament, referred to this weak spot in the Confederation compact in the following terms: "We have not even an intelligible statement as to what powers are to be exercised by the general, and what by the local legislatures and governments. Several subjects are specifically given to both; many others are confusedly left between them ; and there is the strange and anomalous provision that not only can the general Government disallow the acts of the Provincial Legis latures, and control and hamper and fetter Provincial action in more ways than one, but that wherever any Federal legislation contravenes, or in any way clashes with Provincial legislation, as to any matter at all common between them, such Federal legislation shall over-ride it, and take its place. It is not too much to say that a continuance of such a system for any length of time without serious clashing is absolutely impossible." This prediction has, it must be confessed, been but too well verified. The perpetuation of the unseemly struggles between the central and the local governments cannot be too strongly deprecated. The wisdom of our statesmen should surely be equal to the task of devising some means of putting an end to disputes which, otherwise, are pretty sure to culminate not only in disgrace but in calamity.

Whether, however, the plan proposed by the late Conference of Provincial ministers is the best, or even a desirable mode of solving the problem, is open to serious question. To ordinary thinking it seems to be grossly inconsistent with the very idea of Federal union, or, indeed, union of any kind between the Provinces. If a central government is to exist at
all, it surely must have some prerogatives, some measure of supremacy. The idea of a Confederation of colonies, each individual member of which shall continue to bear the same individual relation to the Mother Country which is borne by the Union as a whole, is very like a contradiction in ideas. It would at least be a step downward and backward from the national conception, which is the corner stone of the Confederation, for the Provinces to approach the foot of the Throne and beg that the power of veto over their local legislation, which was at their own request handed over to their own central government, should be re-transferred and resumed ly England. It is true of course that the absolute power of veto over Dominion Legislation, and therefore over that of the Provinces in their united capacity, now rests with the British Privy Council, and must rest there so long as the Colonial relation is continued. But surely much more of the Downing Street rule which was formerly so obnoxious is involved, and in a much more oljectionable form, in its supervision of all the Acts of all the Provincial Legislatures, and those of the Dominion Parliament as well, than in the present arrangement. It is to be presumed that the plan of a Judicial Court, like the Supreme Court of the United States, to pronounce upon questions of jurisdiction must have been discussed at the Conference and found unsatisfactory. But what is needed is simply an impartial tribunal. Most Canadians will prefer that it should still be a Canadian tribunal. If we are foreed to admit that this desideratum is impossible of attainment in Canada, the sooner we give up all national aspirations, dissolve the Union, and return to the status of a disconnected group of petty colonies, the better.

There is certainly one kind of reciprocity which honest people in both Canada and the United States would be glad to have made more nearly unrestricted between the two countries, viz., reciprocity in the rendition of each other's criminal refugees. The American Security Company, of New York, has petitioned the Senate in favour of the adoption of the Phelps Extradition Treaty, on which no action was taken last session. The vice-president of the company, in addressing the Senate, read a formidable catalogue of the defaulters who have escaped from New York and other American cities to Canada within the last year or two, together with the amounts of their respective defalcations. The list is a formidable one. No doubt it could be offset with one proportionally large of those who have, for similar reasons, fled from Canada and found refuge across the border. It is undoubtedly true that the ease with which the criminal can escape with his dishonest gains from either country to the other, and the immunity such escape brings, offers a premium to weak men in positions of trust to be dishonest. The present state of affairs is a disgrace and a moral injury to hoth countries. The remedy is in the hands of the United States Senate

Tres tariff reform campaign is now fairly opened in the United States. The war-note sounded in the President's address, and re-echoed by the rattling fire of the press skirmisters, has now been followed up by the firing of the first guns in Congress. As the two partics fall into line of battle and begin to come to close quarters, the field is more clearly outlined. The high-tariff men, led by the Trilume and Senator Sherman, both taking their cue evidently from Mr. Blaine's Paris deliverance, have chosen their position. That position in its main features is singularly significant of the great influence of the new force that is making itself felt more and more in American politics-the labour vote. The Republican leaders are posing, not mainly as the friends of the manufacturers, or the advocates of abstract Protectionist theories, or even as the guardians of industries struggling in perpetual infancy, but as the champions of labour. They set themselves for the defence of the Americam workingman against the cheap labour of Europe, which, it is contended, would, under a reduced tariff, flood the country with its products, and compel the American manufacturers either to reduce wages or to close their factories. If the Protectionist leaders can but succeed in convincing the labour organizations that every reduction of the rate of taxation upon imported goods means a correspond ing reduction of the income of American wage earners, farewell to all hope of tariff reform. But the mancuure will not prove an easy one in the face of skilful opponents. Some proof will probably be required in the first place that the prices now paid by manufacturers are determined by actual cost of production, rather than by the law of supply and demand. Awkward questions will be asked concerning the relative prices of the neces saries of life in Europe and in the United States, and the causes of the difference. The general effect of high tariffs upon the cost of living will be canvassed. In fact, it seems not improbable that the whole wide issue ketween Free Trade and Protection will be discussed more fully than ever
before on this side of the Atlantic. Popular fallacies die hard, and it is scarcely to be hoped that sound economic views can win the day against all the forces of monopoly without a prolonged and determined struggle.

Some of the inconvenient, troublesome, and seemingly absurd customs which survive in the learned professions, are perpetual mysteries to the ordinary lay mind. In the medical profession, for instance, the prevalence of what seem to outsiders meaningless formalities, but are to the fraternity jealously guarded rules of professional etiquette, are particularly note worthy. An American Wedical Board recently tonk upon itself to cancel the diploma of a physician because he persisted in the "unprofessional" practice of advertising. The disciplined doctor appealed to a court of justice which promptly and emphatically decreed that the action of the Board was illegal and unconstitutional, and that a medical practitioner has the same right as any other man to advertise his husin ss if he plases. It is gratifying to learn that, according to the English Medical journals, the proposal that physicians should for the future write their preseriptions in English rather than in Latin is gaining favour. It is hard to see how the dignity of the profession could be lowered by this simple reform, while it would save the public from danger of the repetition of such calamitous blunders, as that of the young chemist who nearly poisoned a patient by guessing at the ingredient described as tinctura ejusdem, or that of the sick farmer who was frightened to death by seeing at the foot of his prescription bis in die, which he interpreted, "He bee's goin' to die."

It is perhaps useless at this distance to speculate on the probable causes and consequences of the seemingly sudden resolve of the Irish Land Commissioners to order a general reduction of rents, amounting on the average to fourteen per cent. As a matter of principle, if the Commissioners became convinced that such a reduction was necessary and right as a matter of justice between man and man, they were of course in honour bound to effect it, without regard to party consequences. As a matter of expediency, if we may judge from the tenor of the despatches that have so far reached us, it is generally regarded as a mistake, the concession being too small to propitiate the tenants and yet large enough to irritate and perhaps alienato the landlords. We fancy, however, that the latter are in a more reasonable and tolerant mood than that ascribed to them in the press telegrams. They must appreciate too highly the difficulties that beset the Government in its efforts to restore order in Ireland, to embarrass it by factious opposition to such measures as it may deem both just and necessary, in view of all the facts, which its members alone have before them. These remarks assume that Mr. Gladstone is right in regarding the reduction as substantially an Administrative Act. It is highly improbable, certainly, that under existing circumstances, the Commissioners would issue so sweeping an edict without the concurrence of the Executive. Fuller information may modify in important respects the telegraphic reports.

IT is pleasing to see that the modern educational expedient of manual training for the young is likely to be more effectively tried in Ireland. In no country in the world, probably, is it more needed. Some mathematical or statistical genius has calculated that $£ 50,000,000$ sterling are annually lost to that unhappy island by the non-employment or waste of the plysical and mental encrgies of the people. A proposal was made early in the Jubilee year for the establishment of some experimental schools for industrial education. The idea has now developed into a larger one, that of the establishment of a Royal Industrial Society for all Ireland. The prospectus of the new Society states that "it is a well-ascertained fact that more than half of the physical energy of the Irish prople is a dead waste of human life that ought to be employed in the improvement of our manufactures and agriculture. The State has provided for the manual as well as for the literary education of the masses, yet it is not practically given to or beneficially accepted by the poorest of the people. A large proportion of the children are never entered as scholars, and out of a million, whose names are on the register, the average attendance is not one-half." The plan of the new enterprise is to establish work schools, and give a free education in manual and agricultural and domestic industries on the most improved methods experience has devised, and with the most competent teachers that can be obtained. The primary objects will be, lst, to train the poorest from five to thirteen years of age in the most necessary and useful manual industries; 2nd, to secure for them remunerative employment; 3rd, to provide for them means for self-improvement. The headquarters of the Society will probably be in Dublin, with an auxiliary association in London. An appeal is made to the benevolent to come to the aid of the State with their wisdom and their contributions.

The attention of a considerable section of the scientific world is just now, no doubt, being concentrated along the line of investigation suggested by the remarkable paper read last autumn before the Royal Society, by Mr. Norman Lockyer. This paper, modest though it was in form, and in its title "Preliminary Notes on the Spectra of Meteorites," contained in reality nothing less than a new theory of the structure of the universe By a series of observations and experiments this eminent astronomer has reached the conclusion that meteorites are the raw material out of which the heavenly bodies have been evolved, and by means of which the selfluminous ones are constantly fed. It has long been accepted in scientific circles as demonstrated that space swarms with meteorites of various sizes and varying temperature. It is computed that no less than twenty millions of these meteorites enter the earth's atmosphere every year, and hence it is inferred that the number of those moving in outlying space is practically intinite. Taking as his point of departure the fact, or assumption, that the meteoric stone is the only material link accessible between this planet and the outer regions of the cosinos, Mr. Lockyer was led to subject these stones to a series of careful experiments, by spectrum analysis in the laboratory, reaching as a result the conclusion above indicated. He claims to have found a correspondence between the spectrum of the meteorite thus obtained and that of particular stars, insomuch that it was possible to obtain"in approximate reproduction of the solar spectrum by suceessively volatilizing several stony meteorites of varied composition in an electric arc proluced between iron meteoric poles, and takiug a composite photograph of the resulting spectra." Following along this line he reached tho conclusions which he stated in what has been called a theory of "The Origin of Celestial Species." Some of the leading features of this theory are that "all self-luminous bodies in the celestial spaces are composed of meteorites, or masses of meteoric vapour, produced by heat brought about by condensations of meteor swarms due to gravity '"; that nebulae are sparse clusters of associated metcorites; that comets are nebule whose proper motions have brought them within the range of the sum's attraction, and soon. As we have intimated the theory is now being, in all probability, subjected to the test of scientific criticism by other observers, by whom it will eventually be either discarded or adopted for a season, probably to be displaced in its turn, the agnostic of astronomic science would suggest, by some other equally plausible and equally evanescent theory of the cosmos.

Tine question of international copyright is just now to the fore in English and American magazines. The discussion was started by an article in the Novenber number of the Nineteenth Century, by Mr. R. Pearsall Smith, reviving and advocating a plan first proposed by Sir Charles Trevelyan in 1872. The main features of the proposal, as given by Mr. Pearsall Smith himself, are as follows: "The foreign author must supply receipt stamps, representing 10 per cent. on the retail price royalty to any publisher, within thirty days after their price is tendered; every book sold must contain this author's receipt stamp bearing a facsimile of his signature. The author must deliver stamps on the conditions mentioned under penalty of losing his copyright moneys ; the bookseller forfeits ten times the retail price of every copy sold by him without the stamp, the prosecutor to have one-half, the Government the other half of this tine, in addition to liability to the author for general damages." Accompanying the article were the comments of a dozen distinguished Englishmen, nearly all of whom gave an approval, more or less modified. This they seem to have done, however, on the assumption that complete copyright for foreign authors is at present, and in the immediate future, unattanable in the United States, thus acting on the principle distinctly stated by Mr. Hallam Tennyson, speaking for his father, that "something is better than nothing." Acting on a suggestion from Mr. Gladstone that the discussion be followed up on this side the Atlantic, Mr. Allen Thorndyke Rice, the editor of the North American Review, gives in the current number of that magazine a further article by Mr. Pearsall Smith, containing his most matured views, and accompanied by short expressions of opinion from fourteen prominent Americans, to whom the article was submitted. Nearly all these expressions are distinctly, and several of them severely, hostile to the royalty and stamp plan Exception is taken on both practical and moral grounds. The practical objections are summed up by the editor of the Popular Science Monthly, in his January number, as opportunities for fraud, possible difficulties in recovering the value of unused stamps, and the general influence on the trade of the uncertainties of open competition. Animus is no doubt imparted to the objections of American authors and publishers by the prospect opened up by the scheme of still more damaging competition by cheap additions of foreign authors, with prospective loss of American copyright. As Edward Eggleston puts it: " Its adoption would immediately open the door for any hobby-rider or demagogue to advocate the cheapening of
books by the abolition of the present system of American domestic copyright, on which almost the very existence of our literature depends." By no one have the moral objections to the stamp plan been more trenchantly exposed than by Professor Huxley, who points out that it would admit that a book is the property of its author, and so far show that the consciences of American readers had been reached, and adds, "All they ask (and they seem to think the request a grace) is that they themselves shall be the assessors of the pecuniary value of their obligations." This remark touches the core of the moral principle involved. It may be added, that while the American Copyright League strenuously opposes the scheme and deprecates its discussion, it is asserted on behalf of the members of the Lague that those of them "who are not optimists believe that the present union of purpose between authors and publishers almost insures the adoption of an international copyright measure in the present Congress."

## WASIIINGTON LETTER.

## the mploved state of the fishery question.

On the ove of resumption of the Fishery negotiations at Washington, a brief retrospect of the situation may not be out of place, in aid of an intelligent forecast of the final result.

In democratic societies, foreign relations are always much affected by the course of domestic politice; an axiom that has had many illustrations in the diplomatic history of this country, wherein, from the very first, a veto upon the treaty making power of the Executive has been lodged in one of the legislative chambers. Two years ago, the weakness of President Cleveland's Administrati n prevented him from carrying out his conditional promise to sette the Fishery question by means of a joint commission. When the Imperial Covernment lately took the initiative by forming a commission of negotiators, in which the Home and Canadian Governments could each have representation, it must have been less in reliance upon the abiiity of the President to give eftect to his sentiments of good neighbourhood, than upon the conviction that matters could not be made worse by such action, while the tension was sure to be somewhat relieved, and there was, at least, a chance of a joint diplomatic commission reaching a conclusion so fair and moderate as to conmend itself to the sober second thought of the two peoples immediately interested. Had Lord Salisbury's hopes gone much beyond what has been herein indicated, he would not have selected Mr. Chumberlain for the post of chief negotiator, despite his eminent personal fitness for the place, since such an appointment took small note of the conditions of American internal politics. Hence, the criticisms made in this correspondence upon the choice of Mr. Chamberlain, at the time it was announced, were perfectly sound and legitimate, having regard to their standpoint.

Lord Salisbury's recent luck in foreign affairs has attended his venture over here. Only two months ago, the sweeping victory of the Administration party in the pivotal State of New York brought all recalcitrant Democrats to the feet of the President, and secured, in advance, for any proposals of the Fishery Commission, the support of at least half, and probably more than half, of the electorate ; a result duly noted at the time by your correspondent. Still, there was a hostile majority in the Senate, and a hostile Presidential candidate, in full control of the machinery of the Republican party, with an extraordinary influence over the Irish vote, without regard to party names and affiliations. This influence has since, happily and remarkably, disappeared. Nobody has so much reason now to wish the nomination of Mr. Blaine, in opposition to himself, as President Cleveland. This transformation in the political situation has been effected by the tariff message of the President, supplemented by the characteristically rash comments thereon of Mr. Blaine. The Irish vote may go where it pleases, now, without harming the Democrats ; but the strong probability is that it will remain with them. So disadvantageous to Republican prospects has been the influence of the tariff message, that many leaders of that party are willing to help the Administration pass a moderate but substantial bill in reduction of import duties, merely to get the embarrassing question out of the way before the Presidential campaign comes on next autumn. That, however, cannot benefit them, for the Democrats will get the prestige of whatsoever measure of tariff reduction shall be passed, and there is no other issue open to the Republicans of fairer promise than that of which they have, suddenly, become so afraid.

The bearing of these changes in our internal politics upon the Fishery negotiation is casily to be seen. The President is now, to all appcarances, the political arbiter of the Union. The Senate will not dare to reject or materially alter any Fisbery Treaty having the stamp of his approval; it is not certain that there will be, when the time comes, a partisan majority willing to reject it if they dared. The joint labours of Messrs. Bayard
and Chamberlain and their respective colleagues have acquired a new interest and importance. Canadians may both hope for a just settlement, and fear lest the desire to take the flood of fortune at its tide should cause them some sacrifices beyond those they are prepared to make in the interests of peace, security, and a serene future. There must be concessions, whether existing treaty relations are to be amended, or a new series of relations created, and as the Fishery laws and Administration of Canada, during the past two seasons, have put the American fishermen down to their naked legal rights, it seems evident that whatever the indirect or ultimate consequences may be, the immediate concessions must come mainly from the Canadian side. Still, the United States have commercial privileges at their disposal that Canadians would regard as a full equivalent for all that they have been pressed to surrender of their Fishery rights, and the popular temper here is so shaping itself towards Protection that Mr. Bayard and his colleagues may find themselves in a position to make good to Canada whatever she is asked to abandon. At all events, the authoritative belief of the moment here is, that the negotiators will reach an agreement, which both Governments will ratify, and all concerned will accept with less demur than might, on the whole, be expected. For Mr. Chamberlain, and, in a less degree, for Mr. Bayard, such a consummation would have a personal interest of a kind that all readers of The Week will appreciate, and under the invigorating impulse of desire, mingled with hope, both gentlemen may be expected to labour zealously towards a com. mon end during the next few weeks.

To A POLT.
Come not to me with many-coloured words,
That stifle like the scent of bot-house flowers, Or sparkle, gem-like, lull like summer showers, Or trip, and trill, and tilt, like idle birds.

For I am weak, who would be strong and wise, And blind to the broad light that flows above, And wishful at the worshipped feet of love, And earth-bound, moaning for the distant skies.

How did the sated heart within me burn,
When on great Nature's tender breast you lay, And looked on heaven, and through its bonds of clay,
You felt your unwinged spirit yearn and yearn.
Give me a phrase to match the sounding sea,
A line to put the sunset hues to shame;
Of spring's hid meaning tell me but the name,
Of summer's pomp, of autumn's mystery.
Oh, we are walled with wonders, and our days
Are a divine, unceasing miracle!
Still on our lifeless toys we bend our dull,
Cold eyes, and ask, "Where are the sun's glad rays?"
Give me a common verse that holds a heart,
That feels its life-blood warm in every line;
For I am weary of the clink and shine,
The tinsels, and the fripperies of art.
A. Ethelwyn Wetherald.

## LONDON LETTGEK.

Thare is a delightful part of Town, immensely liked by some, abused vindictively by others, possessing staunch friends and bitter enemies. The former speak of it with much affection, the latter stigmatize it as at the very end of all things, Gott verlassen, as the Germans say, and declare they would rather leave London altogether than live out here. But Chelsea, like other successfui folk, needs neither praise or blame, and contentedly goes on, building red brick palaces with their faces set toward the south and the river; puts in order the many Jacobean houses with which its streets are studded, and in which the art students, male and female, most do congregate ; plants trees on its picturesque embankment, and trims the shady gardens belonging to the Apothecaries and to the Soldiers' Hospital. Then, of a Sunday, bells ring out from the square tower by the water, and to the church, little aitered indeed since Sir Thomas More murmured the same prayers here we use to-day under the tattered banners hanging from the roof by the side of alabaster and marble monuments three hundred years old, Chelsea comes to worship : comforting itself with the knowledge that far though it may be from the noise of Nash's stuccoed Waterloo Place, or De Quincey's "stoneyhearted" Oxford Street, that inconvenience is amply atoned for by the sound of the tide as it makes its way towards Hammersmith by the fresh wind blowing straight from the Surrey hills, or by the tokens left of former generations on every side, speaking eloquently to the most careless observer, -a thousand marks and signs as interesting as any I have seen in Pompeii. As I lean against the ricketty pier and watch the little steamers
come puffing up, to and from Westminster Bridge, I know I for one would not diminish by a yard the two or three miles lying between me and Park Lane. Life seems different here, somehow, far from great shops and theatres, easier, simpler, more like what Ruskin would have us make it; and yet, these embankment palaces, with their glittering plate-glass windows, are first cousins to the mansions in Grosvenor Square, and gradually, but surely, encroaching on the quaint houses whose inhabitants once shouted for King James, will soon, at the present rate of progress, turn this riverside village into an offshoot of Pont Street and Sloane Square, when simplicity will fly with the downfall of small oaken rooms and delicate hand-wrought decorations. Sunshine--it's like a May day tbis winter afternoon-gilds Boehm's fine statue of an old man, who, with his books and armchair, is looking on at all the well-known sights, and I wonder what Carlyle would say could he but see those huge flats, sprung up like Aladdin's castle, so out of character with their old-fashioned surroundings. Even the knowledge that they are called after his name would not soften his wrath at the cruel alteration in the spot where he lived for over half a century, and to which he must have become attached after his manner. Heaven help the architect of these abominations should the author of Sartor come across him in the under-world.

Up the narrow street to my right, and passing the tablet on which is cut, in open spectator type, "This is Cheyne Row, 1708," I come to the home of the shrewd, unhappy, dissatisfied Haddington doctor's daughter, to the home so mismanaged by both husband and wife. It has never been let since Carlyle died, and as $I$ turn the key in the rusty lock, and stumble into the half-dark hall, I expect to meet the ghosts of its late owners, down to the barking spirit of little Nero. But not a mouse stirs in the mysterious passage, full of shadows; I hear no sound in the unutterably dreary empty dining rooms; no footfall follows mine up the shallow stairs whither so many, so many, have gone before us, and the study crowning the house is ghastly in the stilluess which has fallen on it since the Scotchman, with his bitter tongue and bitter pen made of his life such an exceedingly unlovely work of art. It requires a well-bred person-not necessarily high-bred, but well-bred-to bear pain like a gentleman; and as examples of what I mean read the account Darwin's son gives of the manner in which his father triumphed over his ailments; remember Southey's description of the sickly sea sick hero, our sailor Nelson; think of the way Lamb worked in his peculiarly delicate, brilliant fashion, the while insanity, ill-health, cares of the most grievous sort, lurked by his side. Then listen to Carlyle and his roars, as of a wild beast, at an indigestion which was to an immense extent the result of his own indiscretions. "If my father had not taken so much calomel it would have been better for himself, and consequently for us all," says Trollope in his new book of Reminiscences, and surely if Carlyle had been more sensible in his choice of food he would not have been "so gey ill to live wi'," as his mother remarked. "My dear, be a good man-be virtuous-be religious -be a good man. Nothing else can give you any comfort when you come to lie here." Lockhart has told us of these, Scott's last words, and I think they are a sermon in themselves. "Learn ere you grow old to love and to pray," advises the author of Vanity Fair. Did Carlyle ever practise the latter, and did he not only indulge in the former when ton late? What matter the writing of books which succeeding generations will, maybe, never care to open, compared to a wise life lived by a wise man, a life that is an example to his children and his children's children, of far greater value than an heritage of a fow pages over which critics dispute, and Time sits in judgment, dooming the papers, after a more or less short existence, to oblivion. Poor Mrs. Carlyle! that ill-balanced, fretful, clever creature, reqriring as much sunshine, both morally and physically, as possible, shut up in this lonely house, with a blank wall in front, and a dull strip of garden at the back-what weary years she must have lived through. No wonder her tongue grew sharper and her heart harder. "Irving would never have heard voices if he had married me," she said, but I can't imagine that she would have made Irving especially happy. If she had chosen better-a slave instead of a hard taskmasterwe should have had, undoubtedly, amusing caustic books from her pen, for how admirable and truthful is much of her dialogue between her watch and canary. She would have been, I suppose, a tract-writer, an essayist, an English Margaret Fuller, but fate, in the shape of the Ecclefechan peasant's son, interposed ; and instead of a more or less useful writing woman, often dissatisfied, we hear of an ailing housekeeper, generally unhappy. Come out through the old doorway into the yard, and you will find the tree, bare and leafless now, under which Carlyle sat to be sketched by Mrs. Allingham, and here is the grassplot on which Mrs. Carlyle rigged her tent in the hot summer days, and here the flower-beds by which she anxiously watched the famous gooseberry bush, or the growth of the seeds and cuttings from her Scotch home. How soon it's all over, the seemingly endless sorrow and trouble, storms and calms, east winds and summer breezes, leaving no trace on the hardy little house of two hundred years, on the swaying trees, and dusty shrubs, and small unshaven lawn. Then come the days when you and I criticize, find fault with, hardly tolerate, work over which a man and woman made themselves most truly unhappy : work which went far towards giving the author a life as miserable as any Portland convict's, and the author's wife a heartache-a terrible disease, this-which must have been hard enough for the proud-spirited woman to bear. These walls remember bright-eyed wives who sang to their babies, powdered and patched mothers who romped with their children; and they would fain put away from them for ever the recollection of that gloomy episode when a lonely couple lived on forlorn in the parlours where once danced small subjects of His Majesty George III., when harsh words were spoken and written in the rooms which once ochoed to little voices. A few days ago, Addison's beautiful unapproach-
able English, in the shape of our well-beloved Spectator, is laughingly read and commented upon over the breakfast-table, the leaves fresh from the printing-press ; yesterday the proofsheets of Frederick the Great, written in the barbaric tongue Carlyle in his perversity insisted on using, is groaningly corrected by the discontented man, and wearily discussed by the tired woman. . . . Let us shat the clanging door and go back into the wholesome light. After all we had no right to know anything of Carlyle beyond what he chose to tell us in his books; the other side belonged to himself alone; and I think we have been punished for our curiosity.

Close by is the small cottage in which Leigh Hunt (that little "talking nightingale") and his belongings packed themselves; and, with a copy of the well-known Mercury, by John of Bologna, a-tip-toe on the roof, there stands near to the river the country villa, on the balcony of which, still decorated with her crown and initials in fine wrought iron, Catharine of Braganza used to lounge; and there are the trees of Ranelagh Gardens enclosed for the use of the Chelsea pensioners. And now we come to Tite Street, where Oscar Wilde and Whistler have their dwellings, and so to the house of Mrs. Merritt, the painter, of whom America is justly proud.

To be an artist, and have your hand well in, can you imagine a happier fate? "My life has been a long, sunshiny holiday," were Etty's last words. How many of us can say that? And think of Leslie, roses and heneysuckle on his mantelpiece, softly whistling over his beloved art ; and Landseer's delightful days spent at work in Scotland, in St. John's Wood, in English country places, made as much of as if he were an Immortal whereever he went; and Collins, Mulready, Webster, Creswick, Ansdell, with their long, long, contented lives. You literary people are not to be envied in comparison with the painters; never think it, for with a true artist there is no drudgery, everything, down to the smallest detail, being an acute delight. There can be nothing mechanical and tiresome-as in the correcting of proofs, copying, and so forth-when every stroke makes such perceptible difference. There can be no tired hands and brains when under one's eyes, under onc's fingers, the story completes itself in all its bravery, needing no intervention of publisher or compositor.

What a contrast is there between the glow and warmeth of this house so full of life, and hope, and love, and work, and those forsaken empty rooms yonder, on which a veritable surse seems to have fallen. The fire burns, and the pictures start from their frames as the light falls on them. Here is a sad-faced lady with a necklace, there a gallant soldier all in scarlet and gold: in that corner Boxall (do you in Canada know of this admirable portrait-painter, long since dead? ) is resting with his hands on his stick, and his dog by his side, as I remember him years ago in Queen Anne Street; and close by Lowell, in red robe, looks keenly at us. In the midst, in trailing velvet gown, sits the artist. She speaks of her childsitters as their mothers might. She listens with modest patient kindness to the foolish talk of we outsiders, who knowing nothing, doing nothing, dare to criticise : she tells of youthful days of longing after art, of student years passed in Florence and Paris, of happy hard-working days in London; and then, why then there is tea to be given, and the painter (and etcher) of "Eve," and "St. Cecilia," of dozens of fine masculine portraits of men, women, and children, condescends to see that the kettle boils and the cakes are just what they should be. Think of Carlyle, contrasted with this busy Whole-hearted woman, her sympathy extended toward all, wise and simple alike, owning friends, as a consequence, by the score, boasting of days filled with the joy of succeeding at an art she loves. I think it is from example we learn best how to manage that which we call our Life, and not from books at all. One goes to the library for amusement, for many a reason, but that the people about us are our real instructors, there can be no doubt.

Walter Powell.

## MONTREAL LETTER.

A short time ago there was some talk of starting a new monthly magazine here, and the project, "Laclede" tells us, has not been abandoned. He further remarks that many will ask what there is to write about in such a periodical. "My dear sir, you need not go out of your own country for all the material you want,
we can get the romance, serials, and short stories, verses, sketches of Canadian character, etc., etc." I have often wondered if an artistic soul could not reveal those sources in our land promising most inspiration. This savours rather of dictionaries of rhymes, doesn't it? But you see even Byron did not think it beneath his poetical dignity to consult such works when hard pressed ; would Canadian poets then consider some suggestions made by a competent and wise art-critic unworthy their notice? Of course we all know the true wither waits for no one to tell him what his subject should be, and wherewithal he must clothe it. Yet, as has often been repeated, we are young, very young, and the question " Laclede " quotes seemis to imply the embryo littérateurs, here imagine "foreign parts," far more fertile in all themes artistic than Canada. Surely a clever practitioner could cure this mental presbyopy, for even the myopy of older lands is a much less dangerous affiction. Then we would have work not only Canadian in matter but in manner. Our art, like our accent, recalls now the Englishman, now the American. We want some inspired creature to make us feel our individuality, to give to the world prose or picture or poem, that might not have been produced by an individual of any nationality. I feel sure there are countless glorious " effects" in the exquisitely lovely scenes constantly passing before-alas! our unconscious and unheeding eyes. There is a origine beauty in these moon-lit winter nights of ours, a strange and original beauty quite as worthy to be sung as that of the much-vaunted
ones of Venice, and if we paint these pictures with pen or with brush, let it be à la Canadienne.

A flow of soul truly has been manifested in the windows of our hook shops that are simply inundated by neatly bound little volumes. No less than three bright and shining lights have risen above our horizon during the past month. With scriptural justice, " the last shall be first," Mr. W. D. Lighthall's effusions make their appearance in a spotless robe of white and gold, which is unlikely to be either tarnished or soiled by too rough handling, inasmuch as fair feminine fingers and tried friends are alone permitted to touch it. If this mode of making one's début lacks boldness and a certain cranerie-which Mr. Lighthall, by the way, would be quite justified in possessing-it shows excessive modesty really delightful. Fine poetry, like true love, cannot be analyzed. We don't worship a woman because she has large eyes, or red lips, or golden hair, any more than we admire verses and call them poetical because they have transgressed no laws, and contain a goodly number of similos expressed in pretty language. Why is such and such a thing poetical? We must answer woman-like, " because it is." Having been printed for private circulation only, I am not at liberty to quote from the volume other verses than such as have made their appearance in the papers here. It is scarcly to be expected that all are of equal worth. Indeed even among those presented by an appreciative, a very appreciative critic, there seems no small discrepancy. This from The Confused Dawn, the opening poem in the book, is very charming.

> Dead mountain, forest, kinoll amit tree. waken all endued with hliss.
> A native land - $O$ think !- to be
> Thy native land-and ne'er amise
> $\begin{aligned} & \text { its smile shallike a lover's kiss } \\ & \text { From henceforth seem to thee. }\end{aligned}$

But then comes the "National Hymu," that breathes the sort of coldblooded conventionality which reminds us by far too forcibly of stiff, merciless silk gowns, highly starched collars, and novelless Sundays. I can't imagine any youthful hearts praying with the least enthusiasm that their fathers should be made stern, nor yet the following lines
"Crush out the jest of idle minds,
That know not, jesting, when to hush;
Keep on our lips the word that binds,
And teach our children when to blush."
Alas! I thought all such disagreeable requests were left to the princes of the Church. This is a Clearyism unworthy a poet of Mr. Lighthall's calibre. Would there were space to give you the gem of the collection, but you will doubtless wait only a short time ere the volume in its entirety is put into your hands. "Our new poet's" light seems destined to lighten a larger portion of the globe than that over which its effulgence at present is cast.

Louis Lloyd.

## THE EARTH-SPIRTT.

IN sunbright raiment in the spring,
When buds were full, and brooks were free,
And violets brake o'er the lea,
And song-birds 'gan their carolling,
I saw her poised on silver wing
Above a vivid beechen tree: Beneath two lovers laughed in glee,
And sang to hear the thrushes sing.
Again I passed her where she stood
With drooping head and saddened mien Beside a grave. The dim, gray wood
Was leafless now. The mead, so green
Erewhile, was dun. Sighing she viewed
The mound and wept for what had been.

## J. H. Brown.

Dr. Charles Mackay has finished his Dictionury of Lowland Scotch, containing, it is claimed, "the pith and point of the language," with explanations and etymological derivations.

Ex-President Grévy will ere long place in a publisher's hands the voluminous diary which he kept during his term of office, and in which he faithfully recorded, not only his own impressions, but also the favours asked by public men.

After all, blame lends itself to wit so much more readily than praise does, and to praise with self-respect and without gush, and with a certainty that the praise is not all a mistake, is so difficult, that the critic suspends his pen on its way from the inkstand to the paper, and hesitates. Blame is always safe, for nothing in the way of human thought or conception ever was or ever can be perfect. And the more nearly good in itself is the thing that the critic blames, why, of course, so much the loftier must be the critical standard. Nevertheless, indiscriminate eulogy is vapid and valueless. Even the person eulogized does not, in the bottom of his soul, believe in what is said of him. At the best (if there be any true stuff in him) he will feel that you have divined his intention, and have praised, not his achievement, but that. If, on the other hand, he have no true stuff in him, he is led to fancy that his bad work is good enough, and does not try to make it hetter. Between indiscriminate eulogy and sweeping condemnation there is a golden mean, but how hard it is to hit it!-.Julian Hawthorne.

## PROMINENT CANADIANS.-IX.

## hon. alevander mackenzie, m.p.

Toward the end of the year 1842, three young men resided in the city of Kingston, who were destined to act prominent parts in the public life of Canada. One of the three was a rising young liswyer of pleasing address and popular manners, who bad won distinction by his defence of Von Schulta and other State prisoners connected with the troubles of 1837. The second had been a student in the oftice of this young lawyer, and was this year-1842 --called to the Bar. The third was a Scottish youth of twenty, who had landed in Kingston in April, and was beginning his Canadian life as a stonemason. The young lawyer is now the Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald, First Minister of Canada. His student is now the Hun. Oliver Mowat, Premier of Ontario. The youthful stonemason is the veteran statesman whose name st mods at the head of this paper-a name respected and honoured by every clean man in the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. Mackenzie will be sixty-six years of age on his next birthday, the 28th of the present month. He is two years younger than his friend Mr Mowat, and seven years younger than his rival, Sir John. He was born in the parish of Logierait, Perthshire, Scotland. His parents had neither poverty nor riches, but they and their connections had what was better than either. They had brain-power, intelligence, untiring industry, ster ling integrity, and an honourable ambition to rise in the world. Along with these good qualities they had a strong liking for Whig politics. Alexander was the third son in a large family. His school days were few. Two years in a private school in Perth; two more in the parish school of Moulin; less than a year in the grammar school of Dunkeld, and the education of the future Promier of Canadn was finished so far as the schoolmaster was concerned. At the carly age of fourteen his father died, and like many another brave Scoteh lad who has made his mark in the world, young Mackenzie began to earn his bread on the old Eden principle-by the sweat of his brow. Like Hugh Miller, he learned the trade of a stonemason, and like Hugh Miller he was fond of reading. His spare hours were spent in diligent study, and the habits then formed have clung to him all his days. When twitted with being a look-worm, Thos. D'Arey McGee replied that he always preferred the soci-ty of good books to that of middling men. No doubt Mr. Mackenzie has al ways cherished the same preference, though perhaps he has never said anything about it. A worthy momber of the House of Commons, whose reading days were over, felt lonesome in the same boarding house with Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. David Mills, because, as he explained it, " the moment Mackenzic and Mills came in from the House they sat down to their books."

In the following year 1843 --Mr. Mackenzie was joined in Kingston oy his brother, Mr. Hope F. Mackenzie, who afterward represented Lambton and North Oxford in Parliament. Mr. Hope Mackenzie was a man of tine spirit, great energy, and high attainucnts. He was rising rapidly as a public man when his career was suddenly ended by death. Had his life been spared, his ability, industry, and natural force of character would soon have placed him in the front rank of Canadian statesmen.

After labouring five years in Kingston, during which time he probably became familiar with the well-known face of the man he afterwards so often faced in Parliament, Mr. Mackenzie moved to the neighbourhood of Sarnia. His mother and brothers came out from Scotland about the same time, and the whole family made their first Canadian home in that western town. Here Mr. Mackenzie resumed operations as a builder and contractor, lines in which he had been successful before leaving Kingston. It is useless to speculate on what might have been; but bad Alexander Mackenzie continued in the building and contracting business, he might perbaps have become the millionaire head of the syndicate that built the Canadian Pacific Railway. In a country where there was so much to be built almost anything was possible to a man of lis patient industry, economical habits, sterling integrity, sound judgment, and all but invincible energy.

But Alexander Mackenzie was not to be a millionaire contractor. Like many Scotchmen, he had a keen relish for politics. Five years' residence in Sir John's favourite city probably increased his eagerness to join in the fray. In Scotland he had been a Whig, and in Canada he joined the Liberal party as a matter of course. Though a man of quiet, retiring habits it is no secret that Alexauder Mackenzie keenly enjoys d bate. To measure swords on the platform with $\Omega$ foeman worthy of his steel was never to him an unpleasant duty. The roar around the hustings never made him nervous. To his natural liking for public discussion and his intensely strong convictions, his love of Liberalism, his popular sympathies, his intense hatred of tyranny in all its forms, his love for the people and desire that they should have fair play-to these qualities add his undoubted capacity for public affairs, and one can easily see why it was impossible for Alexander Mackenzie to keep out of politics. Keep out of politics he certainly did not, for dive years after he had started business in Sarnia we find him editing the Lambton Shield. Under his editorial management the Shield soon became a power in the West. His editorials educated the electors of Lambton in Liberalism, and were extensively quoted by other journals.

Mr. Sam Jones is credited with saying that if there is one thing in this world he does hate it is a quiet time. Whether a quiet time is a good time for Mr. Jones or not, it certainly is not a good time for a politician. Mr. Mackenzie had the undoubted advantage of entering the political arona in a stormy period. The battle for Responsible Governmeni was being fought out and slowly won. The fight had been long and fierce. Under Lord Sydenham and Sir Charles Bagot the recommendations of liord Durham's report in favour of Responsible

Government were being carried out. Sir Charles Metcalfe succeeded Sir Charles Bagot, and spent the four years of his official career in trying to deprive Canadians of the rights secured to them by his predecessors. Mr. Mackenzie resided in Kingston during the whole time that Metcalfe was Governor, and it goes unsaid that when he removed to Sarnia he was in the right humour to do battle for Responsible Goverrment.

In 1861 Mr. Hope Mackenzie, who had represented Lambton in Parliament, declined re-election. The future Premier was offered the nomination by a convention of the Liberal party, and accepting, carried the constituency by a considerable majority. When he entered Parliament he had nothing to learn but the forms of procedure, and even these he probably knew as well as many who had sat in previous Parliaments. His accu rate and full knowledge of all public questions, his almost infallible memory, his marvellous capacity for mastering the details of every question that came before him, and his power to make clear and concise speeches on any question on the shortest notice soon placed him in the front row, along with the most experienced Parliamentarians. Mr. Mackenzie has never claimed credit for his oratorical powers, nor have his friends put forth any such claim ; but the fact remains that in twenty-five years of active public life he never needed to take a back seat in any oratorical company. He could always hold his own, and generally do a good deal more. He is one of the very few speakers in this Dominion whose speeches will stand a verbatim report. He builds a speech just as he used to build a stone wall-clear, clean-cut, concise ; sentences are laid one upon another in an orderly and compact manner, and when the speech is finished you can no more knock a word or sentence out of it than you can knock stones out of a well-built wall. His accurate knowledge, never-failing memory, and quick perceptive powers make him specially formidable in reply. Running through many of his speeches, especially those delivered in hot debates, there is a mingled vein of mild sarcasm and dry, pawky, scotch humonr that is very effective. The effect is greatly increased by the manner in which the work is done. You see the bolt cross the house and you see quite easily that it has struck. You look to the spot from which it was thrown and you see a serious, almost solemn-looking, man, going on with his work as if nothing had occurred. The plainness and apparent simplicity of the speaker give the humour and sarcasm a great effect.

Soon after entering upon his parliamentary duties Mr. Mackenzie saw his political friends take office under the Premiership of Mr. Sandfield Madconald, who had associated Mr. Sicotte with him as leader of the Lower Canadian section. This Government lasted about a year, and was followed by another in which Mr. Dorion took the place of Mr. Sicotte Mr. Mackenzic had in those days some experience as a Government supporter-a kind of experience whith has seldom been his during his long Parliamentary life. After a short and troubled reign Mr. Sandtield Macdonald resigned, and Mr. Deadlock reigned in his stead. Then came a truce and the negotiations which resulted in Confederation. A coalition was formed for the purpose of uniting the Provinces. George Brown and a large majority of the Liberal party were in favour of a Coalition. Mr. Mackenzie was of the opinion that the Liberal party should give the Government a generous outside support in forming the union, but at the wame time keep itself clear of all entangling alliances. The union was not long formed until it became painfully evident to the Liberal party that Mr. Mackenzie was right.

When the first Parliament met after Confederation the Liberals were without a leader, George Brown having been defeated in South Ontario. The position was offered to Mr. Mackenzie, who accepted it, and displayed great tact in welding into one solid body the somewhat discordant elements that came from the different Provinces. The task was no easy one, but in discharging his duties as a leader of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition the member for Lambton displayed the same ability and unwearied diligence that have marked his whole parliamentary career. Ever at his post and ever faithful to his trust Mr. Mackenzie soon gained the conffdence of his followers from all parts of the Dominion.

The crisis of 1873 found him not only a successful leader but a Parliamentarian of recognized position and ability. When the Government fell he was entrusted with the duty of forming a ministry. In less than two days the names of his colleagues were announced, and the new Government was ready for business. The question on everybody's lips was, Will there be a general election? It is understood that Mr. Mackenzie received such assurances of support from some of his former opponents as might have induced a less cautions man to go on with the business of the country without an appeal to the people. But the new Premier was not to be caught napping. His Scotch caution assured him that a Parliament elected under the auspices of his opponents, and the influence of Sir Hugh Allan's liberal contribution, was not the kind of Parliament to be trusted in an emergency. He dissolved the House, and in January 1874 swept the country. Had the majority given him by the people been half as large as it was, the task of the new Premier might have been a good deal easier.

To enumerate the good measures that were introduced and passed by Mr . Mackenzie's Government would be to write the Parliamentary history of Canada for the five years ending in 1878. His friends may challenge their opponents to show a record of equal merit during any five years in the history of the Dominion, in the history of Old Canada, or in the history of any Province that now forms part of the Dominion. Let these restless characters who are everlastingly clamouring for revolutionary measures and hunting for strange gods to worship, sit down for a moment, and quietly read over the titles of the Acts passed by Mr. Mackenzie's Government between 1873 and 1878, and say if they have anybody in their ranks that can serve the country better than it was served by Canada's Grand Old Man. It is quite true that he went down in '78, but he went down with his escutcheon untarnished and all his colours flying. His was
no milk-and-water policy. He did not try to ran with the Free Trablo hare and hunt with the N.P. hounds. H. believed it was wrong to increase the burdens of the people in a time of depression. He went to the polls on this issue, and was defeated by the poople he was bravely trying to holp. Burke told the electors of Bristol that he hed advansed cheir interests contrary to their opinions. Mr. Mackenzie tried to do the same thing tor the people of Canada and failed. A few years will show, if the revelation has not already been made, whether the electors of Canada did a wise thing when they dismissed a faithful pubic servant for not tixing five millions of people to enrich a fow. Never did British or Colonial Statesmin display more moral hernism than was rlisplayed by Alexander Mackenain in '78 when he stood by his principles while the pistol was pointed at his heal held at times, with shame be it said, by some who pose as moral reformers, If there is no room in the public life of Canada for a min who bravely faces defeat rather than do what he believes to be wrong, then Canada is morally rotten and should be buried out of sight.

Soon after his defeat in ' 78 Mr . Mackenzic became a resident of Toronto. Owing to declining health he found it inconvenient to represent a large constituency like West Lambton and in 1882 stood for East York. For this constituency he has been twice elected. East York derives as much honour from its representative as $\mathrm{Mr}_{\text {r }}$. Mackenzio derives from reprosenting an historic constituency of which he is justly proud.

For the same unfortunate reason Mr. Mackenzio found it nosessary some years ago to resign the leadership of the Liberal party. [Tis strength was not equal to the task, and Alexander Mackenzie never was the man to undertake anything unless he could do it thoroughly. Tho arduous and irksome nature of the work of an Opposition leader in Cinada may bo learned from the fact that the distinguished gentleman who succeeded Mr. Mackenzie-a gentleman who once could work eightoen hou's out of the twenty-four with impunity-has since broken down in health and has been compelled, temporarily at least, to leave public life. The one great mistake of Mr. Mackenzie's life was his brave attempt to attend to ihe details of his department while Premier and Minister of Public Works. It is casy to be wise when events are over, but one cannot help thinking that had he worked less then he might be the able and trusted leader of his party to-day, and the party needs a leader badly enough.

Mr. Mackenzie's Parliamentary services have not been contined to the Dominion Parliament, and the Parliament of Old Canada. In 1871 he ran for West Middlesex, was elected, and on the downtall of Sandtield Macdonald's Government soon after, took office under Mr. Blake, first as Provincial Secretary, and afterwards as Provincial Treasurer. Dual representation being abolished, both he and Mr. Blakelett the Liscal Legislature at the same time.

Besides his parliamentary work, Mr. Mackenzie has rendered Cunada good service by his well-written biography of his friend and leader, Georgo, Brown. The tone of the book is moderate throughout, and though writ. ten by a strong party man, the facts, so far as we know, have never been eriously questioned.

It has occasionally been charged against M. Mackenzie that his manner is cold, and his language curt. It is quite true that he calls a spade a spade, and a scoundrel a scoundrel. It may be true that when scaly politicians have asked him to help them to carry out dirty jobs he gave them a reply not always couched in diplomatic language. Quite likely he met the pions proposal of some moral reformers to tax the people for their benefit with language that may have seemed to them unnecessarily vigorous. All this may be so ; but those who know Alexander Mackenzie know him to be a warm-hearted man, as kindly as he is firm and true--a man ready at any moment to help the needy, or make sacritices for his friend. He hates humbug, and scorns shams, and can unmask a hypocrite with rare skill; but no more kindly man stands in the Dominion to-day. May a kind heaven send Canada more Mackenzies.

Knoconlan.

## CORRESPONDENCE

## the fisheries question.

To the Editor of The Week:
Sir,—Canada's single interest in the fisheries negotiations is to retain her fish. It is safe to assume that they are worth more to her than it would pay the United States and Britain together to give for them. The actual value of this country's Atlantic fisheries can only be inferred, for it is over thirty years since her people enjoyed the sole right of fishing in their own waters. Under the Reciprocity and Washington Treaties their rivals of the United States were permitted to conduct a process of extermination upon their fishing grounds, and in the interval between the treaties and during the time that has elapsed since the expiration of the latter one they have made a fairly successful business of fish piracy. The past season was the first since the beginning of the Reciprocity Treaty in which Canadian fishermen enjoyed even a partial monopoly within their own limits. According to reliable reports the financial result has been most satisfactory. The Maritime Provinces have valuable resources of field, forest, and inine, but their Waters contain their greatest, their noss accessible, and most lasting source of wealth. If United States fishermen are kept off Canadian fishing grounds more fish will be caught by our own people, and the general wealth of the country will be increased by so much. Every dollar's worth of tish taken from Canadian waters by United States fishermen is a loss to the country as though it was a dollar's worth of wheat, of lumber, or of stock that was stolen. The int rest that Canadians outside the Maritime Provinces have in this matter is not merely sentinental. An increased catch
of fish in those provinees menas increase trub with the rest of the country and increased contributions by their peoplo to the Feleral treasury.

The ground is taken by snme that it is more in the interest of the Maritime people to find an outside market--which it is alleged can only bo found in the United States-for what fish they catch than to secure them in the monopoly of catching in their own water;, and that, therefore, it would bo well to give United States fishermen equal rights with Cana dians in Canadian waters if thereoy a free memet for Candian-caught fish could be secured in the United States. Whether this would or would not be an advantageous arrangement for Canada, there rppears to be no present prospect of securing it, and it there were, there is mother viow that may be taken of the case. Cama-mith Newfomdund has practically a monopoly of the fisheries on the Athatic const of America. The bulk of the population of the United States is alous, or asily aceessible from, that const. The fish required by that population cu best be supplied from Canadian waters. If Canala retains a firm arip on her fishery rights it is a matter of indifference to her whether the popple of the United States choose to pay duty on their fish or not ; they must get them from Canada in any case. As soon as that is demonstrated to them the daty will be taken off. The surest way for Canalimus to gat a free market for their fish in the United States is, not to pay for the privilege, but to stick to their fish.

The United States has valuablo fisheries on the Pacific coast of Alaska, but not so valuable as Canda's Atlantic fisheries, owing to the population to be supplied from them being compuratively sumall. That country will of course assert its sovereignty over these fisheres, and therein lies the strength of Canada's cass. What th. United States demands on the Pacific she must concede on the Atlantic. If Gamba chooses to retain her fisheries she can do so. The danger is that in grasping after fancy pros pects she may lose what is of greater solid valin.

To Canada this is more than a question of cist, it is a question of men. If her tisheries are handed over to a foreign power to bo pilliged at will, and exhausted at no distant day, the lishing in lustry and the trade resulting from it will disappear, and the mon, the vessols, and the capital now employed in it will have to mage in oher oecaptions or perhaps abandon the country altogether ; but if thoy are vetaine, she: is, in spite of herself, a maritime power of no mean consequence, anthes of herself the means to market the produce of field, of torest, of mine, amb of mill, wherever in the wide world a market can be fouml. For this reason, it there were no others, the fisheries should be retained at any cost.

Fianis Oliver.

## READINGS FROM UURRENT LITERATURE.

## musical expression.

Trime is no danger of mankind ever exhausting the gamut of musical expression, for we stand only at the threstiond of musical combinations, Nevertheless, it may be very desirable to draw new modes of musical thought from mused quarters. The German, the French, the Italian flavour is no longer a new one in music. What is the chief charm of Greig? He speaks to us with a fresh flizvour brought from Scandinavia. Tschaikowsky charms us by frequently using the Rassian style of musical expression. The Russian Government is now collecting the weird, strange melodies of Siberia and of the Cossacks of the D.n. Dvorak is presenting us with musical wonders from Bohemia. Lisat has made known to us the musical frenzy of Hungary. Let none of these be despised. They will all yet unite to broaden our musical stream, and music will assimilate these new contributions in a manner that will make the compositions of the twentieth century yet more cosmopolitan than those of the nineteenth. Musical Herald.

## solence and veradity.

So far as my experience goes, men of science are neither better nor worse than the rest of the world. Occupation with the endlessly great parts of the universe does not necessarily involve greatness of character, nor does microscopic study of the infinitely little always produce humility. We have our full share of original sin; need, greed, and vain glory beset us as they do other mortals; and our progress is, for the most part, like that of a tacking ship, the resultant of opposite divergencies from the straight path. But, for all that, there is one moral benefit which the pursuit of science unquestionably bestows. It keeps the estimate of the value of evidence up to the proper mark; and we are constantly receiving lessons, and sometimes very sharp ones, on the nature of proot. Men of science will always act up to their standard of veracity, when mankind in general leave off sinning ; but that standard appears to me to be higher anong them than in any other class of the community. I do not know any body of scientific men who could be got to listen without the strongest expressions of disgusted repudiation to the exposition of a pretended scientific discovery, which had no better evidence to show for itself than the story of the devils entering a herd of swine, or of the tig tree that was blasted for bearing no figs when "it was not the season of figs." Whether such events are possible or impossible, no man can say; but scientific ethics can and does declare that the profession of belief in them, on the evidence of documents of unknown date and of unknown authorship, is immoral. Theological apologists who insist that morality will vanish if their dogmas are exploded would do well to consider the fact that, in the matter of intellectual vera city, science is already a long way ahead of the churches; and that, in this particular, it is exerting an educational influence on mankind of which the churches have shown themselves utterly incapable.-Prof. T. II. Huxley.

## A GARDEN BAROMETER.

One of the simplest of barometers is a spider's web. When there is a prospect of rain or wind the spider shortens the filaments from which its web is suspended, and leaves things in this state as long as the weather is variable. If the insect elongates its threads it is a sign of tine calm weather, the duration of which may be judged of by the length to which the threads are let out. If the spider remains inactive it is a sign of rain; but if, on the contrary, it keeps at work during the rain the latter will not last long, and will be followed by fine weather. Other observations have taught that the spider makes changes in its web every twenty-four hours, and that if such changes are made in the evening, just before sunset, the night will be clear and beantiful.-La Nature.

## the moon a mighty scavenger.

Ir is chietly as the producer of our ocean tides that the moon renders us such signal service. The sun, it is true, as well as the moon, exercises an influence in the production of this diurnal phenomenon; but it is on the moon chiefly that we depend for this important recurrence. By inland dwellers the tides are thought of as monotonous events of no great moment; but they have a far wider significance than many imagine. Exactly as the sun preserves through the agency of winds a healthy circulation in the atmosphere, so the moon performs a similar service to the waters of the sea, and the great tidal rivers which flow into it. But for this work as a mighty scavenger our shores where rivers terminate would become stagnant deltas of corruption. Twice a day, however, the decomposing matter which our rivers deposit is swepi away by the tidal wave, and a source of pestilence is thus prevented.--Unfinished Worlds.

## substifutes for quinine and vanilila.

The London correspondent of the Scotsmon writes: Chemistry seems destined to play almost as important a part in the annals of trade as did the substitution of machinery for hand-labour. I hear that a chemist has discovered a substitute for quinine, which can be produced at much less cost than the article which now plays such an important part in the medicine of to-dyy, and the artificial production is said to possess all the medicinal qualities of the famous bark. This, if it indeed be so, will almost certainly destroy the trade in India and Ceylon, which has grown of late years to such proportions that it has practically stopped the export of the hark from Peru. A substitute has also, I believe, been found for vanilla, and should this artificial production obtain the place in commerce which is predicted for it, there can be little doubt that the sugar planters of Mauritius and elsewhere, where the vanilla plant has gradually been introduced in place of the sugar cane, will find that their new industry has been stricken with a blight as severe as that which has overtaken the sugar industry.

## hicense which prohibits.

No prohibitionist will have anything to do with high license. The higher the license the more acceptable it is to the people who do not believe in prohibition, and therefore the more objectionable to those who cannot sanction any traffic in liquor. To those persons who believe there is a limit to liquor selling, and that it can be reached by a proper license, the result in different high-license cities is evidence enough. In Baltimore, where a license costs $\$ 50$, there is one saloon to every one hundred and fifteen people. Where the fee is raised to $\$ 100$, as in Indianapolis, there is but one saloon to two hundred and cighty-eight people, and in Omaha, where the license is $\$ 1,000$, there is but one saloon reported to every four hundred and twenty-six people. The test appears to be in Atlanta, which has just repudiated prohibition, and fixed a license of $\$ 1,500$ a year. The only point about the license fee is whether or not it is above the revenue point. The people of Atlanta knew well enough that prohibition did not prohibit, and they have made up their minds to adopt another system which is certain to restrain. The Atlanta idea of a $\$ 1,500$ license, and a restriction to the business streets of the city, is the nearest thing to practical prohibition which has appeared for very many years. Washington Post.

## the mssenge of aphorism.

The essence of aphorism is the compression of a mass of thought and observation into a single saying. It is the very opposite of dissertation and declamation ; its distinction is not so much ingenuity as good sense brought to a point; it ought to be neither enigmatical nor flat, neither a truism, on the one hand, nor a riddle on the other. These wise sayinga, said Bacon, the author of some of the wisest of them, are not only for ornament, but for action and business, having a point or edge whereby knots in business are pierced and discovered. And he applauds Cicero's description of such sayings as saltpits-that you may extract salt out of them and sprinkle it where you will. They are the guiding oracles which man has found out for himself in that great business of ours, of learning how to be, to do, to do without, and to depart. Their range extends from prudential kitchen maxims, such as Franklin set forth in the sayings of Poor Richard about thrift in time and money, to such great and high moralities of life as are the prose maxims of Goethe-just as Bacon's Essays extend from precepts as to building and planting up to solemn reflections on truth, death, and the vicissitudes of things. They cover the whole field of man as he is, and life as it is, not of either as they ought to be : friendship, ambition, money, studies, business, public duty, in all their actual laws and conditions as they are, and not as the ideal moralist may wish that they were.-John Morley.

As every one knows, Madame de Staël's life was anything but happy, and this in spite of her deep and faithful friendships, her brilliant talk, her: vivid power of writing. "The one imperious cry of her soul was for peace," says her biographer; but from its very nature such a soul could never have had peace, even if life had been spent in very different circumstances. As it was, the restless spirit lived in nothing but restlessness, -from the Revolution, when she ventured her own life over and over again to save the lives of her Royalist friends; through the Directoire, reigning over a salon, and trying to reconcile irreconcildbles; facing Napoleon with a bold opposition which he never forgave ; exiled from France over and over again ; her father's death, the one great sorrow of her life; surrounded at Coppet by friends as eager and restless as herself; wandering over Europe, brilliantly received every where, yet miserable because she was shut out from the only city where she wished to be; and at last, when the Restoration brought her there again, suffering from the cruel disappointment of all her hopes and aspirations ; for "egotism stalked through the exhausted land,egotism under various forms and professing various creeds meas while the poison of a deadly indifference crept through the veins of France. . . . Madame de Stail saw all this, and felt it with a passionate regret."--Spectator.

## what can he do?

The great test in life, says General Thomas J. Morgan, in a paper on "Training as an Element of Education," is rather what a man can do than what he knows. Can he use his eyes? Has he good judgment? Is he a man of common sense? Can he think? Does he reason correctly? Has he power of adaptation? Can he organize? Has he executive force? Is he practical? These are the kind of test questions that are put to the graduates of our schools. Can the "sweet girl graduate" cook a dinner, sweep a room, or superintend a house? Does she have an intelligent interest in passing events? Has she robust healih, good habits, self-reliance, energy, and power of endurance? Can the young man lay aside bis diploma and keep his father's accounts, write an article for the newspaper, make a business trip to Chicago, give an intelligent account of the morning's news? Can he lend a hand at home, and turn to some good account in the daily duties of life some of the accumulated stores of knowledge amassed in years of study? Does his education render him more indastrious, more skilful and efficient, more ingenious, more persistent, more practically masterful in whatever he undertakes? If he has been trained to use his senses, to acquaint himself with natural phenomena at first hand; if he has been taught to think, to make careful comparison, noting essential differences and significant similarities, making patient inductions and wise generalizations; if he has been led to form fixed habits of thoughtfulnes*, self-reliance, moral earnestness, inflexibility of purpose, persistent industry, promptness, punctuality, fidelity, unswerving devotion to duty; if, in short, as a result of his school life, his training has produced a wellrounded character, he will be able to meet all the reasonable demands that society can make upon one who lacks practical experience in actual business. He will readily acquire skill and efficiency in any calling for which his special talents have fitted him. Training gives potency to all the soul's possibilities.--Popular Science Monthly.

## How music flows.

The description of the way the greatest genius of this century produced his work--a description given by himself, simply and naturally-proves that, although the real reason of the powerful effect which his grand ideas produce upon us lies in the inspiration of genius, which, like the course of the stars in the spheres, we can see and calculate and yet not conceive, it is, nevertheless, the severe self-criticism which great men exert npon their own work, never satistied until they reach the highest point which they think it possible to attain, which renders their work so far superior to that of mediocrity, which not only is quite pleased and contented with any common idea, but even disdains taking the trouble of refining and polishing, a trouble which the great masters in poetry, in painting, in music, have always taken. The astonishing fact has often been told how Mozart had written no overture to his opera Don Giovanni till the last day, when he sat down to a glass of punch, and, talking to his wife, wrote it all in a few hours. Yet that is just what he did. He did not compose it ; he only wrote down what he had weeks before composed, turned over in his mind, scratched out, replaced, and refitted, until the whole formed the picture he wanted in order to satisfy himself, then he took the pen and devoted a few hours to the mere mechanical work of writing it out, just as a stenographer would do with his shorthand manuscript when he has to transcribe it for the reader. The work is before his mind's eye; he only expresses it in legible signs. This is the way great composers have often kept the work in their brain, and, as it were, when the moment came, copied it out on paper. Italian composers have rarely taken that trouble. Trusting more to the spontaneous flow of melody than to elaborate figures of counterpoint, etc., many of them sat down, trusted to the idea flowing into their pens, and quickly wrote down their singing thoughts; so quickly, indeed, that sometimes in a few weeks a whole operatic score was impro-vized.-Temple Rar.
M. M. A. Héron, in a paper read before the Société Normande de Geographie, at Rouen, says of Mr. Parkman, apropos of his volume on Montcalm and Wolfe, "He has developed the most solid qualities of the historian ; he possesses the foremost of them all-impartiality. He is always and everywhere the exact and conscientious narrator."

## 0UR LIBRARY TABLE

Alden's Manifold Cyclopedia of Knowledge and Learning. New York: John B. Alden.
The third volume of this work contains in it six hundred and thirty pages, a vast anount of condensed information under the titles from Artimisia to Baptisia. It is well printed, strongly bound, convenient in size, and exceedingly low-priced. The complete set will contain thirty volumes.
Paradise. A novel. By Lloyd S. Bryce. New York and Liondon: Funk and Wagnalls.
An exceedingly clever novel, satirical in turn, and lighted throughout by an unusually brilliant and incisive turn of thought. The suhject is one of undoubted interest, "Twenty five minutes for Divorce" being the acrual goal of three or four of the travellers across the American continent, of course from east to west. Indeed, the story contains some of the cleverest, most concentrative, and original writing produced by contemporaneous American writers and deserves a wide reading, as its morals are unimpeachable, its conclusion just, and its literary style above reproach.

Shetches in Sung. By George Lansing Raymond. New York: G, P. Putnam's Sons. Toronto: Williamson and Company.
Less than half of this neat little volume is made up of "Sketches of Song." These are on many different themes in many different metres; and while there are but a few real songs among them, many pieces are full of lyric melody, and all exhibit skill and facility in handling poetical forms The dramatic poem, Ideals Mude Real, is not likely to become immediately popular. It is somewhat after the style of Aylmer's Field in form ; but the story is not easily grasped, and, notwithstanding many passages of grear force and beauty, it seems to lack warmth and colour and continued interest.

The Lost Wedding Ring. By Mrs. Winter and Mrs. Boy. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Toronto: Williamson and Company.
"Mrs. Boy did not, in truth," says Mrs. Winter, "write this essay with me, but she talked through nearly the whole of it, and put many more ideas into it than it had at first. Her talking and my writing, therefore, have woven a tissue that I, single-handed, was not capable of." The essay is a series of talks about marriage, in which there is a good deal that at first may seem almost frivolous, but much more, thit is the evident fruit of thought and reflection. Those who read the book will not hesitate to admit that it contains many things well-worth saying Which the author has succeeded in saying in a very sprightly and attractive way.
Qulliver's Travels. By Jonathan Swift. Two Vols. Illustrated. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Toronto : Williamson and Company.
This edition of Gulliver's Travels requires notice only on account of the exceedingly good form in which the publishers have brought it out. Dainty little volumes, not insignificantly small, but just large enough to let you know you have a book, not a burden, in your hand-printed in clear ${ }^{t}$ ppe, on white paper, with that regard for margin and proportion the book lover delights in, and bound, with front and bottom edges uncut and tops gilded, in covers tastefully designed to match paper and typography, they are almost faultless specimens of artistic bookmaking. The illustrations are numerous, and add exceedingly to the other merits of the work.

Sllect Tales from the Gesta Romanorum. Translated from the Latin with Preliminary Observations and Notes. By Rev. C. Swan. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Toronto: Williamson and Company.
"You have here sundry moral and entertaining stories, invented by the monks of old, and used by them for amusement, as well as for instruction; from which the most celebrated poets of our own and other lands have condescended to draw their plots." So commenced the preface to the tirst $W_{\text {American edition, published in } 1845 \text {, and which is reprinted in this one. }}^{\text {a }}$ We shall say nothing further about these quaint and curious and too little being tales, save that they are now brought out in a very fitting form, being one of the publishers' "Knickerbocker Nuggets," and exactly similar
in paper, typography, and binding to Gulliver's Travels already noticed.
The City of Sarras. By U. Ashworth Taylor. New York: Henry Holt and Company.
A truly beautiful romance, worthy in its plan and purpose of careful and even reverent perusal. The characters are four-Dorotheus, a quasi mystical believer in the Grail ; Simon, a courtier ; Morgan, a beautiful Oman who is in search of her soul, and Nöel, the cripple and wondrous
magician who promises to reveal it to her, and instead binds her to him only through the pledge of passion.

The elevation of the story will tend to make it unpopular with the general reading public, but a far truer verdict than that of mere ephemeral
and surface pleasure will doubtless be accorded its mystical and devotional Attributes by those who care for more than the mere clever presentation of every-day life in their novels.

The Strocture of Evglish Prose. A Manual of Composition and Rhetoric. By John G. R. McElroy, A.M. Second edition. New York: A. O. Armstrong and Son ; 'Toronto: Rose Publishing Company.
This most excellent treatise on the various and conflicting questions of literary style, arrangement, and construction is well-known among teachers of the difficult study of Rhetoric. While it abounds in careful analysis of the sentence, the paragraph, the address, and the peroration, and contains numerous interesting examples of solecism, tautology, and kindred faults of style, the higher branches of the art are not forgotten, and the volume breathes a distinctly poetic spirit, or rather, evinces a thorough appreciation of the poet's mind rare enough among rhetoricians. Minto appears to be the English writer from whom most has been drawn, while Bain, Campbell, Blair, and Whately all have some share toward the perfecting of the book, which is a valuable addition to literature in general, and to the eritical branches in particular.

Edward III. and His Wars. Arranged and edited by W. J. Ashley, M.A. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Toronto: Williamson and Company.
This is one of the English History by Contemporary Writers Series. The design of the series is to set forth the facts of Euglish History by giving to each well-defined period "a little volume made up of extracts from the chronicles, State papers, memoirs, and letters of the time, and also from other contemporary literature, the whole chronologically arranged so as to give a living picture of the effect produced upon each generation by the political, religious, social, and intellectual movements in which it took part." This volume, the work for which has been admirably done by the editor, is made up of extracts from Froissart, Jehan le Bal, Adam of Muremuth, Cobert of Avesbury, The Chronicle of Lamercost, State papers, and other records. Several of the quaint illustrations in the volume are from a loth century MS. of Froissart, preserved in the Paris Bibliothèque Nationale.

Alden's Cyclopedia of Universal Literature. Vol. Vili. New York: John B. Alden.
This volume comprises nearly one hundred notable names, from Ferreira, the Portuguese poet to Gayarré, the historian of Louisiana. The diticulty in a work of this kind of apportioning the space to authors aceording to the extent and merits of their works is obvious. In this volume however a proper judgment does not appear to have been exercised in disposing of John Foster, the essayist and biographer in three pages, while John Charles Fremont, who is almost entirely unknown in literature, takes up twenty-one-more than Froude or Frankland, and more than twice as many as are allotted to the historian Freeman. Omissions, too, might be pointed out, but we content ourselves with observing that the French-Canadian historian Garneau, and the well-known poet Fréchette, are quite as much entitled to a place in the work is many others whose names appear. But the work is so conveniently and neatly got up, contains so much in such small bulk, and is, withal, so marvellously cheap, that minor defects and omissions may well be excused.

The World to Come. By William Burnet Wright. Buston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin, and Company. Toronto: Williamson and Company.
These sermons must undoubtedly rank very high among contemporaneous publications of the kind. Best known as the author of Ancient Cities, the name of William Burnet Wright is nevertheless associated with the weekly delivery of strong, forcible, and unique sermons dealing with the intimate moral relations of the soul to the body, to other souls and to its Maker. A vein of daring originality runs through all of them, recalling many utterances of the distinguished Haweis, and shows to most advantage in the sermon addressed to parents, which contains a vast amount of common sense and advice as rare as it is consistent. No more interesting or remarkable volume has reached us of late than this collection of vigorous, graphic, and earnest addresses. We reiterate the hope that some day in the future it will not be altogether an unheard of thing for the clergy to avail themselves of the myriad noble compositions in the form of sermons that are printed every year, but whose circulation is pitifully limited in comparison with their worth.
Thoughts, Moods, and Ideals. By W. D. Lighthall, Advocate. Mont. real: Witness Printing House.
This little collection of poems-some twenty in number-in paper cover, is not likely to attract much attention from any except the personal friends of the author, to whom he dedicates it, and those who feel a real interest in every meritorious effort to add to and improve our Canadian literature. The ordinary reader is not apt to be allured by titles such as " Cujus Animæ Propicietur Deus," "Stanchezza," " Præterita ex Instantibus"; but verses like "The Confused Dawn," "National Hymn," "The Knight Errant," and others show that Mr. Lighthall could please a popular audience if he chose. Some of the pieces marked "Early Lines," perhaps apologetically, are as good as any in the collection, and need no apology. We would like to quote a stanza or two from "Imitated from the Japanese," but it should be read as a whole. The public will readily pardon Mr. Lighthall's "Crimes of Leisure" as he calls his poems, but will be reluctant to forgive the blunder of including in the collection the six lines, "To -_-" on page twenty-one.

Social Aspects of Christinity. By Brooke Foss Westcott, D.D., D.C.L., Canon of Westminster, Regias Protessor of Divinity, Cambridge. Loaton and Now Kork: Macmillan and Company; Toronto: Williamson and Company.
These sermons wore nearly all preahed at Westminster in August, and December, 1886. Dr. Wentcot owes, as he tells as himself in the Preface, much to two noble writers not often joined together in an acknowledgment of deep gratitude - Comte and Maurice. Indeed the Politique Positive and the Social Morality are books that, are destined never to witmess the decline of their intluence upon all thinking minds, and Dr. Westeote's acknowledgment is after all only one anong a thousimid. Much of original thought, however, exists in these sermons, and much of an earnest sympathy with the social and political prothems of the day, though there appours little of that rhetorical charm which characterizes Archdewon Earrar's and Dean Stanley's addresses, and still less of that direot personal flavour in the manner of spenking which, if by some in the Chursh of Englame regarded as a taint, is nevertheless one very productive of use and widespread benefit. The author very truly says, "Of all places in the world 'The Abbey,' I thiak, proclaims the social (fospel of Christ with the most touching eloquence."
Marzio's Cructfis. By tr. Marion Grawford. London: Mabmillan and Company. 'Toronto: Williamson and Company.
In whatever special form Mr. Crawford essays to write he is undeniably successful, whether his subject be mystical, melodramatic, or ultra modern, whether his characters are the polished inmates of European hotelsand appartements or the broodiug geninses of a ITmion community. He manages with rare ahility and tact the local colouring of his varions tales, and while they do not reveal the vory strongest; grasp of character and incident possiblo to those who follow fiction in these latter days, they are never marred by sloveniness nor madue affectation of amalyicat tendeney. Mr. Crawford is satisfied to write a story such as Marsio's Cruafice in a simple, direct, yet fascimating mamor, that attests to his modesty, his power of restraint, and his command of the narrative form of composition. The style is, as usual wish this iuthor, wholly fres from mannerisms, and the scene is laid in Italy, Mr. Crawford's chequered lifes and nomadic habits having fitted him for describing pretty nearly every country under the sun. The character of Maraio is exceedingly well drawn, and the analysis of his peculiar sentiments in connection with his brother, the gentle and hamane priest, Don Paolo, equal to other noted passages of the kind. The entire book breathes of the atmosphere of Italy, ideas of civic and personal liberty seething beneath the masks of priesthood, demagogism, and convention, and notions of socialistic import abidiug under the same roof with the unconscious standards of art and beanty.

East and West : A summer's Lhmeness. By E. J. C. Toronto: Trout and Todd.
This poem of about four hundred lines, written in a very familiar measure, has poetical merits of a high order. The author is evidently a close observer of nature and a student of men and women, and possesses the power of graphic description in a very marked degree. He paints the wild scenery of the Rockies and the incidents of the mining camp with a vigour which is not at all impaired by his obvious facility. Although the poem is almost altogether descriptive there is a story, or rather the suggestion of a story, in it, which shows the auchor has dramatic talent also of no mean order. We would like to quote the prologue and several extracts we had marked, but have space only for the following lines, descriptive of an afternoon in "the west," with which the poem opens:

The sultry day is well-nigh done,
Ahane is all the tiery west-
The giant snow-peaks, one by one,
Are crimsoned by the preat red sum
Whove gory gilis bach gleaming crext.
Ablack flecke thating stlently-
A solitary eaglo sweeps
Its way acrons the trackless deaps;
As trackless as a frozen sea
Whose waves have never stir nor sound
In all it weird immensity.
Below, the foot-hills stretch around
Mile after mile--untracked, untraced
Mite after mile--untracked, untraced,
A desolate and dreary waste
A desolate and dreary waste
Of shattered rock and clinging pine,
Deep-cleft by many a jacsed line
Deep-cleft by many a jacset line
Where night is in the noon of day
And months and years go on alway
Anul still, as in the days that were,
Those western hills are wild aud hare,
The eagle's home, the lean wolf's lair-
Unchanged, and chamgeless evermure!
Some of our readers may be curions to know who "E.J.C." is, but if the poem itself does not betray his identity, those friends whom the author met at the summer hotel on Kempenfeldt Bay, and to whom he dedicates his poem, will no doubt enlighten at least the public around them.

The December number of the Poitical Science Quarterly completes the Second Volume. A feacure of the quartorly is that every article, including those of the editors, is signed. Profits Oueder Modson Conditions, by Prof. John B. Clark, The Natural Rate of Wages, by Frankland H. Giddings, Local Government in England, by Prof. Frank J. Goodnow, and India's Unadjusted Trade Balance, by W. Martin Wood, are the articles of interest to readers other than those of the United States.

Trae Eclectic Magazine still holds its place in popular favour, notwithstanding the keen competition of an increasing number of powerful and attractive rivals, The January number has a fine frontispiece engraving of the interior of the Coliseum. As usual the selections from the leading English reviews and magazines are judiciously made. The pootry, translations from Schiller by sir Theodore Martin, is from Blackwool.

The Audover Review for January opens with Missions to Muslims by Rev. Thomas P. Hughes, D.D., which is followed by Mr. S. B. Pentengill's article, The Mistake of Prohibition, and Prof. Tucker's rejoinder, entitled Prohilution in the Light of New Issues. A paper on Wordsworth, by Throbore U. Williams, Prospects of Popular Government, by Prot. E. B. Andrews, and The True Church, by Prof. Gould, are the other contributed artichs. A variety of topies are dealt with editorially.

Sh. Nicholus for January opens with a poem, The Brown Dioarf of Riagen by the veteran Whittier, with fine frontispiece and other illustrations. Mrs. Burnett's Sara Crewe is continued, and Mr. Stockton's Clocks of Rondaine concluded. The amusements of Arab ohildren are described by Henry W. Jessup and illustrated by Henry Fenn. Elizabeth R. Pennell describes London Christmas Pantomimes with pen and pencil. How the Yaulees came to Whackwood, The Peasant King, Poor Mr. Brown, A Girls' Military Compary, and many other gooll things in prose, verse, and picture, make $u_{i}$ a number rich enough for any young person.

Tre January number of the Ampricon Magraine has for nontispiece a finte engraving of II. Winthrop Purce's picture, "The Spinner." Cape Breton faland, a portion of Cmada not boo well-known by Canadians, is leseribel by E. M. Endlich in the opening artiche, for which several artists Gurnish the illustrations. Some Boston Artists abled their Studios is the first of a series of illustrated papers on this subject. Two short storiest, Juck Burns, the Blacksmith, and The Ilary of Outilie, with some chapters of Pucett's Olivin Detapheine make up the tiction of the number. Soachim Miller coutributes a poem, Twilight at Vazareth.

The Jimuary number of Soribner's begins the second volume, and it is quite apparent the publishers are determined to maintain those characteristics that promised, from the first, to make the new magazine a sucerss. It is not so essentially "Amprican" in its subject-matter and illustrations as many of ins contomporaries have been, and it may be read with interest by English-spaking poople anywhere in the world. The Man at Arons will inform the realer of the various kinds of defensive amonr used from the time of Chathmagus until the invention of gmpowder and the use of artillery made such defences not only useless but dangerous; and the richly illustrated article on The Great Pyramid will give him a more vivid and intelligent conception of those enormous structures, erected so many centuries ago, than a whole volume of elaborate description.

General Lew Waliace has half finished a novel treating of the time of Mohammed.

Prince Napoleon's book, Napoleon et ses Détracteurs, has had a marvellous success. Many editions were bespoken before the "advance sheots" had been issued; but the popularity of the work is said to be due not so much to its merit as to the author's political position and family connection
$C H E S S$.
probleal No. 219.


PROBLETI No. 220.


White to play and mate in two moves.
White to play and mate in three moves-
Solution of Prohlem No. 215 Keys-R 7 , and $Q$ mates accordingly.
 (mate).

Prohem 216 Restated, $2 \mathrm{~S} 18 \mathrm{p} 7 \mathrm{P} 4 \mathrm{P} 10 \mathrm{BB} 7 \mathrm{pp} 4 \mathrm{~K} 2 \mathrm{k}=64$.
During the prevent generation the growth and extension of chess. practice has become enorrmens. Where there used to be ono chess club we have now twenty, and it is quite certain that the better it is understoon, the more highly it is appreciatel.- Iondon Times.

1 Chest Touruey will hed Medal oftered by the Ediaburgh Chess Club.

Mr. Monck defeatell H. V. White, Esq., in "Fraser"Correnpondence Tourney; thus: | W. H. S. Monck. II. V. White. | W. H. S. Monck. IG. V. White. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\begin{array}{lll}\text { 1. P-K } 4 & \text { P.-K } 4 & \text { 16. K } \times \text { S }\end{array}$ |  |





Q-Qsch.
$2 \times \mathrm{Q} \mathrm{s} \mathrm{P}$ $\mathrm{Q}-\mathrm{K} 4 \mathrm{ch}$. $\underset{\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{OB}}{\mathrm{K}} \mathrm{K}$ $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{Q} \mathrm{B} 4$
$\mathrm{Q}-\mathrm{R} \boldsymbol{\mathrm { R }}$
(? $1 \times Q B$
$\mathrm{P}^{2} \times \mathrm{B}$
$\times \mathrm{R}$ $Q \times R$
$P^{2} \times \mathrm{P}$ $\mathrm{KR} R \mathrm{Q}$
BXQR
$\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{K} 3(?)$ P-K S 3 (? P-K B 3

## WHAT'S KILLING US?"

## the wonders which the microscope reveals.

One of the leading scientific publications states that many people are now using the microseope to discover the real cause of disease in the system, and to detect adulterations of food and medicines.

This wonderful instrument has saved many a life. A microscopical test shows, for instance, the presence of albumen, or the lifc of blood, in certain derangements of the kidneys, but medicine does not tell us how far advaned the derangement is, or whether it shall prove fatal

The microcope, however, gives us this knowledge:
Bright's disease, which so many penple dread, was not fully known until the microscope revealed its charasteristics. It qratly aids the physician, skilled in its use, in determining how far diswase has advanced, and gives a fuller idea of the true strusture of the kidney.

A noted German scholar recently discovered that by the aid of the microscope, the physician can tell if there is a tumor forming in the system, and if errtain appearances are seen in the fluids passed, it is proof positive that the tumor is to be a malignant one.

If any derangement of the kidneys is detected by the microscope, the physician looks for the development of almost any disease the system is heir to, and any indication of Bright's disease, which has no symptoms of its own, and cannot be fully recognized except by the microscope, he looks upon with alarm.

This disease has existol for more than 2,000 years. It is only until recently that the microscope has revealed to us its universal prevalence and fatal character. Persons who formerly died of what was called general dehility, nerrous breakdown, dropsy, paralysis, heart disease, rheumatism, apoplexy, etc., are now known to have really died of kidney disease, because, had there been no disorder of the kidneys, the chances are that the offects from which they died would never have existed.

As the world becomes better acquainted with the importance of the kidneys in the human economy by the aid of the microscope, there is greater alarm spread through the communities concerning it, ind this accounts for the erroneous belief that it is on the increase

As yet neither homeopathist nor allopathist is prepared with a cure for deranged kidneys, but the world has long since recognized, and many medical gentlemen also recognize and prescribe Warner's safe cure for these derangements, and admit that it is the only specific for the common and advanced forms of kidney disorders.

Formerly the true cause of death was discovered only after death. To-day the microscope shows us, in the water we pass, the dangerous condition of any organ in the body, thus enabling us to treat it promptly and escape premature death.

As the microscope in the hands of laymen has revealed many diseases that the medical men were not aware of, so that preparation, like many other discoveries in medicine and science, was found out by laymen, outside the medical code; consequently it comes very hard for medical men to indorse and prescribe it. Nevertheless, Warner's safe cure continues to grow in popularity and the evidencess of its effectivenes are seen on every hand.

Some persons claim that the proprietors should give the modical profession the formula of this remedy, if it is such a "God-send to
humanity," and let the physicians and public judge whether or not it be so recognized.

We, however, do not blame them for not publishing the formula, even to get the recognition of the medical profession. The standing of the of who manufacture this great remedy is equal to that of the majority of physicians, and the reason that some doctors give for not adopting and prescribing it-- viz: that they do not know what its ingredients are-is absurd.

Mr. Warner's statement-that many of the ingredients are expensive, and that the desire of the unscrupulous dealer or prescriber to realize a large profit from his manufacture by using cheap and injurious substances for those ingredients would jeopardize its quality and reputation; and the Warner's safe cure cannot be made in small quantities on account of the expensive apparatus necessary in compounding these ingredientsseems to us to be a reasonable and sufficient one.

The universal testimony of our friends and neighbours, and the indisputable evidence that it, and it alone, has complete mastery over all diseases of the kidncys, is sufficient explanation of its extraombinary reputation, and conclusive proof that it is, perhaps, the most beneficient discovery known to scientific medicine since the microscope revaled to us the allimportant nature of the organs it is designed to reach and bencfit.
 the alpearance of Mabame Mombeska on Thesday and Wednesdaty and Wednesiby Mati
 Kemb," and "Alrieme Leconveme." On Thumay, "Friday, and Batmday, Fiankie Franke is amounced to appear. The remarkable excellence of the company supporting and wie Kemble in "Sybil" is a feature that in itself is worthy of an inmense audience, reball be duly appreciated by our theatre-goers. In every detail this eompany may be Eegarded as the hest comedy attraction that has ever appared here. The brooklyn well says:- "The play is bright, the action brisk, the dialogne clever, and the interest Kemble bained. It abounds in songs and dances, the lullaly and kissing somg hy Miss Miss $K$ being particularly well received. The washtub duet and the burlesque opera by attrachble and Mr. Bell were repeated several times. Miss Kemble, who is a clever, tinnstive little actress, and, as the rough diamond, made the most of the telling situatinns, was efficiently supported. Little Ada Terry as Ressie, won the hearts of all hy her


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 chills, nervous and general debility, with frequent Bore throat, and my mouth was badily cankered Medical Discovery' and 'Pellets' have cured me your 'Golden ay a word in ceterencet bay enough in their praise. 1 must als has proven itself a most excellent medicine for weak females t has been used in my family with excellent results.
Dyspepsia.-James L. Colby, Esq., of Yucatan, Houston Co. heartily and prow poor at the same time. I experienced heartburn
our somach, and many other disagreeable symptoms common

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 Goulden Medical I commenced taking your atu now entirely free from the dyspepsia, and THE SYSTEM. one yeurs. I weigh one hundred and beventy-one ond one-baif pounds, and have done as done in the same length of time in my life. I never took ${ }^{\text {a }}$ he whole sysiem equal to your 'piscovery' and 'Pellets.'
Dyspepsia. Theresa A. Cass, of Sprinuficld, Mo., writes Ina hron one year with liver complaint, dyspepsia, and Chill Chills and Fever.-Rev. H. E. Mosley, Montmorenci, S. C." Writes: "Last August thought i would die with chins and tove."

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| Golden Medical Diseovery as dirceted by |  |
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| T beqan to feel like a new man, gnd am now gound and well. |  |
|  |  |  |
| mouth, that i haveever used. My wite could not walk across the |  |
|  |  |  |
| thon when she began to take your 'Golden Medieal bistovery, |  |
| , she eat walk quite a litile ways, and do some light work." |  |
| HIP - JOINT $\begin{aligned} & \text { "My litite boy had been trouble w, withe hiphoint } \\ & \text { disease for two years. When he connmenced the }\end{aligned}$ |  |
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and can walk with the help of crutches. He does not suffer any pain, and can cath and sleep ats well as any one. It has ouly been T cannot tind words with which to express my gratitude for the

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 Slin Dinease, -The "Democrat and News."of Campridue, Mifyland, says: Mrs. Eura
Ans Poone, wie of Leonard Poole, of Wred of a bad case of Eezema luy using been cured of a bad ense of Eczema by using Dr. Pierce's
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March ons: New Year's Day. Wimiam $S$.
Bogart,
Ladies' Migh Hats in 1831.
Historical and Social Jottings, Minor Topics,
Original Documents 紋期,
plies, Societies, Boo



[^0]:    Total invester fund.
    $533,000,000$
    $3,000,000$
    Invested in Canala......................... $3,000,000$
    Issues non-forfeitable and unconditional Policies. Large profit returns on the Reserved CHAS. HUNTER,
    HAS. HUNTER, W. M. RAMSAY, of Agencies. $\underset{\text { Manager }}{\text { Supt. }}$
    F. SPARLING, City Agent,y TorontoSt,

