

This Number Contains: "Manners"—a reply to Granduncle; and "Dr. S. E. Dawson on the Cabot Voyages."

VOL. XII. No. 11.

FEBRUARY 8th, 1895



THE WEEK

A JOURNAL FOR MEN AND WOMEN.



POLITICS

LITERATURE

SCIENCE

MUSIC

DRAMA

ART

Respectfully I lift my cap to my contemporary THE TORONTO WEEK. This paper has been for a dozen years the one purely literary paper of the whole Dominion. Starting with an high ideal, the conductors have striven hard to maintain it, often, I fear, with poor material support and little encouraging appreciation. The paper comes to hand very much improved in all respects; it has increased the staff, added to the number of pages, and is handsomely fitted with a brand-new typographical rig-out. THE WEEK need take no back seat among the weekly reviews of London and New York. I trust the paper will increase and multiply as it deserves.

—"Flaneur," in *The Mail*.

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THE WEEK.

Vol. XII.

Toronto, Friday, February 8th, 1895.

No. 11.

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Current Topics.

A Precarious Situation

Precarious, indeed, is just now the situation of the Liberal Government in England. So far as one can gather from observations made at this distance, the chances are about even for its immediate overthrow, and its continuance through the session with a very small majority. The result depends largely upon the action, first of the Anti-Parnellite faction, and second of the small band of ultra-Radicals, of whom Mr. Laibouchere and Sir Charles Dilke are the leaders, as well as rank and file. The course of either of these contingents is unpredictable. The situation is as interesting as it is critical. Should the Government manage to pull through the session, and to get two or three of the measures upon which the hearts of the Liberals are particularly set, carried through the Commons, to be thrown out, as they almost certainly would be, by the Lords, Lord Rosebery's chances at the coming election would, no doubt, be considerably improved. Should the Government, on the other hand, be defeated at the outset, its prospects in the election would be gloomy indeed. The fact is that, in consequence of the sectional and factional divisions among its supporters, or those who are generally counted as such, the Government was weak when Mr. Gladstone retired. Owing largely to the loss of the old leader, and the bad impression made by his successor at the outset, it has been growing weaker ever since. It is true that Lord Rosebery has been giving better satisfaction to his followers of late. His speech on disestablishment, a week or two since, seems to have almost satisfied the most ardent enemies of the Establishment among his followers, though even it contained some traces of the opportunism which is his great weakness as a Liberal leader. On the whole it is not unlikely that the improvement comes too late. There is, however, one chance in his favour. It is always possible that the Grand Old Man may re-appear upon the scene, and rouse his admirers to such a pitch of enthusiasm as to carry the party over all obstacles. A few days will now decide the question, "to be or not to be," for the first part of the session at least.

The Proposed New Hotel.

Some exception has been taken to the opening paragraph of an article on the proposed new Toronto hotel which appeared in our last number. It was said that it seemed hardly fair for the University of Toronto or the Ontario Government to bonus a new hotel by a gift of valuable land to enable a number of gentlemen to enter into competition with hotels carried on by private enterprise. No doubt every question has two sides and the other side in this case is that the University and the Government together own three blocks of land which it is desirable to convert into business property as rapidly as possible. The Government and the University authorities think it in the interests of this property to give about one-tenth of it to such an enterprise as the hotel referred to. It is not for them to say whether such a hotel could be or should be assisted by the city; they are simply willing if the hotel is to be built and has a fair prospect of being maintained to give this portion of their property in order to benefit the balance. It is a common thing for private land owners to deed away part of their land in order to render the remainder more saleable; they do not see that any different rule applies to the Government and the trustees of the University in dealing with their property.

The Mail-Empire Amalgamation.

The proprietors of the *Mail* and the *Empire* are to be congratulated on the union which has at length been consummated. Such union must bring increased strength, not only financial, but intellectual and moral. The combination can scarcely fail to prove a strong one. Whether we should feel at liberty to congratulate the public, also, depends largely, we suppose, upon the views one may hold with regard to the relative merits of a pronounced party newspaper, and of one seeking to maintain an independent attitude. If we are to have party newspapers, and they are, evidently, a corollary of party government, and perhaps quite as defensible, it is well that they should be strong and able. The more powerful they are, in the matter of both staff and finance, the better for all concerned. The firmly established paper can more easily afford to be outspoken and impartial upon occasion than a weak one, dependent largely upon Government patronage for support. There has been a marked and very gratifying change for the better in the tone of some of our leading papers during the last few years. The vituperation and abuse so common not long since have given way to a style of editorial writing which is calm, dignified, and, we may add, powerful in comparison. The *Mail-Empire* will have a grand opportunity to set an example which will be a still further improvement upon this reform. We shall expect the public will expect, much from the renovated paper. We shall not despair of one day seeing in its columns, and in those of rivals who may emulate its candour and courtesy, even an admission that on some question, or in regard to some matter of policy, the Opposition, or the Government, as the case may be, may possibly be right. Who knows? May the marriage prove happy and prosperous!

The Canadian Press Association.

The thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Canadian Press Association, held in Toronto last week, was the most notable in the history of that society, mainly because it had been made the

occasion of a "re-union" of journalists of a past generation with the journalists of the one that is now passing. Conspicuous among the more venerable ex-journalists were Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Mr. Goldwin Smith, and Mr. Charles Lindsey. The Premier of Canada was once, as Mr. Davin facetiously said, "a printer's mephistopheles," and he rose through all the gradations of his calling till he became proprietor, publisher, and editor of a still live and influential journal, the *Belleville Intelligencer*. It speaks well for both Sir Mackenzie and his country that a printer's apprentice has reached, by no unworthy arts or even a chapter of lucky accidents, the highest political position that she has to bestow. Mr. Smith, in his very admirable address at the Press banquet, mentioned the interesting fact that he and two others are the only survivors of the original staff of the *Saturday Review*; the other survivors, singular to say, are the Marquis of Salisbury and Sir William Harcourt. Mr. Charles Lindsey was for many years the chief editor of the now extinct, but once prominent *Toronto Leader*, and as son-in-law of William Lyon Mackenzie, who was in his day a vigorous publicist, he bridges over in a very special way the interval between the journalism of to-day and that of more than half a century ago. As might be expected from the nature of their calling, the journalists made the banquet as much of a feast of reason and a flow of soul as such functions ever become. It was at all events an occasion long to be remembered by those who were fortunate enough to be present.

Canadian Copyright.

The subject of copyright was discussed at the recent meeting of the Canadian Press Association in this city. It was dealt with by J. D. Edgar, M.P., from the political standpoint, by Mr. Rutter, from the standpoint of the publishers, and by Mr. Lancefield from that of the reading public. It was made quite clear that the present condition of things is intolerable, that Canadian publishers are crushed between the upper and nether millstones of British and United States interests, and that the reading public gain nothing by this hampering of an important industry. The political grievance caused by the interference with the right of the Canadian Parliament to legislate in a purely domestic matter may be less practical than the other, but is certainly no less irritating. It seems not unlikely that the dispute between the Imperial and Canadian Governments over this question may shortly become acute, if not serious. The Act passed by the Canadian Parliament five years ago, and reserved for Her Majesty's assent, has, of course, never been put in force. To enforce it requires a proclamation by the Governor-General, and it is doubtful whether he would issue such a proclamation on the advice of Canadian Ministers. Just now it looks as though the British copyright holders were imperiling the good relations between Great Britain and her most important colony by insisting on the retention of a privilege to which they may have a legal, but certainly have no equitable claim. Copyright must be placed as completely within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Parliament as patent right is admitted to be.

University Matriculation.

At a late meeting of the Senate of Queen's University there was adopted a report on matriculation which deserves more than a mere mention. Queen's has, wisely for itself and in the interest of secondary education, accepted the matriculation curriculum recently prepared and promulgated by the Senate of the University of Toronto, and as this is accepted also by other universities and by the Education Department for the Junior Leaving High School Examination, the secondary schools are able to organize with the minimum of that

peculiarly irritating kind of difficulty which results from undue multiplication of classes. The special point to be noted in the Queen's report is the expression of regret that when the Senate of the Provincial University raised its pass percentage from 25 to 33, it did not raise it to 50, or, at least, 40. The reason assigned for this view is one well worthy of consideration by educationists everywhere. The desideratum is "papers of a more elementary character" than have been set in the past, and a higher pass minimum on those papers, the opinion being expressed that this policy would "compel pupils to remain a year longer at the High Schools, and tend to foster a higher ideal of exact scholarship amongst those seeking admission to the universities." It is frequently remarked that boys and girls enter the higher seats of learning at too early an age in Ontario, and that they present themselves for admission before they have so mastered the elementary work that they can pursue their advanced studies with the maximum of advantage to themselves. There is, undoubtedly, a good deal of force in the contention, and there is some reason to believe that the raising of the percentage for pass would have a beneficial effect. The suggestion, at all events, is well worthy of serious consideration, and it will, no doubt, receive at the hands of the Toronto University Senate the attention it deserves.

University Government.

Among the many proposals for the establishment of a *modus vivendi*, as between the Council and the students of the University of Toronto, one made by Prof. Wrong in a published letter deserves most careful consideration. He suggests that a committee be appointed to ascertain what the practice is elsewhere in the administration of such institutions, and that the students be represented on the committee. Whether this proposal commends itself to the faculty of the University as a whole or not, it is worth something to have it emanating from a member of that body, rather than from outside parties, or even from the students. It may be assumed that all are desirous of maintaining the efficiency of the University, and it will speak little for the good sense of all concerned if some solution of the difficulty is not speedily found, either in the way suggested by Prof. Wrong, or in some other way as likely to prove effectual.

Newfoundland and Ocean Travel.

Mr. Thomas Swinyard, a well-known rail way and telegraph authority, has contributed to the daily papers an interesting suggestion in connection with the now much-talked-of annexation of Newfoundland to Canada. The Allan steamers, in summer, sail through the ten-mile-wide Strait of Belle Isle between Labrador and Newfoundland, and though they are not fast sailors they make the voyage from the Strait to Ireland in four to four-and-a-half days. Mr. Swinyard suggests the construction of a railway across the island from St. John's to Belle Isle, terminating at some good and permanently accessible harbour. Why from St. John's, may be asked. Perhaps Mr. Swinyard may be able to answer. From this end of the transatlantic route it would seem good policy to select some suitable harbour on the west shore as the terminus of a short voyage across the Gulf of St. Lawrence, thus breaking the long sea voyage by the intervention of a short run across Newfoundland by rail. Mr. Swinyard's suggestion is valuable chiefly as calling public attention to a phase of the question which has not yet been allowed as much prominence in the discussion as it deserves.

The Struggle in Philadelphia.

The attention of the friends of reform in civic administration, which was a little time ago centred upon the struggle in New York and Brooklyn, is now being drawn in large measure to

Philadelphia, where a somewhat similar contest is going on. The battle for honest administration is just now being fought over the election of Mayor. The moral element in the citizenship was aroused only just in time to prevent the choice by the Republican Convention of a nominee of the notorious Quay as the Republican candidate, said nominee being a man destitute even of personal morality. As a result the struggle is now confined to two candidates, the Republican nominee being a man who has held the office of City Solicitor, with a doubtful record, and the Democratic no less a person than the twice-elected Governor Pattison, who is said to be the one Democrat that commands the unlimited confidence of honest voters of both political parties in city and state. Some facts given by the *Outlook* shed a lurid light upon the condition of affairs in the Quaker City. One or two samples will sufficiently illustrate the need of radical reform in civic affairs. Six of the most prominent daily papers in the city were compelled, a year ago, to pay back into the State treasury \$60,000, which had been fraudulently obtained in connection with State advertising. The expenses of the city government rose from \$9,000,000 in 1886, to \$22,000,000 in 1890, and to \$33,000,000 in 1894, the latter sum being more than three times as much as is expended by the State of Pennsylvania! Evidently the uprising of the moral element of the population is not taking place a moment too soon.

* * *

The Manitoba Question.

HOW it is possible to reconcile the two judgments of the Judicial Committee of the Imperial Privy Council on the Manitoba School matter with each other, and what is the degree of convincing force contained in the reasonings on which the later decision is based, are two questions which cannot be fairly discussed until the full text of the judgment is before us, and time has been had for its careful study. But the knowledge already gained seems sufficient to make the practical aspects of the case sufficiently clear. It seems hardly correct to say, as *La Presse* has done, that "the Manitoba School Question has come to us from the Privy Council absolutely in the same condition as when it was sent before that tribunal, with the difference that the Federal authorities are authorized to remedy the situation in the Province of Manitoba." If the cabled summary of the judgment may be relied on, the learned judges did not confine their answer to a mere affirmation of the abstract right of the Catholic minority to appeal to the Federal Government for redress, leaving it for the Government itself to determine whether they were entitled to redress in the particular case. They have, it is clear, gone further, and intimated that, in their opinions, the Catholics have been deprived of some right or privilege, to which they are in some way entitled, and that, therefore, redress should be given, leaving it to the Dominion Government merely to determine what form such redress shall take. That is to say, they have decided the question of fact as well as the question of law.

Neither legal acumen nor extraordinary prescience is required to enable one to perceive that the whole matter, now thrown back into the political arena, is beset with such difficulties and complications that the leaders of either party might almost wish for the success of their opponents as a punishment for their political sins as well as a deliverance for themselves from a most perplexing dilemma. The queries suggested by "W" in another column constitute, perhaps, a curious, rather than an important feature of the case. Most Canadians will be slow to entertain the idea that the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the British Privy

Council on a question of constitutional law could be in any way modified by the exigencies of Canadian politicians. To suppose that judgment influenced by any considerations inconsistent with the stern principle, *Fiat justia, ruat coelum*, would shake to the foundations our faith in the absolute impartiality of that august body. A more practical matter is the fact above mentioned, that the Court has not only affirmed in effect that the Federal Government has the power to hear the appeal of the Roman Catholic minority, but that it is under moral obligation to find means of redress. This is surely involved in the expression of opinion above referred to, that the minority has been deprived of rights, etc. Suppose that after hearing and carefully considering the arguments, the Government or Parliament should reach a different conclusion and determine that no justice or wrong requiring redress had been proved, and accordingly decline to attempt such redress, would that be carrying into effect the judgment of the Judicial Committee? In what sense and to what extent is that judgment binding upon our Government? Would the affirming of an opposite conclusion in regard to the merits of the particular case be over-riding or ignoring the authority of the highest court in the realm? Has that Court any means of enforcing its judgments in such a matter upon the Canadian Government. Did it, for some reason which it deemed sufficient, go beyond both the reference and its ordinary function in pronouncing its judgment? But possibly the cabled summary has given a wrong impression with reference to the real meaning of their Lordships' judgment.

More familiar questions are those which arise when we assume that our Government will feel itself bound to carry out to the letter the implied instructions of the Court and grant substantial redress of the wrongs which it declares to have been suffered by the Catholic minority in Manitoba. It has been said that there are but two forms in which the wrongs may be righted, viz., either by a direct amendment of the Manitoba Act complained of, or by the grant of such a subsidy from the Dominion Government in aid of Separate schools as would compensate for the loss of the apportionment from the Manitoba school revenues which is withheld under that Act. It is needless to dwell upon the difficulties which are sure to be met with in any attempt to do either of these things. Those difficulties have been discussed almost *ad nauseum*, and are easily foreseen to be very grave, if not absolutely insurmountable. The second seems to be thought by some representatives of the Catholic clergy and press to be the form which the redress they confidently anticipate is most likely to take. By many Protestant tax-payers it will probably be considered to be out of the question. A third method, differing in some material respects from both, would be the remission by the Manitoba Government of the school-taxes in the case of all Catholics who should declare their preference and intention to contribute an equal amount for the support of private or separate schools. Such an exemption would, in the interests of the State, have to be accompanied with such conditions and safeguards as might be found necessary to insure that all the children affected thereby should receive an education equal in extent and thoroughness to that given in the public schools. This would involve Government inspection in some efficient way. Its chief advantage over the direct restoration of the Separate Schools, abolished by the Act of 1890, would be the doing away with the anomaly of having the State directly responsible for the support of a system of schools which exist mainly for the teaching of religious dogmas which the majority of its citizens regard as erroneous and mischievous. In suggesting this as a possible third plan, we would not be understood as by any means believing it to be either feasible or desirable.

Manners

WE quite expected that the letter of our correspondent "Old Style" and our own comments upon it would give occasion for some discussion of the important subject introduced to the notice of our readers; and we have not been disappointed. It has been contended, on the one hand, that the criticisms in question were uncalled for, and, on the other, that they are justifiable and necessary. At present, we merely want to offer a few remarks on the letters of "Granduncle" who has come forward in defence of the manners of the present day.

On the letters of this esteemed correspondent we have two general remarks to make—in the first place, we have not assumed or asserted that bad manners are universal; and in the second place, we have spoken in no contemptuous fashion of those whom *he* calls (not *we*) *parvenus*.

His first letter begins with a most extraordinary demand. He asks "Old Style" to be "more precise as to when and where he has met the women" who are noisy, rude, obtrusive and the like. Does he expect our correspondent to say at whose house and at what moment in the afternoon or evening a certain young woman made loud and offensive remarks on another woman, young or old? Does he expect this? Certainly these are matters which cannot be so treated. Our correspondent may or may not know that "Old Style" gave utterance to a very common feeling among decent and well-bred people; but at any rate this feeling exists.

Yet "Granduncle" himself seems to have some suspicion that the case is worse than he is willing to allow. He says: "It may be well to remember that our unspoken 'thank you' may be vastly nearer to true politeness than uttering the words." We confess that here our correspondent is utterly unintelligible to us, for we were speaking of manners. Now, if we were told that some of these noisy people who never say "thank you" were morally better than certain other quiet people who always say "thank you," or "please," we should simply answer that this was possible, although we had no means of knowing it, and we had nothing whatever to say about it. We have nothing to do with the private character of people in society; but we expect them to behave with decency. And we find it very hard indeed to understand what our correspondent means when he says there may be more "true politeness" in *not* saying "thank you" than in saying it. Our correspondent must be hard up for arguments if he is driven to such straits.

Our correspondent seems to think we are hard on those whom he calls *parvenus*. The fact is, we are hard on no class; and we quite agree with much that he says. But we tried to answer a question put by "Old Style," asking us to account for the deterioration of modern manners. We gave two reasons—first, the absurd notion of equality which makes many people afraid of seeming to confess their inferiority if they behave with courtesy. This is a point conceded by leading writers in the United States, as well as in other parts of the world. Another explanation is contained in the fact that a large class of people have found admission to "society" who formerly would have had no place there. Surely no one can call this statement in question. At the same time we pointed out certain principles which might bring about a better state of things; and we are sorry that our correspondent did not give attention to this part of our comments instead of doing his best to render them ineffective.

Our correspondent has asked for instances of modern rudeness. Here is an example which we cannot give with names, but we are ready to communicate those in private to any one who may desire it. At a large ball given quite

recently at one of the principle mansions in the city (we cannot say less than this) a number of young men planted themselves in front of the supper table, simply helping themselves, and rendering it almost impossible for those gentlemen who wished to wait upon the ladies to come near the viands on the table. Was "Granduncle" there? Was he a witness of this scene? What does he think of it? Are these the manners that make the man of the age?

* * *

Your Kiss.

A butterfly upon the summer's gale
Fluttering in joyful ecstasy, was caught
By thoughtless hand, and lost its primal bloom.

A field-flower fair by country wayside grew;
But one removed it from its native soil,
And though it lived its earlier charm had failed.

Last night you kissed me who resisted not;
'Twas touch of lips but not the touch of hearts;
My woman's heart went out to you in vain.

A kiss you hold not as a holy thing,
The sacred symbol of united souls:
You hold it common, and degrade your love.

You little thought perhaps that in that kiss
You left me such a legacy as may
In after years cause my poor cheeks to blush.

Freely I pardon you: I still will live
To love with woman's love. Forget not this:
A woman's lips to Love are consecrate.

Edmonton, N.W.T.

ROBERT CONNELL.

* * *

Dr. S. E. Dawson on the Cabot Voyages.

AT the last meeting of the Royal Society of Canada, held at Ottawa in the month of May, 1894, the Council in an elaborate report on various matters of scientific, historic and literary importance, called attention to an interesting event in the history of the Dominion, the four hundredth anniversary of which will soon occur.

It was on a June day, in 1497, five years after the discovery of America by Columbus, that a Venetian, John Cabot, in a British ship manned by English sailors, sailed under the authority of Henry VII. of England, to find a northwestern passage to the riches of Asia, in emulation of the discovery of the great Genoese. Much controversy has gone on for years with respect to this memorable voyage, and the landfall actually made in northeastern America by Cabot. For years this landfall was believed to be Bonavista, on the eastern coast of Newfoundland, but latterly a dispute has grown up between the advocates of Cape North, in Cape Breton, and the advocates of some point between Cape Chidley and the headlands of Sandwich Bay. Dr. Bourinot, in his "History of Cape Breton and Its Memorials of the French Regime"—reviewed by the *New York Nation* as "one of the most valuable contributions made to American history for many years"—comes to the conclusion, after a study of the various theories on the subject, that the balance of authority favours Cape North, though he is by no means positive. Henry Harrisse, in his work on the Discovery of America, urges some point on the coast of Labrador, but in a previous work he pressed the claim of Cape Percé, on the eastern shores of Cape Breton.

In 1498, another voyage was made by John Cabot to North America, also under English auspices, and the best authority goes to show that the landfall on that occasion must be placed south of the first, and the exploration embraced the northeast coast of the present United States as far as Florida, and also the southern coast of Nova Scotia. The famous map of 1500 of the Biscayan pilot, Juan de la Cosa—the first map we have of the new world—clearly gives evidence of these discoveries in its delineation of a continuous coast line of a continent which at the north contains a line of English flags, and the inscription, "*Mar descubierta por los Ingleses*," and a cape at the extreme north called

Cavo de Ynglaterra. In the Ribero map of 1529 we have also an undoubted reference to the English discoveries under Cabot, in the inscription applied to a northern country. The planisphere of 1544, ascribed to Sebastian, son of John Cabot, and discovered in 1843 in Germany, is the chief authority on which the advocates of Cape North as the landfall of 1497 mainly rest their claim. Without going into the perplexing controversy on this vexed subject, we can, at all events, come to the conclusion, that is, to John Cabot must be given the honour of having first landed and planted the English flag on the eastern coast of the Dominion.

One of the most valuable contributions to the Cabot literature is that recently written by Dr. S. E. Dawson* and printed by the Royal Society of Canada, with many sketches of old maps. He comes to the conclusion that Cabot's landfall—the *prima vista*—is the eastern point of the island of Cape Breton, known as Cape Breton by all the early navigators of the eastern waters of Canada, and that the island described on Sebastian Cabot's map "opposite the land (*ex adverso*) is Scatari. This theory had been also suggested by Dr. Bourinot, but he did not dwell on the point as his opinion inclined to Cape North.

Dr. Dawson, whose critical judgment is well known to Canadian literary men, has treated this interesting subject in a perfectly original way. It had been overlaid by a mass of literary work in which the original authorities were lost sight of in the abundance of material of lesser value. Documents and histories written fifty or one hundred years after the event, and then often based on second hand information, were treated as of equal value with contemporary records, and superimposed upon all was an immense mass of hypothesis and criticism, the product of the last fifty years. In all this discussion some solid facts had been elicited—these the author accepts as proved. He does not go over ground which has been won, but, giving credit to those who have won it, he passes on to those points yet in doubt.

The method he adopted was to put aside all the mass of second hand evidence and go directly to those documents which are contemporaneous with the discovery. Some such documents have been unearthed in recent times by diligent archivists among the archives of the Spanish and Italian courts. These precious guides have, of course, been known to recent writers, but they have made the error of reading them in with the mass of second-hand and later material, and so their true value has been obscured. This led to great confusion. To compare small things with great, it was as if masses of the late texts and glosses of the New Testament were to be read as of equal value to the venerable codices of the most ancient times. The author has gone back to the oldest documents—to the contemporary narratives, and has taken them alone and apart by themselves, and, after finding out what they recorded, he has proceeded with their aid to discuss the evidence of later times. In this method and in the thorough application of it lies chiefly the originality of this monograph.

There are, however, some other points on which, strange to say, the writer has thrown new light upon a subject so much written about. These also are the results of his persistency in going back to contemporary documents and thus he first has called attention to the true value of the name *Cavo descubierta* in Juan de la Cosa's map (A.D., 1500), for it has been until now overlooked that "the discovered cape" can mean nothing else than the point of America first discovered by the Cabots. It is strange that a point so simple should have remained unnoticed until now, but such is the case and it is due to the obscurity caused by the magnitude of the mass of literature overlying the question. The argument by which the writer demonstrates this most important point in his thesis is most interesting. Studied in this way all which was confused becomes clear—the voyages of 1497 and 1498 fall apart in all their details and, upon this contemporary map, the landfall of 1497 stands plainly revealed.

The main object of the writer having been thus attained he devotes himself to the demolition of a theory which has gained almost universal currency, namely, that Prince Edward was discovered by the Cabots. It is really wonder-

ful how a theory so unfounded could have passed into current belief. It will be impossible for any one after a perusal of this monograph to hold that theory any longer. A few there were who resisted it but they were few and they had not argued it out. The present writer attacks it upon all sides and demonstrates that the island in the maps supposed to be Prince Edward Island is in reality the great Magdalen and that it was not until 1611 that Prince Edward was known to be an island.

Other points are thoroughly discussed in separate chapters and in all on the same method of basing everything upon the earliest authorities. Thus the methods of map-making and the variation of the compass in these western seas during the sixteenth century are followed out under the guidance of a chapter in Champlain's voyages, the bearing of which upon the question had not been observed. There is a note upon the very much confused subject of the chronicles of Stow and Fabian—another upon Fagundes and the Portuguese—another upon the works of Biddle and Nicholls in which the mischief done to historic truth by the prejudices of a man very learned (Biddle) and a man very ignorant (Nicholls) are pointed out, another upon the much mooted question of Clement Adams's map and the legends upon it, and another upon Estevan Gomez and his voyage to our coasts.

The celebrated map of 1544, commonly called Cabot's map, is discussed in a long note as well as incidentally throughout the monograph. This map it was which had misled the generality of writers about Prince Edward Island by attaching the name St. John to what was taken for Prince Edward Island, but in reality was the great Magdalen. Markham had seen this, and Ganong had suspected it, but in this monograph the error is brought out into bold relief, and a series of sketches of the Island, as it appears in the sequence of the maps, completes the proof.

Much turns in the controversy upon the identification of the Island which is said on Clement Adams's map to have been called St. John. This lay in close proximity to the landfall, hence its importance. The writer maintains the thesis that Scatari Island is the St. John of Cabot, and that the east point of Cape Breton is the landfall. This is supported by a long series of extracts from old maps. An extract comparing the shape of the Island of St. John on Reinel's map of A.D., 1505, with its real shape as given on the present maps, is a very strong argument in favour of the thesis of the writer.

The question of the celebration of Cabot's discovery is submitted by the Royal Society to the consideration of all the Historical Societies of Canada. Of the claims of John Cabot to due honour from Englishmen, and their colonial descendants in North America, Mr. Clements R. Markham, the eminent geographical scholar, says with truth: "John Cabot was the great navigator, the explorer and pioneer, who lighted English enterprise across the Atlantic. He was second only to his illustrious countryman as a discoverer, and his place is in the forefront of the van of the long and glorious roll of leaders of English maritime exploration."

* * * Some Curious Questions.*

ONE of the leading French-Canadian papers, *La Minerve*, said the day after the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Imperial Privy Council was announced, "The judgment . . . did not take the public by surprise." The same thing, in substance, was said by many papers and individuals. A prominent prelate of Quebec was reported as saying in so many words, "We have known this for some time." Every reader of the newspapers will remember that from the time of the argument before their Lordships a tone of confidence as to the outcome pervaded, to a degree that was remarkable under the circumstances, the utterances of representatives of the Catholic minority, both in and out of the press. In a word, it appeared to be literally true, as *La Minerve* intimated, that the decision surprised no one.

Is this not a somewhat singular and noteworthy fact? How is it to be explained? Almost everyone who has followed the history of the affair must admit that it is very hard, to say the least, to harmonize the last with the former judgment of their Lordships. In that the august Court seemed almost to go out of its way to remove every ground of hope from the appellants, and the Roman Catholic minority on whose behalf they acted. The judgment on the constitutional

* "The Voyages of the Cabots in 1497 and 1498, With an Attempt to Determine their Landfall and to Identify their Island of St. John." By Samuel E. Dawson, Lit. D. From the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada. Vol. XII. Montreal: W. Foster Brown & Co. 1894. 4to, 60 pp., with maps.

points was clear-cut and apparently decisive. Surely on that occasion their Lordships had the whole case before them, including substantially the same considerations which have now led them to give another judgment, which, if it is not actually inconsistent with the former, escapes collision by a margin so narrow that it is extremely hard for the lay mind to discern it. The conclusion would naturally be that, in the absence of some inkling from some quarter, the announcement of a decision differing so widely from the former might have been expected to take everybody, the appellants themselves included, very much by surprise.

It is tolerably clear that their Lordships must have got new light from some quarter during the interval between the pronouncement of the two judgments. This is no reflection upon the impartiality of the Court. Their Lordships make no pretensions, we suppose, to infallibility. As honest judges they were not only at liberty, but were morally bound, to decide in accordance with their best information at the time of rendering the later decision, even were it seen to conflict to some extent with the former. It may be said that comparisons between the two are unsafe until the full text of the latter is before us. That is in a large measure true. It may possibly be found that the cabled summary failed to give us the right impression either as to the nature of the judgment, or the reasons by which it is supported. But unless the summary is positively erroneous as well as defective, two facts may be relied on as certain:—First, that the decision gives the Roman Catholic minority the right of appeal to the Federal Government. Second, that it declares that that minority have been deprived of some right or privilege previously enjoyed, which should, as a matter of justice, be restored, or for the loss of which redress should be given. Nor can it be denied that these, especially the second, have every appearance of being out of harmony in substance, if not in form, with the text and purport of the former decision. But their Lordships had the same constitutional Acts before them in both cases. The leading advocate of the cause of the appellants was if the writer's memory is not at fault, the same in both cases. Whence, then the source of the new light?

It is evident from the singular honours heaped upon Sir John Thompson as well before as after his death, that his standing was high and his influence considerable in Parliamentary and Government circles in England. This would be especially true in regard to a Canadian matter. His elevation to the Privy Council would give him exceptional facilities for gaining the ear of the members of that august body. What more natural than that, in view of the impending hearing, they should be glad to know how the matter was viewed by so astute an observer as Sir John. The fact of his personal and official relation to the matter would rather add to, than detract from, their desire to see the case as viewed from his standpoint. These are, of course, mere assumptions, or rather hypotheses, applied in scientific fashion, to see how far they would go toward explaining the double mystery of the changed decision, and of the confident anticipation of it by the friends of the appellants in Canada.

Assuming the truth of the hypothesis, which the writer merely suggests for the want of a better, where some explanation seems necessary, it would not be necessary by any means to assign the worse rather than the better motive on the part of the late Premier. It would, in fact, be not only more charitable, but more in accordance with much that is known of his character, to believe that he was more anxious to further what he may have regarded as simple justice to the minority, or to avoid a conflict of race and creed which he foresaw might lead to deplorable consequences, than to rescue his own Government from a difficult position. Nevertheless it would give rise to some serious reflection upon nice points which need not now be discussed or even specified.

W.

* * *

The United States Bond Issue.

THE greater portion of the currency of the United States is kept at par, with gold by the presence of a small gold reserve in the Treasury, and the President is empowered to sell United States 5 per cent. bonds to keep this gold reserve up to about 100,000,000 dollars; but is this a wise and proper thing to do? At first glance it would appear that

it is; for, so long as there is a sufficient redemption fund, silver and silver certificates will remain at par. But let us consider the real effect of the bond issues.

There are about 419,000 silver dollars, 150,000,000 dollars worth of silver certificates and Treasury notes, and 77,000,000 dollars of silver subsidiary coins; besides about 345,000,000 dollars worth of greenbacks; in all, nearly 1,000,000,000 dollars worth of the currency depending for its stability on a reserve fund of only 100,000,000 gold dollars. In other words, there are ten dollars of credit to one dollar of redemption fund, and if this fund is exhausted there will be nothing left for the holders of the paper money, except faith in the Government. The Wall Street bankers have long been aware of this, and there is no doubt but that they have entered on the gigantic scheme of trying to drain the Treasury of its gold reserve, well knowing that they would thus compel the United States Government to issue bonds, in the purchase of which they would not only find a permanent investment, but would be able to exchange the surplus silver currency for gold bearing bonds.

Every banker knows, that if his bid for the bonds is accepted, he can go to the Treasury of the United States, demand gold for his silver certificates and Treasury notes, and with this gold he can pay for the bonds purchased. This is something like "beating the devil around the bush," but, nevertheless, it is a fact, for the sale of the 50,000,000 five per cent. bonds in February, 1894, only netted the Treasury \$38,000,000 in gold, the rest of the purchase money being paid in silver certificates and Treasury notes. As these bonds were sold at a premium we find that, in reality, only about 33,000,000 of the bonds were paid for in gold, and thus we see that fully 27,000,000 of the bonds were exchanged for silver certificates and Treasury notes.

Although the gold reserve has been small when compared with the outstanding notes that are dependent upon it, yet it was sufficient to give stability to the 345,000,000 dollars of greenbacks, and until the issue of the Treasury notes of 1890, it was large enough to maintain public confidence in the ability of the Treasury to meet all outstanding obligations. But with gold constantly going to Europe, and with but little or no gold returning to the coffers of the Treasury, public confidence has been greatly weakened, and when the gold reserve was reduced, in Nov. 1894, to nearly 60,000,000 dollars, President Cleveland thought it was time to negotiate another sale of \$50,000,000 worth of bonds. This sale of bonds increased the gold reserve to 101,216,884 dollars, but it did not remedy the existing evil, and, on Dec. 14th, 1894, the gold reserve took another downward tumble by the withdrawal of \$4,875,000, leaving a net reserve of only \$96,341,884.

One may ask, why is gold being constantly drawn from the Treasury? The answer is very simple. The actual bullion value of the silver dollar is only about 65 cents, but, under the present currency laws of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury is bound to maintain gold and silver at a parity, which means that he is bound to give a gold dollar for a silver one; therefore a merchant owes a debt in Europe, instead of paying it in silver at 65 cents for a dollar, he turns his silver into the U.S. Treasury and gets an equal number of gold dollars with which he may pay his debt and actually make money by the transaction. Thus we see that if this drain on the Treasury is allowed to continue there will come a time when even five per cent. bonds cannot be sold for gold, and the United States will experience the evil effect of having a depreciated silver currency and gold will go to a premium while silver will be worth only bullion rates.

As a matter of fact, when it became bruited abroad that the Secretary of the Treasury had threatened to reject the bids of those who secured their gold by cashing in silver certificates and Treasury notes, there became a scramble for gold and a small premium was actually offered and accepted.

Therefore it is high time to change the existing ratio of gold to silver and make it such that a silver dollar will actually contain a dollar's worth of silver. Then silver will be acceptable in the payment of foreign debts and the drain on the Treasury will practically cease.

The oldest college in the world is the Mohammedan College, at Cairo, Egypt, which was 1,800 years old when Oxford was founded.

John Granger's Pomes.

A FRIEND WHEN THE WEATHER IS COLD.

If I take a friend into my heart,
As, I thank God, I have taken scores,
In the summer, when everythin' is smart,
And our house, it's jést all out o' doors ;
When the sun rises in the small hours,
And sets in bright ruby and gold,
When the song-birds make love to the flowers :
He's my friend when the weather is cold.

If I knowed him when money was his,
And everythin' money could bring,
And let him good-natur'dly quiz
Me, as granger might be quizzed by king ;
Should things take a turn as is ill,
And all his possessions be sold,
For losses as strikes the heart chill :
He's my friend when the weather is cold.

When great and respected by all,
It pleased him with me to unbend,
I was happy to think I could call
A man of his standin' my friend.
Uncertain's the popular breeze,
And folks, duped by tongues bad as bold,
They cut him with iced stares as freeze :
He's my friend now the weather is cold.

We was young ; he was hansum and gay,
His wit was as sparklin' as wine,
He could talk, he could sing, he could play,
His dancin' was better than mine.
Now he's lost all the grace of his youth,
He's feeble and cranky and old ;
Yet I say it, and say it with truth,
"He's my friend since the weather is cold."

O fair weather friends, only think
How riches take wings and they fly ;
Pop'larity stands on a brink,
Whence a bad word may cast it to die ;
Fine manners is like the fine flower
The frost turns as black as the mould.
Are you shore that you've got, in life's dower,
A Friend when the weather turns cold ?

J. CAWDORE BELL.

The Latest News From Paris.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

THE President of the Senate, M. Challemeil-Lacour, is a stalwart among the stalwarts of the Republic ; he was born apparently with a republican caul ; over seventy years of age, since he commenced to lisp his talk and thoughts were republican ; he was exiled by Napoleon III. for his republicanism, and England gained a brilliant professor of French by the ostracism. He can well say :

"'Tis the sunset of life gives me mystical lore,
And coming events cast their shadows before."

He has taken stock of the political, of the national situation ; there are, according to him, breakers ahead. The country is troubled ; people feel uneasy ; the republic that has been on its trial is in a situation of much gravity. And sober journals in sympathy with his life-long credo, attest the accuracy of the estimate and of his horoscopolical survey. The President elevates to the rank of a positive peril the delay in voting the budget, the increasing difficulties to balance the years transactions. The 1894 budget is still on the stocks, and no one can name a date when it will be ultimately adopted. The budget, states the President, is weighted down with utopias—why, then, does the Senate vote them ? The second grave danger lies in the progress and aggressiveness of the Socialists. They are bellicose obstructionists who rank violence above discussion, and not only compromise the dignity of the country, but raise questions as to its sanity. Carlyle held that during the First Revolution France was mad.

The Chamber is admitted to be the reflection of the country, and the violent scenes in the Legislature, the expulsion of members and the cool, measured invectiveness, and intemperance of speech, create much uneasiness and anxiety. Since many years the situation never was more painful. The future is all dark, there is no rift in the thick veil of clouds. How escape from the perilous dead lock, ask all ? In all classes of society discontent and distrust reign, says an influential republican journal ; to the sharp material crisis must be added a moral crisis no less intense. Socialism seems to be a

noun of multitude, where all that is heterogenous and unstable unite. Where political tempests rage, and political hates dominate, it is impossible that France can pursue her share in the work and peace of the world. And the country must be excused feeling disturbed and uneasy. To the treason of Dreyfus succeed the blacknailings of the press ; to both follow suite the Panamaism of the Southern Railway Co., of France, and now the Chamber has decided to open up another scandal, plastered over since 1883, when the then Minister of Public works, M. Raynal, signed conventions with two grand trunk railways, by which the State was unduly made liable for millions and millions of francs of interest, for the past as well as for the future. The Commission of Enquiry is to elucidate if M. Raynal acted above board. No doubt it will be the occasion of new scandals. It has already been the cause of ousting the Dupuy Cabinet ; the Premier was opposed to the inquiry, but Parliament felt all was not clear, and the search light would do good. It was upon the Ministerial irregularities of 1883 that the companies in question laid claim to their millions, and that the Conseil d'Etat, has decided, with costs, in their favor, against the State : the ejection of the Ministry and the nomination of the Committee of Inquiry, hitherto refused, will lead to the quashing of the decision of the Council of State while raising the question, if the Parliament be superior to that court of ultimate appeal.

On reflection, there was nothing extraordinary, when the difficult present and the uncertain future are kept in view, that the anarchists should prove their existence by launching another bomb. It was then premature to indulge in the wish that the anarchists had retired from business and were cowed by the Draconic law recently amended to keep them in order. Behold the commentary. What would it be if these wild men ever had a free hand of twelve hours, under another commune ? That consideration must well cause anxiety to every French cabinet. Except in the employment of the new metal aluminium, as straps for the infernal machine, the contents of the bomb were the same as hitherto, plenty of hob nails to scrape the life out of those struck.

The new premier is accepted to be M. Leon Bourgeois. He represents the United Republicans who ejected the Dupuy Ministry. He may be called an Opportunist-Radical. He is 44 years of age, a lawyer, a well trained public functionary who has risen in the several departments of the State. He was Perfect of Police in 1888. He will never cushion any corruption as the Panamists, of Panama, know to their cost. He will likely retain some of the members, and the ablest of the ex-cabinet. Deputy Lockroy is down to become Minister of the Marine, and M. Hanotaux will likely continue to be Minister of Foreign affairs ; he is a most able man ; there is no diplomatist can hold a candle to him ; he always knows what he wants ; insist upon having that and is resolved. He indulges in no soft sawder. He has now to show what right France has to occupy Tunisia, more than England, Egypt. France has registered her promise to quit Tunisia, when law and order were established. Like England, she has not named evacuation day. She will "have and hold" Tunisia, while England will have and hold the Nile Valley, satisfied, she can guard it as well as another.

We are both glad and sorry at the disappearance of the frost. Its intensity was too sudden, and so made people, not prepared, very uncomfortable. But it caused a little extra animation, and facilitated the completion of that horrible task, making annual calls, social scalping of busy men, by frittering away their time. The "dramas of misery" were, on the whole, fewer than might be expected. The authorities commence to have their "relief gangs" better in hand—an amelioration much needed.

The arrondissement of Charonne is in a state of revolution. The Municipal Council had selected that quarter of Paris to try the English plan of getting rid of the street sweeping and the contents of dust bins by incineration. The inhabitants object to be smoked out of their residences by the offensive Odors. To ensure the more speedy combustion of the "immondices," the spot selected being near the Pere Lachaise cemetery, it was suggested, the refuse of the coffins from the temporary graves, after five years, could be employed. But this is a grim joke, as since several years no burials, save in family tombs, take place in that cemetery. It is here, however, that all the cremation is effected—a rather unpleasant juxtaposition, with the incinerating processes of the city refuse.

M. Auguste Strindberg, the Swedish dramatist, inhabits Paris since eleven years. He has written twenty-five plays, several historical works, and is now occupied with a revised edition of the encyclopedias of the physical and natural sciences. By taste and profession he is a chemist, and has made some important discoveries in the plates for astronomical photography. He is a terrible misogynist, and his diatribes against the fair sex, whom he ranks as worth nothing at all, have become proverbial. Well he has been admitted a patient into the St. Louis hospital for the treatment of his hands, lacerated by a chemical explosion. The nurses vie with each other in paying the man-hater the most sedulous attention to eradicate his prejudices against their sex. He has become less vehement in his antipathy, and longs to quit the hospital ere he be captured. He can say of woman that "When pain and anguish wring the"—hands; "a ministering angel art thou." Benedicts and misogynists make the best husbands.

Deputy Camille Pelletan wages a merciless war on the Colonial Expansionists, and recommends them to read M. Bonnetain's masterly sketches on the French occupation of Soudan. All there is barren from Dan to Beersheba; the Sahara is one vast pest house, and the desert an immense cemetery, destined to swallow up all the *braves* France can there send, and they are the brave who go. Fever is not intermittent but permanent. In hard money alone the Soudan absorbs ten million francs a year, to enable France "to have a large coloured territory on the map to vex the English," who, it may be safely concluded, give no attention to the matter. The Deputy concludes that there is a little spot on the map of little Europe that would be worth the whole of the Sahara with Senegambia added on; it is not coloured on the map "rose"—the shade for French territory—but another. That spot is better known as Alsace-Lorraine.

The rejection by the Municipal Council—for such the "referendum" to the citizen implies—of the Metropolitan Railway will affect the success of the 1900 Exhibition. The need of speedy and comfortable transport from the centre of Paris to the Champ de Mars and the surrounding districts, has been duly recognized, as a want to be remedied. It is clear as road to parish church that the Municipal Council dreads affording citizens cheap outlets, lest it might end in their quitting Paris altogether. A few concrete facts about the Exhibition: the Eiffel Tower is to be retained, because it would cost the commissioners too much to buy out the company, and to demolish the structure. The Palace of Industry will be razed and replaced by another building on a site close by; there will be a new avenue opened across the present entrance to the building, connecting with a light bridge over the Seine, and throwing open, as a vista, the Esplanade and gilt dome of the Invalides. The river side will be occupied with Exhibition villas, special to groups and countries; this "Venicing" of the river, where the electric light will play an important rôle, will be the *clou* of the Fair.

A clamour is being raised against the National Opera, representing mostly the works of foreign composers. The cause is due to the works of the latter being preferred to those by native composers. It is also forgotten that they are not the French but the foreigners, residential or voyaging, who are the paying clients of the opera house—the latter has to make money, in addition to its State subsidy, to be kept a going concern; and to attract clients, their tastes must be consulted.

The actor, Coquelin, the elder, is down upon his luck. He broke away from the theatre Francais to make more money, by star tours, *à la* Sarah Bernhardt, round the world. His speculation came to grief, while he has a lawsuit on his arm for breaking his engagement with the Francais. He was a member of the Associate Company, and would be entitled to a retiring pension of 30,000 frs. a year, perhaps less. Instead, he is called upon to pay a composition indemnity of 200,000 frs.; sacrifice his pension compensation of 225,000; and, if he joins Sarah Bernhardt's troupe, when playing on French territory, he must meet a fine of 1,000 frs. for each occasion he acts. He is ruined—and he is the first actor in France. Z.

* * *

It is almost as presumptuous to think you can do nothing as to think you can do everything.—*Phillips Brooks.*

Letters to the Editor.

MODERN MANNERS.

To the Editor of The Week :

Sir,—When writing on this subject, "Delta," as well as your previous correspondent, brings before us an objectionable person—whom we all know, though not always by the same name—as a type, not of a class, but of the women generally of modern society. Is his acquaintance limited to the (as I assert) very small class of persons whom she really typifies? Are we to conclude that he is not widely acquainted with the many persons, both men and women, whom it is a pleasure to meet? Of such men and women, permit me to assure your readers outside Toronto, the society of our fair city is mainly composed, and it is, I think, most unfair to treat the subject so as to lead people to suppose it to be otherwise. Nor is Toronto exceptional in this respect, so far as I have had opportunities of forming an opinion, it certainly appears to me that what I claim for Toronto may also be claimed for any other town in Canada.

But "Delta" does admit that there are "people who strive, with their improved fortunes, to cultivate better manners"—of course still alluding to the "parvenues." Allow me, as one who has had the advantage of many years of observation, to claim for Canadian society that the golden key of admittance to its higher grades is not, as in the United States, and as "Delta" seems to assume to be here also, the possession of money, but education; not the education of letters and ologies, but education in the ways and ideas which constitute social "form"—if I may use a term which is "bad form," but well expresses what I mean—and makes people to be fit to associate with persons of refined manners. Money, I will admit, has a power in this respect, but only in that in many ways it makes it easier for persons to acquire this fitness, or at least to enable their children to acquire it, if it happens to be beyond their own powers. Will a very rich man or woman, of boorish manners, be admitted into Toronto society with any sort of acceptance? I don't think so. And, on the other hand, if one socially well born develops or adopts low habits and ideas, how long will the doors of society be open to welcome him? If he is unfit for society, society will let him drop.

While on this subject, having been myself born in an assured position and therefore at liberty to speak freely, I desire to protest strongly against the littleness of mind which is ready to speak so glibly of the "parvenue" (disagreeable word—commonly used in a sneering, and, therefore, impolite sense). In all countries there are people who, whether from ambition or by force of circumstances which they can scarce control, are rising socially. It is evident to any intelligent student of such works as "Burke's Peerage" and "Landed Gentry" that this is the case even in socially conservative England; and it is, of course, much more so in the colonies where social lines are never closely drawn and where transitions of all kinds are more rapid. Perhaps if we were more ready to recognize this fact and more willing to welcome the newcomers and aid them in becoming our equals, we might not so often find some of them—as "Delta" appears to have done—disagreeably asserting the position which they undoubtedly feel to be theirs, of right lawfully acquired, but which is sometimes not willingly admitted by those whom "noblesse" should "oblige" to better manners.

GRAND-UNCLE.

"THE BARBER ON THE HARBOUR."

To the Editor of The Week :

SIR,—In your issue of 25th ult., I noticed your comment on the fact of the mist or exhalation arising from the sea, when the air is colder than the water, being known in parts of Nova Scotia by the local name of the "Barber," and that you asked from your various subscribers any information they may possess as to whether the term is applied to the same phenomenon in other parts of Canada or elsewhere.

I beg to say that in the timber trade on the St. Lawrence, in the vicinity of the city of Quebec, it was very well known and much used by the sailors of the timber fleet when loading their cargoes in the fall, by the middle or latter part of September. During the early frosts the "barber" used to rise in abundance during the early morning, but as the

Erasmus.

(Concluded from last week.)

WE can also observe in these letters how the growing violence of Luther and his followers, and the new and sometimes lawless sects which began to spring up in the track of his movement, apparently in natural sequence, caused statesmen at heart favourable to the spread of gospel knowledge and to the call for reform to hesitate.

While the monks were the cruellest persecutors, availing themselves ruthlessly of rack and stake, Protestant Princes in some places, the Protestant mob in others, denied freedom of worship and attacked proprietary rights. They dispossessed, abolished, confiscated, and destroyed. The tumultuous methods and intolerance of the Lutherans wherever they were supreme, and the doctrines of the Anabaptists, culminating in the temporary and disastrous triumph of John of Leyden, influenced thinking men of that period, as the excesses of the French Revolution influenced Liberals like Burke and Wordsworth, or as the outbreak of the Paris Commune shocked the friends of the modern Social movement.

Some gleam of what broad philosophies lay in the depths of Erasmus' mind was given to his friends at Oxford, and to us, in his delightful extempore apologue on Cain:—

"A charming World it is," he makes Cain say. "Thousands of trees grow in it whose names we have not had time to learn; we have beautiful shady groves, cascades foaming down among glens and rocks, limpid rivers gliding between grassy banks, lofty mountains, deep valleys, and seas teeming with living things. Earth, too, doubtless holds treasures in her entrails, which I and those who come after me will find a way to extract, and we have golden apples, figs, fruits of all varieties. If we might live in it forever we should not much miss Paradise. We are sick sometimes and in pain, but with experience we shall discover remedies. I have myself found herbs already with rare virtues, and it may be that we shall learn in the end how to baffle death itself. I for one will never rest from searching. There is no difficulty which may not be conquered by obstinate determination."

Here he seems to stand upon the margin of that great sea of truth beside which Bacon, Newton and the Evolutionists afterwards gathered pebbles of knowledge. Himself a constant martyr to the most trying afflictions and misfortunes of existence, his soul took refuge in a lofty and consoling faith. Untroubled by the impiety that attributes wilfulness and changeableness to the Originator of the Universe, he placed his confidence in the constancy of an immutable system of Nature, deriving its existence and character from the nature of the Eternal Himself. If this fixity of the laws and habits of the visible world gives rise to some dangers and sufferings—the frictions in the vast machinery—at the same time that fixity renders them capable of being observed by experience, and converted by obedience from evils into means of good to the human race. In proportion as life becomes more sentient it also becomes more intelligent. The sum of its evils is continually minimized in course of ages by increasing wisdom. Erasmus seemed to foresee the future of the race in a beatific perspective leading up almost to the gates of the visioned Paradise of its past. Lest such a cheerful theory might smack of heresy, Erasmus prudently presented it in the language of Cain, and visited it with the disapproval of a relentless and orthodox mediæval Creator. From this glimpse of his philosophy we can see how little he was prepared to sympathize either with the scholastics of the time, puzzling over the consistency of Evil with Omnipotence: or with Luther and Calvin, seeking to make articles of faith out of the impotence of the human will.

Comparing his letter to Luther on the one hand, and to correspondents at the Roman Court on the other, we get a further glimpse of Erasmus' own point of view. His conclusions were too just to be appreciated when coarseness in life ran to headlong passion even in theology; too bold and penetrating to be comprehended in an age not yet accustomed to statesmanship by experience of civil freedom, nor trained to philosophic breadth by general study of the very thoughts of Christ and His apostles (which in Erasmus' time was still described as "learning"). "Learning" to Erasmus meant chiefly the study of the Scriptures and the Fathers in the original Greek. His giving to the public a revised translation of the New Testament was no small part of his offence.

He wrote to Luther:

"I think courtesy to opponents is more effective than violence. Paul abolished the Jewish law by making it into an allegory; and it

day advanced and the air became warmed, it gradually disappeared. When the "barber" made its appearance, the crews, who generally sang as they worked their capstans and winches in getting their cargoes on board, would be heard in all directions singing a song of which I only recollect two verses, but there were many more. Thus:

Don't you see the "barber" coming?

Oh! don't you see the snow?

Hurrah! hurrah! my hearty boys,
It's time for us to go.

It's time for us to leave Quebec,

For don't you see the snow,

Hurrah! hurrah! my hearty boys,
It's time for us to go.

As the time I refer to was in the year 1835, I may be excused for not remembering any more of the song, but I have a vivid recollection of the heartiness which the tar manifested when singing this doggerel. Doubtless, it was inspired by his own longing to be once more bound for the "quiet scenes of home."

So a part of your question is answered. The "Barber" is known at considerable distances from the coasts of Nova Scotia.

OLD.

Toronto, February 4th, 1895.

MANITOBA SCHOOL LAW.

To the Editor of The Week:

SIR,—You were kind enough, some months ago, on the occasion of the Judgment of the Privy Council on this subject, in the case of Barrett and the City of Winnipeg, to give in your columns my comments on it.

I then said that that judgment in its scope and effect, although not specifically on the question of appeal to the Governor-General in Council of the Dominion, was practically decisive in its purview. So far as I gather from the cabled reports (in brief) of the judgment *ad rem*. I hold to the same opinion still, thus:

The present judgment (as reported) repudiates the subject of Dec., 1893 ("Education") in the E.N.A. Act, 1867, and holds only to the sec. (22) *ad hoc* of the Constitutional Act of Manitoba.

Assuming such basis, the Governor-General in Council, in such matter, can only act under the provisions (special) *ad rem* in sec. 146 of the B.N.A. Act, 1867, viz.: "sec. 93," under head "Education," in the following terms: "Legislation respecting education.—In and for each Province the Legislature may *exclusively* make laws in relation to education, subject and according to the following provisions": which provisions, however, Lord Chancellor Herschell, in delivering judgment, declares not to apply in the present case, so I understand.

In sec. 146 of the B.N.A. Act, 1867, it is enacted: "And the provisions of any Order in Council in that behalf shall have effect as if they had been enacted by the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland."

In sub-s. 4 of sec. 93 of the B.N.A. Act, 1867, the text is: "In case any such Provincial law as from time to time seems to the Governor-General in Council requisite for the due execution of the provisions of this section is not made, or in case any decision of the Governor-General in Council on any appeal under this section is not duly executed by the proper Provincial authority in that behalf, then and in every such case, and as far only as the circumstances of each case require, the *Parliament of Canada* may make remedial laws for the due execution of the provisions of this section and of any decision of the Governor-General in Council under this section?"

In the Manitoba Act (of Constitution) there is no such provision; nor could there properly be.

The judgment in question does not (nor could it) define the course (if any possible in law) to be taken by the Governor-General in Council appealed to. It simply avers, as per statute, a right of appeal. More it could not.

The supremacy "exclusive" of provincial attribution in such matter is a fundamental principle of the Confederation, subject only (if at all) to the limitations of the organic Act (Imperial) of Confederation. Where such limitation is impracticable (as in the present case) there is no derogation to such attribution. These are self-evident propositions.

In the present instance the legislation may have been wise in its aim, but, certainly, in its letter, it has proved defective. What to do under such circumstances may well call forth public sympathy for those in administration of such a difficulty.

LEX.

might be wiser of you to denounce those who misuse the Pope's authority than to censure the Pope himself. So also with kings and princes. Old institutions cannot be rooted up in an instant. Quiet argument may do more than wholesale condemnation. Avoid all appearances of sedition. Keep cool. Do not get angry. Do not hate anybody. Do not be excited over the noise which you have made. Christ give you His spirit for His own glory and the world's good."

In the Letter to Luther and many other passages we find the mind of Erasmus looking forward to gradually reforming the Papal administration without sacrificing its theoretical authority. He seems even to anticipate the great principle by which English statesmen in a later century accomplished the reconciliation of the permanent hereditary monarchy of England with popular freedom. Like the King, the Church and its visible head can do no wrong; for all errors, not the inviolable Corporation, but the ministers and advisers of the day are to be made responsible.

Can a man who could write the following letter to a Cardinal at Rome in 1520 be described as insincere or a coward? "Jerome,"—thus he commences an apology, which, was in fact an indictment:

"Jerome, who was himself a monk, was the most effective painter of monastic vices, and sketches with satiric salt the lives of the brothers and sisters. The scene is shifted, the actors are changed, but the play is the same. When the Reuchlin storm was over came these writings of Luther, and they snatched at them to finish Reuchlin, Erasmus and learning all together."

"They cried that learning was producing heresies, schisms and Antichrist. As to Luther himself, I perceived that the better a man was the less he was Luther's enemy. The world was sick of teaching which gave it nothing but glosses and formulas, and was thirsting after the water of life from the Gospels and Epistles. I approved of what seemed good in his work. I told him in a letter that if he would moderate his language he might be a shining light, and that the Pope, I did not doubt, would be his friend. No one has yet answered him or pointed out his faults. They have merely howled out heresy and Antichrist."

Erasmus adds a protest, which he often repeated, against the unprecedented, if not unlawful, cruelty of the Church.

"I have myself simply protested against his being condemned before he has been heard in his defence. The penalty for heresy used to be only excommunication. No crime now is more cruelly punished. But how, while there are persons calling themselves bishops, and professing to be guardians of the truth, whose moral character is abominable, can it be right to persecute a man of unblemished life, in whose writings distinguished and excellent persons have found so much to admire? The object has been simply to destroy him and his books out of mind and memory, and it can only be done when he is proved wrong by argument and Scripture before a respectable commission that can be trusted."

Then follows a noble passage, which must have fallen upon unaccustomed ears:

"Doubtless, the Pope's authority is vast; but the vaster it is, the less it ought to be influenced by private affections. The opinions of pious, learned men should receive attention, and the Pope has no worse enemies than his foolish defenders. He can crush any man if he pleases, but empires based only on terror do not last, and the weightier the Pope's judgement and the graver the charge, the greater caution should be used. If the decrees of the Holy See and of the doctors of the Church are to carry weight they must come from men of irreproachable character, whose judgement we can feel sure will not be influenced by worldly motives. If we want truth, every man ought to be free to say what he thinks without fear. If the advocates of one side are to be rewarded with mitres, and the advocates on the other with rope or stake, truth will not be heard."

Bold enough was this protest:—

"Out of many universities in Europe, two have condemned certain propositions of Luther; but even these two did not agree. Then came the terrible Bull, with the Pope's name upon it. Luther's books were to be burnt, and he himself was denounced to the world as a heretic. Nothing could have been more invidious or unwise."

In the same letter are some sentences explaining his personal attitude:—

"The corruptions of the Roman Court may require reform, extensive and immediate, but I and the like of me are not called on to take a work like that upon ourselves. I would rather see things left as they are than to see a revolution which may lead to one knows not what. You may assure yourself that Erasmus has been, and always will be, a faithful subject of the Roman See."

Another letter throws further light on his hopes of a peaceful and righteous settlement of the whole issue:—

"The better way would be to restore the Gospel as a rule of life, and then choose a hundred and fifty learned men from all parts of Christendom to settle the points in dispute. Opinions on special subjects need not be made Articles of Faith. Some laws of the Church may require to be changed, and clergy should be appointed fitter for their duties. At present the revenues of the Church go to support a parcel of satraps, and the people are left to the new teachers, who would abolish the whole Church organization. Had Adrian lived and reigned, Rome might perhaps have been purified."

How essentially modern were Erasmus' ideas is shown

in this sarcastic outburst, written to a German abbot, anent Pope Leo's device of a new crusade, calculated no doubt to divert the attention of Christendom from the ecclesiastical corruptions that cried for remedy:—

"We are not, I presume, to kill all the Turks. The survivors are to be made Christians, and we are to send them our Occams and our Scoti as missionaries. I wonder what the Turks will think when they hear about instances and causes formative, about quiddities and relatives, and see our own theologians cursing and spitting at each other, the preaching friars crying up their St. Thomas, the Minorites their Doctor Seraphicus, the Nominalists and Realists wrangling about the nature of the Second Person of the Trinity, as if Christ was a malignant demon ready to destroy you if you made a mistake about His nature."

He reiterates his constant plea:

"Reduce the Articles of Faith to the fewest and simplest—Christ cannot be taught even among Christians. Ask a question of the scholastic divines and the casuists, and you are told of qualifications, or equivocations, and such like. Not one of them will say to you, do this and leave that. They ought to show their faith in their works, and convert Turks by the beauty of their lives."

Luther and Calvin were by no means content to reduce the number or minimize the importance of doctrinal articles. "You are no Theologian," Luther bluntly wrote to Erasmus. Erasmus in some of his letters acknowledges as much himself. His mind was essentially scholarly and critical, with a touch of the practical statesman. It was certainly not theological in the sixteenth century sense of that science.

"To Erasmus religion meant purity and justice and mercy, with the keeping of the moral commandments. It shocked him to see half the world preparing to destroy one another on points which no one could understand, and on which both sides were probably wrong."

In a letter to a literary youth, who wished to throw himself into the war of creeds, Erasmus' patient faith in the power and ultimate victory of truth shines forth. We read also the motives for his refusal to take an active side in the battle of parties.

"Stick to your teaching work. Do not be crossing swords with the champions of the old ignorance. Try rather to sow better seed in the minds of the young. If princes are blind, if the heads of the Church prefer the rewards of this world to the rewards promised by Christ, if divines and monks choose to stick to their synagogues, if the world generally chooses to preserve the forms to which men are accustomed well, then, we must put new wine in old bottles. The seed will grow in the end, and the opposition is more from ignorance than ill-will. Teach your boys carefully, edit the writings of the Fathers, and irreligious religion and unlearned learning will pass away in due time."

But well might Erasmus resolve to hold his peace, when the man he would have preferred to co-operate with was animated with sentiments like these. Thus Luther stated his own position and that of his party:

"The Papists wish to kill us because we will not place human tradition on a level with God's Word. God judge between us and them! It is vain for Erasmus to argue for concord in faith on the principle that each party shall make concession. In the first place, our enemies will concede nothing. They defend every point of their position, and insist now on doctrines which they condemned themselves before the movement began. But, once for all, we can allow nothing which contradicts Scripture. Faith wrestles with spirits of evil, desperately wicked, of whose conversion there is no hope. There can be no peace between the truth of God and the doctrine of devils."

Luther and Calvin were willing to see blood shed for a theory of the infallible finality of Scripture. Upholders of the Ancient Church were not less inexorable for the theory of the Supreme Commission to St. Peter and all its consequences. Erasmus was not willing to see the authority of the Moral Legislature of Christendom destroyed, either by a theory, or for a theory.

This is Erasmus' patriot's cry of despair over the hopeless situation:—

"It is not for me to condemn the Pope, but the news which I hear from Italy fills me with sorrow. He dreams that he can put down opposition by getting the Emperor to help him and by making more cardinals. It is to defy God Almighty. The world cannot overcome the world. They blow their trumpets, and say they are making war on heresy. The war will be only for their own revenues and power, and idle pleasures. Between one faction and the other the whole country will be laid waste, and the Church and Germany be alike ruined. God grant I prove mistaken, but I have been a true prophet so far."

How exactly prophetic is this terrible foreshadowing, in a letter to a Protestant:—

"You may tell me a desperate disease requires desperate remedies. I love not remedies worse than the disease itself. When fighting begins the worst sufferers are the innocent. Spain is full of concealed Jews and Germany is full of robbers. These will supply the ranks of the regiments. Religion will be the plea, and the lava stream will first deluge Germany and then the rest of Europe."

Erasmus' sane intellect shrank alike from oppression and from anarchy, from fanaticism and from intolerance. Perhaps he knew that if he uttered his full thought, both sides would have joined in crying heretic. We may gather that he looked upon the Church and its Councils with a humane and daylight view. The Church was a necessary part of the organization of civilization. The Pope was the moral administrator of united Christendom. Councils were the legislative machinery by which Humanity, through the acknowledged representatives of its learning, piety and philosophy, declared its *consensus* upon practical ethical problems as need arose from time to time. But it may be read between his lines that he had not sufficient faith in the notion of a *supernatural* presidency over Councils to reconcile him to invoking their interposition, or to trusting them with the opportunity to once more convert doctrinal theories into irrefragable chains upon future thought and action.

The life of Erasmus was cut short before the long expected Council, the last hope of pacifying the Christian world, commenced, at Trent, the sittings which were to extend to two generations. He did not witness the justification of his efforts for the purification of the Church by the adoption, before the close of the Council, of many of the reforms he had spent his life in urging. But he was spared at the same time the bitter spectacle of its discords and intrigues, and of the stringent decisions which shattered—(as it might seem for ever)—his larger dreams of union, moderation, and liberalization.

Had Erasmus lived he might have been obliged to make his choice once more, after the Council of Trent had confirmed, instead of healing the schism. It seems probable that of the two courses open to him he would have preferred to continue his adherence to the ancient church. He might still have judged the doctrines of the Reformers too metaphysical to justify a shattering of a time honoured and useful organization. He might still have repudiated, as premature and superstitious, the erection of Scripture into a final and irrevocable rule of faith. And in this election might not modern thought justify, rather than judge him?

Christ described Himself as a "corner-stone," a foundation. He seemed to expect that upon his work centuries and ages would lay fresh courses. The Eternal, said St. Paul, speaks "in divers manners." At the time from which the Scriptures descend, law was believed to be given by kings by divine right, whose hearts were "in His keeping." At the same time, by special commission, He "spoke by the prophets." In course of time the manner of rule and legislation has changed. Now it is the united reason of mankind that sways the royal sceptre and is the Prophet's Voice. Truth is none the less divine by whatsoever channel and whensoever it may be attained. The ancient Church has never declared this book of Scripture to be closed. Thus it has never joined in cutting off and denying the living legislative right of mankind. Protestantism has its own claims upon human gratitude, but in this respect the Catholic organization did well to withstand it.

Down, at least, to the declarations of the recent Council of the Vatican the position of the ancient church on this most important principle was more truly Catholic, more liberal and humane, more *modern*, in short, than that of its opponents.

But Erasmus' statesman's insight taught him that his own programme of enlightenment and reform could not have full fruition in his own generation. He was too wise to hope to force, and too pious to rail at, the slow spreading of the dawn. Perhaps the truth was that Luther was following the steps of Erasmus in leading towards a grander evolution than either perceived. The tendency, had it been recognized, would have been much more abhorrent to Luther, who was chiefly promoting it, than to Erasmus who would fain have stood in the way. To prepare the race to listen to milder and wider conclusions in a later age, it seemed to be necessary that it should first have full experience of its own infatuations. It must expend its rage over doctrines and traditions. It must have its fill of mutual suspicion, hatred, and slaughter. It was because of those oppositions of fanaticism, leading to mutual persecution and horrible but fruitless wars, that mutual toleration in the end became a necessity. The tolerance of two opinions paved the way for the tolerance of all. The Diet of Spires and the Diet of Augsburg were the forerunners of the constitution of the Colony of Rhode Island: that first model of the full principle of Toleration, now embodied in the practice at least of all modern English-speaking

countries. At the door which Toleration threw open entered Freedom of Thought, the acolyte and necessary precursor of the smiling presence of Truth.

The religious wars have ceased, but the devastation remains. Assertion and counter-assertion have created the moral anarchy which Erasmus dreaded and Luther himself deprecated.

The authority of Truth is made to depend upon argumentative doctrines and historic establishments, about which there is no agreement. The ancient organization refuses to distinguish between Catholicism and the Vatican. Protestantism relegates an united Church to the region of the Invisible. Generations of youth grow up looking in vain for an undisputed standard of conduct—a Common Law of ethics. Human consciences hungered in Erasmus' time and still hunger,—not for Westminster confessions or Athanasian Creeds (fallible declarations of the infallibility and finality of dogmas and documents),—but for a true, representative Ecumenical Council of mankind, to declare, with the commanding (though not infallible) authority of universal agreement, the laws by which life is to be lived; thus revising and reaffirming, perhaps once in each generation, a moral Code, inspired by Idealism, but moulded by experience: a rule for exhortation, a model for Governments and a text for schools.

Is Erasmus' ideal of an united and rationally organized Christendom ever to find a realization? It does not seem to be impossible. By re-establishing a really representative Ethical Legislature and perhaps a perpetual central counsellor and administrator, the world might attain, within the coming Century, to a Catholicism more undivided than in any past age. But such a consummation, it would seem, must be prepared by a new Protestantism within all the Churches and throughout Christendom—purer and clearer sighted, but not less earnest and resolute, than the Protestantism of the sixteenth Century. A faith is required, sure and fearless enough to give due weight to the voice of lay Science and the experience of lay statesmanship: capable of discerning *vox Dei* in *vox Populi*.

O. A. HOWLAND.

* * *

Thomas Hardy.*

IF the editor of the "Contemporary Writers" series can maintain the same level of excellence as that reached in the initial volume this series will be an unqualified success, and a most valuable addition to any library. It was wise to select so interesting a man as Thomas Hardy to head the list of Writers, and in his choice of Miss Annie Macdonell to be the biographer of Hardy, Dr. Nicoll has proved himself an editor of discrimination and discernment. Miss Macdonell has produced a book for which we have little but praise to offer. It is admirably planned and admirably executed. Her style is good, and is characterized by what we may call an animated moderation. When we have added that she understands what she is writing about, the man, his genius and his books, we have said all that needs to be said about the author of this interesting volume.

The first chapter is a pretty bit of introductory work, a sentence or two of which is worth quoting:

"There can be no attempt at finality in a criticism of Mr. Hardy; he is now in the full vigor of his genius, and he has well prepared us for surprises. But the volume of his work is already large; and there is a natural delight in counting and sifting a heap of treasure, even though the pile is being added to while our hands are in it, and its net value being possibly altered." This, too, is especially good, and is, perhaps, the key note to the book: "Mr. Hardy began his literary career with a stock of thoughts and a view of life considerably in advance of, or different from those of the majority of his contemporaries. The distinctly intellectual quality of his genius has hardly been recognized and, indeed, this feature is apt to be ignored in a novelist, save where it is out of proportion to the imaginative powers as in the case of George Eliot. Fearless thinking and a sense of humour have been his from the first; he has rarely been taken unawares and captured by the fashions and crazes amongst his fellow-craftsmen at any moment." In chapters

II and III, entitled "The Progress of a Novelist," Miss Macdonell gives, together with a brief sketch of Mr. Hardy's life, a complete list and history of his novels enlivened by a running critical comment from which we seldom feel inclined to differ. His earliest work of fiction was "Desperate Remedies," a story containing the germs of almost every idea, talent, and tendency to be found in his work since its appearance. For a first book by an anonymous writer, it was not received badly. It was pronounced unpleasant but powerful. "Under the Greenwood Tree" was the next novel, one which is all but flawless in its workmanship. You may put in on the shelf with "The Vicar of Wakefield" and "Walton" and "As You Like It," but its piquancy will make it best neighbour to the last. It is an untraditional idyll: Arcadia with a savour. "Far from the Madding Crowd," contains the very essence of Mr. Hardy's genius. The range and room of English country life for purposes of fiction, he first proved in this story, which is at once comedy, tragedy, idyll, rustic chronicle, and Shepherd's calender. The next to claim marked attention was "The Return of the Native"—a tragedy of temperaments, containing, perhaps, the finest of his work. Another of his greater novels is "The Trumpet Major," the tersest of the longer stories, the fullest of nervous vigour, the most literary. "The Mayor of Casterbridge" is strong in human interest. The personality of the Mayor so affects the course and complexion of the tale as to make its construction worth the closest examination. "Tess: A Pure Woman," has been pushed to the front because of the problems it deals with, but perhaps the place assigned to it is the right one, for, judged by the strength of its appeal to human sympathies, it is doubtless his greatest book. "Life's Little Ironies" has but lately been reviewed in these columns.

In the five succeeding chapters Miss Macdonell discusses Hardy as a storywright, his character drawing, his humour, his style, and his skill as a painter of nature. She then devotes a chapter to Wessex—a chapter of great interest and value to all who would understand their Hardy. The book concludes with a study of the novelist's point of view, which is, perhaps, the best chapter of all. The sum of Hardy's reflections and the conclusions to be drawn from his examples are not gay. But they are not dispiriting and never brought on a coward mood. The only really dispiriting thing in the world is cynicism, and though satire and bitter irony are frequent with Hardy, of cynicism he utters not a word.

* * *

"Sea and Land."*

PROF. SHALER has, in his "Sea and Land," given to the world another readable and instructive book upon geological subjects. It is a volume of 252 pages, and contains eight full page illustrations and thirty-eight other illustrations. With but few exceptions—for example, the words "manitee" and "Artic"—the typography and general get-up of the book are admirable. Harbours, sea-beaches, shape of ocean-floor, marine currents and marshes, marine plants and animals, coral reefs, icebergs, shore caves, arches and obelisks, volcanic dust on ocean floors, trap-dykes and sand-dunes are some of the topics therein treated.

Discussing the life of the sea, Prof. Shaler says:—"Nothing is clearer than the fact that all our land animals have been derived from parent stocks which had their origin in the waters; it is not so certain as to plants, but it is probable that they, too, were first nurtured in the sea. In the land areas these great groups of animal and vegetable organisms attain their perfection. The articulates and vertebrates are at their best above the level of the sea waters, and in them alone do we find intellectual species. How does it come about that though the deep has been the cradle of these varied creatures it has not been the place of their fuller development? The answer is plain, and in it we shall find some most important teaching. A common view of the action of natural selection is, that, given a full measure of increase and a fair share of variation, the struggle for existence will bring about a steadfast gain in the fitness of a form for the duties of life in its proper station, and that in time almost any measure of advance may be attained. But, the failure of the marine forms to win their way to the organic and intellectual successes of the higher life is sufficient evidence that time and struggle, infinite toil and pain,

ceaseless life and death, will not alone enable species to win the upward way. Many other conditions, which, in a question-begging manner, we term the influences of environment, must enter into the inconceivably complicated equation which determines the fate of living beings. The struggle for existence has been as bitter in the seas as upon the land; it might well be maintained that it is far more intense in the water than in the animal realm, and it has endured for a greater time. What, then, is the reason for the lagging behind of the marine creatures?" Prof. Shaler goes on to mention two principal causes for the widespread failure of aquatic life in all that regards elevation in structure and function, namely, first, the imperfection of the breathing process, and, second, the want of light.

Reference is made to the fact that, among the fishes of the deeper parts of the sea, occur some startling departures from the types in coastal waters. In most respects they resemble their kindred of the sunlit shallows; but differ from them in their eyes. Whilst in some species the organs of sight have entirely disappeared, in others the eyes have become enlarged and arranged to function as visual organs in a better and more satisfactory manner, being adapted to catch even mere glimpses of light from the phosphorescent bodies of some deep-sea creatures. Here is what Dr. Shaler writes: "The difficulty comes in the case of those fishes, which, under the same general conditions of existence in darkness, combined with the same need of food, and of finding their mates, have not only failed to better their sight, but have abandoned it altogether. There is, perhaps, no other simple instance in which we may so well perceive the cardinal difficulty which the extreme selectionist encounters in his effort to explain all the complications of the organic world by the single hypothesis of the survival of the fittest. Here are two groups of like creatures introduced to the conditions of utter darkness after long ages of experience in the realms of light; under circumstances, which, so far as we can perceive, are absolutely identical, the creatures enter upon widely divergent paths of variation. The lesson we may read in these facts seems plain; it is to the effect that environment alone is not always competent to determine the way followed by a species in its process of change."

But it is not alone in pure and philosophical science that Dr. Shaler's new book is attractive. We here find lessons in applied geology, that can hardly fail to arrest the attention of readers possessed of a practical turn of mind. The great value of the study of geology is forcibly shown in many parts of the book; but, perhaps it is nowhere more clearly seen than in the pages devoted to the consideration of the formation, preservation and classification of harbours, and the value and the requirements of good ports. The power resting upon ships is shown by a contrast of the history of Britain with that of Switzerland. Regarding the Swiss and British as equals in intelligence and manly qualities, it is pointed out that the power of Switzerland has never been felt far from home, while, on the other hand, "Great Britain, owing to the long training in sea-faring which its people have received, has become the dominant power of the world." The author believes that although defective harbours may be improved by engineering devices, yet there is no reason to expect that engineering will exempt a country from the disadvantages which the absence of good natural ports entails. The natural advantages possessed by the North American continent in relation to navigation are dwelt upon at some length. We quote a few sentences of this Dominion: "The northern part of North America, both on its eastern and western faces, abounds in extensive embayed waters, which in their general character resemble those of Scandinavia, and which are equally well fitted for the development of sailors. On the Atlantic side, to the north of Newfoundland, the rigorous climate is likely to debar the land from much use by civilized man. On the western shore, however, north to Behring Strait, the forests, mines and fisheries are likely to make the fiords and bays the seat of a great maritime life. . . . In the central and north-western part of the continent lies a great system of lakes, which together constitute the most extended series of fresh water seas known in the world. Already the Laurentian portions of these waters, which we fitly term the Great Lakes, is the seat of a vast and continually augmenting commerce. With the development of the Canadian Dominion, the yet more northern and western basins which lie in the valleys of the Nelson and McKenzie rivers are likely to attain much commercial importance."

*"Sea and Land." By N. S. Shaler, Professor of Geology in Harvard University. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: William Briggs. 1894. Price, \$2.50.

BRIEFER NOTICES.

Love Songs of Childhood. By Eugene Field. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.00.)—One's first impression on reading this little volume of poems is that the writer knows well the subject with which he is dealing—with a truth almost startling in its simplicity and reality our childhood days are vividly painted. The author writes with a clear perception and understanding of life from its earliest dawn. There is nothing here of the gay, pushing, wearing turmoil in which our men and women of the nineteenth century exist, but the simple, pure and trusting life of babyhood. A pretty illustration of this is a little poem entitled "All-Aloney," which is a charming picture of the small "home-ruler" learning to walk in the presence of his mother.

I should also like to draw attention to "The Stork," "The Happy Household," "Seein' Things" and "Booh!" the truth of which one cannot but feel. "The Dead Babe" is a poem of grief, and shows a woman's struggle for resignation and her acceptance of the divine will. It is so beautifully written that I take the liberty of quoting it entire:

Last night as my dear babe lay dead,
In agony I knelt and said:
"O God! What have I done,
Or in what wise offended Thee,
That Thou should'st take away from me
My little son?"

"Upon the thousand useless lives,
Upon the guilt that vaunting thrives.
Thy wrath were better spent!
Why should'st thou take my little son?
Why should'st thou vent thy wrath upon
His innocent?"

Last night as my dear babe lay dead,
Before mine eyes the vision spread
Of things that might have been:
Licentious riot, cruel strife,
Forgotten prayers, a wasted life
Dark red with sin!

Then, with sweet music in the air,
I saw another vision there:
A Shepherd in whose keep
A little lamb—my little child!
Of worldly wisdom undefiled,
Lay fast asleep!

Last night, as my dear babe lay dead,
In those two messages I read
A wisdom manifest;
And though my arms be childless now,
I am content—to Him I bow
Who knowth best.

I have read many little nursery poems, but I think that Eugene Field's readers will agree with me that of all these are the daintiest and most realistic. The flow of the verse is easy, graceful and musical. Those who read and study these poems will feel the better for having done so, and from many a heart will re-echo the refrain of "The Brook,"—

"Heigh-ho, but the years go by—
Would to God that a child were I!"

M. P. T.

Oliver Wendell Holmes. By William Osler, M.D., (Reprinted from the Johns Hopkins Bulletin.)—Dr. Osler, whose name is a household word in Canada, has done well to reprint in pamphlet form his "remarks made at the Johns Hopkins Medical Society, October 15, 1894," on the great American *litterateur*. The tribute he pays to Holmes as a writer and humorist, however, is not the *raison d'être* of the address; it was made the vehicle of a tribute to him as a teacher of Medical Science and of the healing art. Dr. Holmes was Professor of Anatomy at Harvard University for forty years and his intimate connection with the profession covered "the greater part of his active life." Dr. Osler gives special prominence to the valuable service rendered to humanity by the persistence and success with which Dr. Holmes proclaimed as far back as 1842, a medical truth then by no means generally acknowledged, the contagiousness of puerperal fever, and he quotes from a letter of Holmes', read in 1893 at the dinner of the American Gynecological Society in Philadelphia, the following characteristic remarks: "I have been long out of the way of discussing this class of subjects. I do not know what others have done since my efforts; I do know that others had cried out with all their might

against the terrible evil before I did, and I gave them full credit for it. But I think I shrieked my warning louder and longer than any of them, and I am pleased to remember that I took my ground on the existing evidence before the little army of microbes was marched up to support my position." Another letter written by Dr. Holmes—this time to Dr. Osler himself—is worthy of a place alongside of Lord Tennyson's to Mr. S. E. Dawson, of Ottawa. In answer to the question, from which he derived the greater satisfaction, the essay on puerperal fever, which had probably saved many more lives than any individual gynæcologist, or "The Chambered Nautilus," which had given pleasure to so many thousands, he wrote in 1889: "I have rarely been more pleased than by your allusion to that old paper of mine. There was a time certainly in which I would have said that the best page of my record was that in which I had fought my battle for the poor poisoned women. I think I will not answer the question you put me. I think oftenest of 'The Chambered Nautilus,' which is a favourite poem of mine, though I wrote it myself. The essay only comes up at long intervals. The poem repeats itself in my memory, and is very often spoken of by my correspondents in terms of more than ordinary praise. I had a savage pleasure, I confess, in handling those two professors, but in writing the poem I was filled with a better feeling, the highest state of mental exaltation and the most crystalline clairvoyance, as it seemed to me, that had ever been granted to me, I mean that lucid vision of one's thought and all forms of expression which will be at once precise and musical, which is the poet's special gift, however large or small in amount or value. There is more selfish pleasure to be had out of the poem—perhaps a nobler satisfaction from the life-saving labour." This comparison reminds one of Mr. Gladstone's tribute to Lord Tennyson, in the course of which, after reviewing his own public career and enumerating the various measures which he had been instrumental in enacting for the betterment of the condition of the masses, he yet declared that Lord Tennyson's services to humanity were far greater than his own, because the former had been instrumental in bringing light and joy into so many lives, and because his work in that direction would go on while that of the mere philanthropist would be comparatively temporary in its effects. It reminds one also of Tennyson's own remark in "The Day-Dream":

So Lady Flora, take my lay,
And if you find no moral there,
Go look in any glass, and say
What moral is in being fair;
Or, to what uses shall we put
The wild weed flower that simply blows?
Or, is there any moral shut
Within the bosom of the rose?

Chronological Table of Dartmouth, Preston, and Lawrencetown. Compiled by Harry Piers.—This is an excellent specimen of useful historical work, under the very humble guise of a twelve-page pamphlet. The three townships named in the title are part of the County of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and, assuming that Mr. Piers has correctly ascertained the dates of the events he has listed, it is easy to see how interesting and important the list itself must be. The first date given, and the only one prior to the founding of Halifax settlement by Governor Cornwallis in 1749, is that of the arrival at Chebucto of the Duc d'Anville, whose name indicates that though Acadia had been British territory politically from the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 it was still French in occupation. In the very year of Cornwallis' settlement it is recorded that the Indians attacked and killed a number of men in a saw-mill at Dartmouth Cove. The following year the *Alderney* arrived with 353 additional settlers, and for them the "Town" of Dartmouth was laid out—the term "town" being used here, probably, in the sense of "township" as it was then and is still used in New England. In 1751 the Indians attacked the Dartmouth settlement, killing a number of the inhabitants. This, and other attacks, as readers of Parkman's "Wolfe and Montcalm" are aware, were instigated by the French authorities on the other side of the Bay of Fundy, and especially by the priest Le Loutre, from whose despatches to the home Government Mr. Parkman quotes. It was a long series of such incidents subsequent to 1713 that led to the expatriation of the Acadian French from the land of "Evangeline." In 1752 the population of Dartmouth was 193, and in that year a ferry was established between it and Halifax on the

other side of Chebucto Bay. In 1754 the Township of Lawrencetown was granted to twenty proprietors, and in 1784, the Township of Preston was granted to Theophilus Chamberlain and 163 others, "chiefly Loyalists." This was, of course, one of the many detachments whom the Treaty of Paris of the year before drove from their old homes in New England to seek new homes in what is now Canada. The number of families in Dartmouth ran down to two in 1762, and in 1809 the number of dwellings had gone up to 19; in 1871 the population was 3,786. Among the other events recorded are the arrival and departure of free negroes and maroons, the erection of churches of different denominations, the projection of various public works, the establishment of different industries, and local calamities of different sorts. The example set by Mr Piers might be followed in many a locality with great advantage to the writers of Canadian history.

From the Exile to the Advent. By Rev. W. Fairweather. Price 2s. *How to Read the Prophets.* Part V. By Rev. Buchanan Blake. Price 4s. (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Toronto: Revell Co. 1895.)—We put these two volumes together as they treat, to some extent, of the same period and deal with the same subject. Both are most excellent and most useful—almost necessary. We may safely say that out of the numbers who are tolerably well acquainted with the history of the Old Testament, and, better still, with that of the New, a very small proportion have any knowledge whatever of the intervening period, that is to say, of the Empire of Alexander, or even of the great Maccabean period, and yet these portions of history are full of interest. In former days we had to go to ponderous works like Prideaux's "Connection" for a continuous narrative of the extra-biblical history of the chosen people. But here we have it in a "Hand book" of about 200 pages and done in a manner quite sufficient for ordinary readers. As regards the other book, we must congratulate Mr. Blake on bringing to a conclusion his admirable series on the Prophets. It is impossible to give any idea of the extent to which he has simplified and facilitated the study of these great documents. Sunday School teachers will now be able to instruct their classes in these subjects with due regard to their place in history.

The Historical Geography of the Holy Land. By George Adam Smith, D.D., Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis, Free Church College, Glasgow. (London: Hodder & Stoughton. 1894.)—There are 692 large octavo pages and six maps in this book, which Dr. Smith has written to supply what he thinks is a felt want, something that will illustrate history and prophecy by the lie of the land. He has himself travelled in Palestine, and has consulted the works of other travellers and explorers. Since the publication of Ritter's Comparative Geography of Palestine, a most exhaustive book in its day, much new material has accumulated, and some of this Dr. Smith has put in requisition. He does indeed give a fair outline of Palestinian physical geography, with occasional pleasing details of scenery, and scraps of historic interest. When he has the sure guidance of later historical documents, he is generally accurate and interesting; but in ancient history, archæology, and ethnology he flounders woefully, and almost gives up the attempt to illustrate the historical geography of the Pentateuch and the Book of Judges. Just where his aid is wanted he proves to be a broken reed. Dr. Smith should not be in too great a hurry to publish books. *Festina lente* ought to teach him.

De quelques Travaux sur le Basque, faits par des Etrangers pendant les Années, 1892-94. Par le Rev. Wentworth Webster, M.A. (Bayonne: Imprimerie A. Lumaigere. 1894.)—This brochure of 24 octavo pages is by the well-known author of Basque Legends, whose labours are so highly esteemed that Mr. Gladstone procured him a pension from the literary fund. It is an evidence that some of the peoples of the earth are awaking to a knowledge of one another's existence. It is but a few years ago, comparatively, since the outside world was indebted for its knowledge of Basque language, literature and ethnology to the crude statements of Humboldt, Adelung, and Borron. Now Mr. Webster enumerates many recently printed books and documents, French and Spanish, English, German, Dutch, and Italian, even Russian, upon these subjects. No other work contains the same curious fragment of recent bibliography, for which

the lovers of the ancient Euskarian tongue are much indebted to its learned author. Mr. Webster is, of course, an Englishman, a clergyman of the Church of England, but, owing to his long residence in the northern Pyrenees, he writes French like one to the manner born.

A Natural Method of Physical Training; Making Muscle and Reducing Flesh without Dieting or Apparatus. By Edwin Checkley. (Brooklyn, N.Y.: William C. Bryant & Co. 1894.)—A small octavo of 188 pages and many illustrative diagrams contains Mr. Checkley's mode of training, which has met with much praise from the British and United States press, and from noted students of Hygiene. It includes chapters for the carriage of women and physical education of children, but most of its teaching is directed towards the common functions of breathing, standing erect, walking, running, and climbing, indeed the commoner physical exercises of every one's daily life. This treatment for obesity may be called a gymnastic one, its aim being to regain control of the muscles of the abdomen. Mr. Checkley makes his readers acquainted, in simple non-technical language, with the joints and muscles of their body and their appropriate functions. The gymnasium people may object to a work that bids fair to deprive them of their occupation, but many a person who wishes to be strong and healthy, and finds apparatus and dieting to be inconvenient, will rejoice in its pages.

Jacob Behmen, an Appreciation. By Alexander Whyte, author of "Characters and Characteristics of William Law," etc. (Edinburgh and London: Oliphant, Anderson and Ferrier. 1894.)—Beautifully printed in antique style on heavy paper, top gilded, is this 86 page volume by Dr. Whyte, of Free St. George's, Edinburgh. It gives in pleasing and enthusiastic manner all that is known of the life of the Goerlitz mystic, whose forty-nine years were almost equally divided between the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In these busy days of critical analysis, of scientific investigation, and wide reading, it is well to get back to the men, who, alone with God and nature, not forgetting their Bible, drew inspiration with every breath, and gave it forth with much of their own individuality, and natural fulness of repetition in their writings. Dr. Whyte's little book is what he calls it, "An Appreciation," the encomium of a man of like spirit, ardently longing after converse with the invisible and divine wisdom. Mysticism like that of Behmen is no namby-pamby pretism, but an attempt to grasp the deepest truths and solve the most difficult problems of being.

Pushing to the Front, or Success under Difficulties. By Orison Luett Marden. (Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Company. 1894.)—In 416 pages, illustrated with 24 portraits of eminent persons, Mr. Marden tells his tale of encouragement to all who are struggling for self-elevation along the paths of knowledge and of duty. This book is modelled on Smile's Self Help, but is a thoroughly original work, betokening abundant reading and shrewd observation. As an American book, it has a character of its own, and furnishes biographical illustrations which are almost its peculiar property. Its twenty-five chapters have each an individuality, and under appropriate headings, present to the ambitious youth lay sermons of intense interest. The page never flags from beginning to end. Mr. Marden, as a rule, makes no attempt at fine writing, but tells his story naturally and points its application in few words. It would be hard to find a more inspiring book or a safer guide to conduct for young men beginning life than "Pushing to the Front."

Central Truths and Side Issues. By R. G. Balfour. (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clarke; Toronto: Revell Co. 1895. Price 3s. 6d.)—Two things are to be noted of this book. It defends Presbyterian orthodoxy; and, in doing so, it shows rather more independence than we are accustomed to. The first essay on the "Incarnation and the Humiliation of the Son of God" is good. So are the second and third on the "Atonement"—to a certain extent, although much more needs to be said. The fourth on the passage in Hebrews VI., 1, 2, on "Baptism and the Laying on of Hands," is worth reading, because the author has read and has thought for himself. When, however, he announces, virtually, his dissent from all commentators in all ages, we rub our eyes, and ask if such a position is likely to be defensible. We remember what Aristotle says about defending a thesis.

Periodicals.

Music for February is to hand and by the number of articles devoted to Rubinstein, one can almost speak of it as a Rubinstein number. All are interesting, as are also the other essays which go to complete the issue. It is gratifying to know that musicians and musical amateurs throughout the country are so appreciating the magazine as to patronize it most liberally. There are still, doubtless, others who could become subscribers with great advantage to themselves, for topics are continually being discussed, which are educating, as well as affording much pleasure. Music Magazine Company, Chicago.

The February number of *The Methodist Magazine* has for its initial article a well illustrated sketch of "Evangeline's Land," including the Annapolis Valley, the "Basin of Minas," and the "Little Village of Grand Pré." The artist is Mr. H. D. Young. Rev. Dr. Withrow has one of his instructive articles—the result of personal acquaintance with "Every-day Life in Bible Lands." In a part of the world where immobility of the people and persistence of customs are so striking a social feature, such accounts of their condition today cannot but be useful to all Bible students. Another article of note is one on the work of the celebrated Pastor Wichern, under the title of "The Rough House and Its Inmates." The purely literary part of the number is well up to the average.

A very good sketch of New York Colonial Privateers, is the first article in *Happer's Magazine* for February. They were King's officers, though sent out from the colony, and the writer well sums up the case for them when he says that according to their lights they did their whole duty. With them "Right was fighting the King's enemies to the uttermost, and Wrong was running away." A cleverly written and well illustrated account of "French Fighters in Africa," gives a good idea of the use made by the French of Arab troops in Algeria, and suggests a partial explanation of the great expense entailed by the maintenance and extension of French dominion over that country and the neighbouring Sahara to the Soudan. A moderate article on "What is Gambling?" discusses this social evil in a way to suggest serious conjectures as to whether the best method of dealing with it has yet been discovered. Many other articles with good letter press and better illustrations go to the make-up of a fine number.

A beautiful portrait of the late President McCosh, of Princeton University, graces the *Educational Review* for February. Two views of him are presented to the reader of the letter-press—one of his former career in Belfast, and one of his later career in Princeton. They are in substantial agreement, but after reading both one is drawn to the conclusion that Dr. McCosh was greater as a teacher than as a thinker. Prof. Jacobs, of Brown University, discusses the subject of "Values in Secondary Education," questions the value of the now celebrated "Report of the Committee of Ten," pleads for room for diversity of culture, and sums it all up by saying that "Educational value is not a quality which belongs inherently to any study; it is only as it fits the time, the place, and the child, that such value belongs to it." A more than usually important contribution to a more than usually good number is the one by Mr. Butts on "Uniform Standards in College Preparation," which is too full of details to admit of being summarized.

Lippincott's Magazine for February contains the concluding instalment of "The Chapel of Ease," serial story, besides minor tales. The serious article of the number is one on "The Fate of the Farmer," by Fred. Perry Powers, who sounds one more alarm on the growth of tenancy farming and of absentee landlordism in the United States. The hitherto high position of the American farmer in the social scale he attributes to the fact that "he has been able to own the ground he tilled"; but "he will not continue another half century to hold this enviable position." The author discusses the economic forces that are at work to produce this change, and the political changes that are themselves its re-

sult, including the "Populist Movement," which seems to be on the wane, but is sure to be succeeded by some other of similar kind. The statistics given by Mr. Powers to show the rapidity of the change from ownership to tenancy of farms in all parts of the Northern States are very interesting reading for Canadians, inasmuch as the same tendency manifests itself in this country.

The interesting series of "Great Passions of History" is continued in the February *Cosmopolitan*, the one assigned to this number being that of Abeloid and Heloise. Julian Hawthorne discourses most gressomely on "Salvation via the Rack," and the realistic effect of the article is greatly enhanced by a number of very impressive illustrations of horrible punishments. A most timely article is the one on "The Fall of Louis-Philippe," by Emile Ollivier. The overthrow of the Orleans régime and the establishment of the Second Republic brought into the arena some of the men who figured prominently in French politics down to 1870, including Louis Napoleon and Thiers. A number of well executed portraits add interest to the historical sketch. Viscount Wolseley's article on "What China should Do" is one of the best pieces of advice that stricken country has yet received from any quarter. Needless to say, Lord Wolseley recommends a civil and military reorganization by the aid of foreign experts. It is quite natural that the writer's last words should be a reminiscence of "Chinese" Gordon, for the rescue of whom Gen. Wolseley was sent with an expedition up the Nile.

A. F. Hunter, B.A., of Barrie, contributes to the *Canadian Magazine* for February a brief but readable sketch of an interesting and neglected episode of the War of 1812-15. Dr. John Ferguson, of this city, has, in the same number, a trenchant paper on "False Insurance Methods." Allan Douglas Brodie writes on "Canadian Short Story Writers," an attractive theme well handled. He gives special attention to those who are still with us—J. Macdonald Oxley, now of Montreal; Miss Marjorie MacMurchy, of Toronto; Duncan Campbell Scott, the poet, who lives in Ottawa; William McLennan, of Montreal; Miss Maud Ogilvy, of the same city; the Rev. Frederick George Scott, of Drummondville; and Stuart Livingstone, of Hamilton. "The Royal Military College of Canada" is the subject of a symposium of enthusiasts—Lieut.-Col. Cotton, who deals with the relation of the college to the efficiency of the military forces of Canada; Richard Walkem, Q.C., who shows the effect of the college training on the personal character and social relations of cadets; and the Rev. C. L. Worrel, M.A., who discourses on the College "from a professor's point of view." The symposium is to be continued. The whole number is a very readable one.

After the manner of serials in *The Atlantic* Elizabeth Stewart Phelps' novel, "A Singular Life," occupies the first place in the February number of this monthly. The leading article is contributed by Mrs. Alexander Bell, who narrates her own experience in learning to read the lips after she had lost her hearing. As a kind of companion paper, "A Voyage in the Dark" is the account which Mr. Rowland E. Robinson gives of an experience of his own after losing his sight. Another pair of articles of great interest we find in "A Study of the Mob," by a Russian, in which the data are taken from Russian life, and "Russia as a Civilizing Force in Asia," which presents the other side of the shield. A series of papers on "New Figures in Literature and Art" is begun by Royal Costissoy. An article which will arrest the attention of our men of affairs is that on the "Present Status of Civil Service Reform," by Mr. Theodore Roosevelt. He reports some progress, and says that the people are growing to realize that the civil service law is the most trenchant of weapons with which to fight political corruption, and the best device by which to receive good administration. Among the reviews is one which criticises the three prominent English novelists, George Meredith, Hall Caine and Du Maurier. None of these distinguished authors would like very much what is said, but perhaps they will manage to struggle along in spite of it.

The Century for February is the mid-winter number, and a very good one it is, in spite of the fact that the leading feature continues to be the "Life of Napoleon," by Professor William M. Sloane. The narrative now rapidly approaches the first great campaign in Italy, which was regarded in later life by Napoleon as the greatest achievement of his career. The illustrations as usual are exceedingly good. A valuable addition to the history of African exploration is the detailed account given of the murder of Emin Pasha. It is contributed by Mr. R. D. Mohun, the American agent in the Congo Free State. A profusely illustrated article on the "Weapons of the United States Army" will greatly interest the warriors of Canada. The writer expresses the belief that when the new magazine rifles have been issued Uncle Sam will have one of the best equipped armies in the world. Mr. Field's paper on the private life of the late Oliver Wendell Holmes is a paper that will receive much attention. It is delightful. It includes a number of original letters of Dr. Holmes, which show his relations to many of the literary men of his time. A contribution which we should like to see widely read in Canada and laid deeply to heart by our rulers is the symposium on the forestry question, entitled "A Plan to Save the Forests." The writers unite in urging immediate measures looking towards a permanent system of forest management. The way this matter is neglected in Canada is a disgrace to the country.

* * *

Personal and Literary.

It is said that Lady Thompson, widow of the late Sir John Thompson, will come to live in Toronto.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell, the present Premier of Canada was once a journalist, and so were the late Sir John Thompson and the late Alexander Mackenzie, two of his predecessors in the Premiership.

Sir William Harcourt is reported to be quite elated over the success of his financial new departures, which have produced a respectable surplus of revenue over expenditure, thus making possible a reduction of taxation.

President Faure, of the French Republic, began life as a tanner, and it has been facetiously remarked that he ought by this time to be sufficiently thickskinned to stand even the atrocious truculence of the Paris journals.

F. W. Stone, of Guelph, whose death took place the other day, was one of the pioneer importers and breeders of thoroughbred cattle in Canada. He owned the fine farm just outside of the city, on which the Ontario Agricultural College now stands.

Queen Victoria is said to have in preparation another volume of her personal memoirs. If this one includes the events of the present generation it will be looked for with deep interest, for Her Majesty's acquaintance with notable men and women has been very extensive and varied.

It is expected that in the next Conservative or Unionist Ministry in Great Britain Mr. Joseph Chamberlain will be put at the head of the Admiralty Department instead of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer which used to be connected with his name, but which will probably go again to Mr. Goschen.

Mr. Goldwin Smith, at the press dinner the other night, mentioned the interesting fact that of the original staff of writers on the *Saturday Review*, Lord Salisbury, Sir William Harcourt, and himself are the only survivors. Mr. Smith's connection with journalism began over forty years ago, and he has kept it up with a good deal of continuity ever since.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward writes to the *Critic* expressing her regret that she will not be able to accompany her husband and daughter on their coming American tour, and asking the writers of numerous letters to excuse her for not answering them, because she is troubled with that distressing ailment known as "writer's cramp," and she has never learned to dictate to an amanuensis.

De Gier, the recently deceased Foreign Minister of the Russian Administration, was an European statesman of a type now rapidly passing away. Able, autocratic, and well versed in the art of government he belonged to a class which included such men as Bismarck, Gladstone, and Crispi. Apparently the rising tide of democracy has too levelling an effect to admit of such men coming to and remaining at the front.

Marshall Caurobert, whom the Socialists so fiercely denounced a few days ago in the French Chamber of Deputies, when some mark of honour to his memory was under discussion, commanded the French troops at the Battle of Inkerman. Unfortunately for him he was with Marshall Bazaine when the latter surrendered Metz to the Germans twenty-five years ago, and his career has been ever since clouded by that event.

To-day the *Spectator* reprints from THE WEEK Principal Grant's vigorous reply to Goldwin Smith's bitter article in the *Contemporary Review* on the subject of the Colonial Conference. In writing his criticism Dr. Grant has laid himself open to the charge of interfering with the principle of free speech, and in printing it THE WEEK and *Spectator* are perhaps guilty of the same crime. But the *Spectator* is willing to err in such good company.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

Mr. Stapleton Caldecott, who has just been elected President of the Toronto Board of Trade, is almost equally noted for being an enthusiastic Young Men's Christian Associationist and an ardent free trader of the Cobden school, but probably neither of these peculiarities had so much to do with his elevation to the highest position in the gift of the Board as the fact that he is an able man of business with the true commercial instinct, but also with the fine fibre which unmistakably marks the true gentleman whatever his calling.

It is reported from Montreal that Sir Donald Smith will, on the dissolution of the present Parliament, retire from political life, presumably with a view to devoting himself more assiduously to the management of the Bank of Montreal, of which he is President, and to the many phases of social life and work in which he takes so deep an interest. If this turns out to be true the community will gain more from Sir Donald's versatile leisure and wide sympathies than it will lose by his retirement from a sphere that nothing could make congenial to him.

The retiring President of the year for the Canadian Press Association is Mr. T. H. Preston, editor and proprietor of the *Brantford Expositor*—a journal that under several different managements has had a long and successful career. His successor, Mr. L. W. Shannon, of the *Kingston News*, can boast of being editor of the oldest journal in Upper Canada. Under different names the *News* has passed through a varied experience, but it was never more alive, or more like living, than it is at present under Mr. Shannon's vigorous management. This fact is a good augury for the coming year of the Press Association under his Presidency.

Music and the Drama.

The Toronto Vocal Club (Mr. W. J. McNally, Conductor) gave a concert of unaccompanied part songs in Association Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 29th inst., to a well-filled house. The chorus which responded to Mr. McNally's baton, numbered about 50 voices, the material throughout being very fair. Unfortunately the ensemble was not all that could be desired, and the general effect, which was oftentimes very good, suffered in consequence. But for all the singing gave evidences of careful training, and was highly appreciated, in one or two instances enthusiastic encores being demanded. The numbers included Bennett's *Mary Morrison*, Macfarren's *The Miller*, Piniuti's *There is music by the River*, Gaul's *Daybreak* and Fanning's *Song of the Vikings*. The Club will more than likely do better work continually, and thus will accomplish much good. The artists who assisted were:—Miss Huston, soprano; Miss Jessie Alexander, elocutionist, and Mr. Churchill Arlidge, the well-known flute player.

Miss Huston has the ability and talent to make a splendid singer. Indeed, she sings charmingly now, her manner is graceful, her voice is fresh and of excellent quality, but she does not always emit her tones properly, nor is her breathing quite what it should be. But she pleased, was encored rapturously, and was kind enough to sing again. Her numbers were Tosti's *Could I*, and Mascagni's beautiful *Ave Maria*, from *Cavaleria Rusticana*. Miss Alexander was in fine form, and was received with abundant evidences of genuine satisfaction. Mr. Arlidge played with the same beauty of tone and fluency of execution for which he is distinguished, and likewise was recalled. The concert was given at popular prices, and thoroughly deserved its success, and the splendid patronage it received.

One of the brainiest and most scholarly books which has come into my hands for many years is "Studies in Modern Music," by W. H. Hadow, M.A., Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford. What a feast of good things is contained in this admirable book, consisting of essays on "Outlines of Musical Form," Frederic Chopin, Antonin Dvorak, and Johannes Brahms! During my little spare time for several days past, I have been reading its pages, so rich in profound reasoning and analytical wisdom, and if I did not advise my readers to at once get a copy for themselves, I would be easily induced to make many quotations for their benefit. I say it here, that I believe Hadow to be the foremost critic in England to-day. He is fearless, outspoken, modern; his sentences are laden with the ripest thought, expressed in a style lucid, graphic and picturesque. An original thinker, and a man apparently of the wisest judgment, he goes to the very core of his subject, and presents it in a manner absolutely telling. With such skill and learning everywhere displayed, one can scarcely help falling in with the author's views, and with him grapple with the laws which govern our beautiful and noble art, and weigh their power and logical deductions.

In speaking of style and structure in composition he says: "If a musical composition is to make any bid for the rank of classic, it must, as a primary essential, be genuine in feeling. To recognize a melody as perfect is to feel when we come to know it, that it could not possibly have been written in any other way; that its phraseology, whether simple or complex, whether obvious or recondite, is the necessary outgrowth of the thought which it embodies. Of course this law does not preclude the element of surprise, which is one legitimate factor of musical effect. The hearer, like the composer, may sometimes be 'stung with the splendor of a sudden thought,' roused in a moment of exquisite consciousness by an unexpected cadence, or a new modulation. But if the surprise be more than temporary, it is inartistic. Before we reach the conclusion of the work, we must be convinced that the effect in question bears some vital and organic part in the total structure; that it is, in short, a prediction which is justified by future fulfilment. . . . When we are discussing the style of a composition, we look upon its key system as the medium of its melodies; when we are discussing the structure, we look upon its melodies as the embodiment of its keys. . . . Fugue form is an artificial thing which a man can learn; Sonata form is a *living thing* which man can feel." How true the latter two clauses are can be readily ascertained by comparing some fugues by modern writers with some of Bach's, for instance the songful one in E major, in book two of the "Well Tempered Clavier," which is a thing not only of beauty but of life, even although it is living within the artificial architecture of the fugue form. Or if we look into some *correct* sonatas of to-day and after playing them over, turn to our beloved Beethoven, and excite our emotions with the warm, rhythmic, melodic flow of his *living* sonatas, we will see that structure is one thing, and emotion, intelligence, and that sensuous appeal which so animates our nervous system, quite another.

Again in speaking of the power music has in awakening within us anticipations, in suggesting to the mind what is to follow, he says: "After a little experience we come to learn that there are certain typical shapes of melodic stanza, certain common devices of modulation, certain forms of cadence which

are in ordinary use. Hence, when we listen to a new work we frame a half-conscious forecast of probabilities, and the composer, if he has the skill, may stimulate our minds by offering two or three possible issues and defying us to determine which he means ultimately to accept. This is the highest form which the prospective effect in Music can assume, and is roughly parallel to ingenuity of plot in narrative or dramatic literature. But Mendelssohn never disappoints, and never surprises; his style flows on as placidly as a level stream in a pastoral country, and the hearer floats down it with no effort of intelligence, with no expectation of adventure, knowing that even beyond the distant bend there will be the same overhanging willows, and the same intervals of sunny meadow, and the same rippled reflections of an April sky. Hence of all composers, Mendelssohn appeals most intimately to audiences that are untrained or inexperienced; and hence, also, critics who are anxious to acquire a cheap reputation, usually begin by expressing contempt for him." The whole essay is masterly, so is that on Brahms and Dvorak.

In the remarkable essay on Chopin he shows—as did also Matthew Arnold—and that in a manner which deeply savors of truth, that George Sand was not the woman which many have painted her to have been, but was affectionate and noble in nature, for, when Chopin was stricken with a severe illness, caused largely by the sudden news of his father's death, she, with ready sympathy, "left her work to watch by his sick bed, nursed him with maternal solicitude, and at the first sign of recovery carried him off to Nohant for convalescence." But of this matter I will not further speak, but again reiterate, that the author is rich in thought, his style is forcible and suggestive, and that there is in the whole book very little to criticise, but very much to enjoy. The reader's vision and sympathies are bound to be enlarged by this welcome addition to musical literature, and, as the book is not expensive, the price being \$2.25, it will more than likely find its way to the shelves of many libraries. Macmillan & Co., 66 Fifth Avenue, New York, are the publishers. W. O. FORSYTH.

Art Notes.

Since writing my notes about George Clausen last week I have received a letter from my friend Mr. Homer Watson (who, by-the-by, is rapidly becoming an Impressionist—in the matter of handwriting!), in which he relates some incidents of a sojourn at Cookham Dene, on the Thames, where he first met the new Associate. I hesitated to make a memory portrait of the artist himself, but Mr. Watson's touch is sure: "He was dressed suitably to his environment—Norfolk jacket and knickers; and he had a well-knit, medium sized figure. He looked about the usual age (!), I mean the age when the successful man begins to be known and talked about. As a matter of fact he was forty-three. His complexion was fresh and ruddy, and he wore the familiar, sandy, pointed beard." The letter then goes on to describe his devotion to truth (which led him to destroy pictures on which he had been working for months because he felt he had not mastered the elements of his subject) and it speaks of his geniality, though that was sometimes clouded by gloomy misgivings—those impalpable attendants which, like his shadow, seem to dog the footsteps of every significant man.

The banks of sunny Thames were dear to "great little" Fred Walker; and the church of Cookham Dene holds his ashes. Here he painted half the beautiful things that the painters know and love so well and that the public—since Trilby was written—are beginning to enquire about. E. J. Gregory worked here too, and our own Homer Watson. Speaking of Homer, and I don't mean him of the *Iliad*, there is a sort of Cookham Dene (or more strictly Doon), on the banks of the Grand River, where the cattle and sheep of Maris and Mauve graze on the uplands of Adrian Stokes; where the forest glades echo the footsteps of Diaz; where the river's shadowy pools reflect the sombre foliage of Rousseau; and where, over all, there hangs the portentous sky of Constable. Here Wat-

son has found a home; and, day by day, he works out the great problem of painting. Each year sees another step in the evolution of treatment and style: and, with an admirable self-restraint, he searches and analyses, indifferent to cheap *clat*, indifferent to the tardy laurels.

Ten years ago he was frankly a realist, at least, so it seemed to me; and now, with an increased knowledge of the vast field that has already been covered by the men of his craft, has come a hesitation, an eclecticism, a tendency to preoccupation in questions of style, arrangement and technique, rather than that objective absorption in the subject which results in a naive translation of it to the canvas. In this Watson is not alone; it is the history of a great many thinking painters who cultivate the critical faculty as assiduously as the art of putting on paint. But there are a noble few who seem to have always known what they wanted to do—and, in a large measure, how to do it—men of John Sargent's type; and, though one does not rank him so high, S. J. Solomon's. *The Graphic* published, last week, a striking portrait by the latter; Israel Zangwill, the Jewish essayist and wit, is wittily painted by his friend; and it certainly is refreshing to see so forcible an example of portraiture by a man who, although no one has doubted his great ability, has shown in a good deal of his past work the fatal finger-prints of the academic hand.

E. WYLY GRIER.

It is expected that Professor Mavor will preside at Mr. Dickson Patterson's lecture on "The Motive and Aim of a Picture" in St. George's Hall, Elm street, Friday, February 8th.

We trust something will come of the scheme that has been advanced by some of our artists for the decoration of the new City Hall buildings, but it seems to be somewhat premature to say much about it at present.

Few of our artists have a more distinct individuality or have endeavoured to interpret nature more simply and directly, than has Mr. F. S. Challener, who is as well one of the youngest of the fraternity. Born in Whetstone on the outskirts of London, England, he came to this country quite young. The artistic bias of his mind was early shown, and availing himself of the best advantages of study to be had he went to the Ontario Art School, held then in the Normal School building. During five years' apprenticeship at the Toronto Lithographing Company he devoted all his spare time to study, first under Mr. Redding, and later under Mr. Cruikshanks, exhibiting yearly at the Toronto Industrial Fair, and each year carried off the majority of the prizes. When his apprenticeship had expired he continued his studies for two years under Mr. G. A. Reid, who had just returned from his second trip to Europe. The progress made at this time fulfilled the promise he had given at the outset, and in 1890 he exhibited for the first time at the annual exhibition of the Ontario Society of Arts, and was elected a member, and in the following year was chosen an Associate of the Royal Canadian Academy, his work at that exhibition being received most favourably. In the autumn of 1891 he left for England, there to spend a year, not in any one school or under any one master, but studying in all the art galleries, visiting all the collections of work, in which England is so rich, and along with this working constantly in doors and out. He seems to have been influenced most by the men of the Newlan School, Tuke, Frank Bramley, Stanhope, Forbes and others—men who are the new blood of English art life, whose methods and technique have been acquired in France, but who are essentially English in their tastes and choice of subjects. The pictures brought home from this

trip were many glimpses of English landscape and village life—there is no mistaking those red-tiled roofs, the hedge-bordered lanes, the ivy-draped houses—marine views, and several faithfully rendered little portraits. These quickly found homes in Toronto and Montreal, the latter city has then and always shown its appreciation promptly and in the most tangible way possible. Mr. Challener has since continued to exhibit yearly and has made considerable advance, his latest portrait being an excellent example of his purity of color and decisive manner and careful finish. If a certain tendency to lightness may be occasionally seen, it is quite lost sight of again in some delicate rendering of atmospheric effect, or in a charming rendering of flowers in which texture is well given. One feels instinctively that the artist is seeking to avoid as far as possible any mannerism, and is seeking to truthfully express a phase of nature.

Publications Received.

- John S. Ewart: *The Manitoba School Question*. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
- Henry W. Nevinson. *Neighbours of Ours*. New York: Henry Holt & Co.
- Maurice Waterlinck: Plays translated by Richard Hovey. Chicago: Stone & Kimball.
- Wm. C. Cornwell: *Currency and Banking Law of Canada*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.
- Paul Tsy: G. Dwyer, K. W. Montreal: Jno. Lovell & Son.
- George Gissing: *In the Year of Jubilee*. London: Geo. Bell & Sons. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
- F. Anstey: *Under the Rose*. London: Geo. Bell & Sons. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.
- Mrs. Alexander: *A Ward in Chancery*. London: Geo. Bell & Sons. Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.

Readings from Current Literature.

KAISER WILHELM'S SONG.

The following is a free translation of "The Ode to Aegir," written by the Emperor of Germany:

O Aegir, Lord of Oceans,
Whom Nick and Nix obey,
In rosy dawn of morning
The Viking host doth pray!
Grim is the feud we're seeking,
In countries far away;
Through storm and tide and billows
Lead us to glorious fray.

When Nick perchance doth threaten,
When fails this trusty shield,
Thy flaming eye may guard us,
To foeman none will yield.
As Frithiof on Ellido
Undaunted ploughed the wave,
So shelter thou this dragon,
And us, thy sons, we crave.

When in the battle's fury,
As steel on steel doth ring,
Bold foemen meet their death-stroke,
To Valkyries they cling.
Then may our song be wafted
Through clash of swords to sea,
To honour thee, O mighty God!
Like far-off storms so free.

—London Public Opinion.

WEALTHY DOCTORS.

Do doctors make much money? They certainly do sometimes, as is shown by an appetising list of the fortunes left by eminent medical men during the last four years, which the *Daily Telegraph* recently published. One distinguished physician left no less than £344,000; two others over £200,000 each, and several approached or passed the £100,000. But after all these are the few exceptions at the head of the profession, and do not help us to

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form an opinion as to the average profits of medicine, any more than the gains of Mr. Attorney-General can be taken as a fair sample of the wealth to be obtained from the pursuit of law. Is the ordinary medical student, who is not likely to become a Clark or a Gull, embarked on a profession in which he has as good a chance of a decent competence as in most others? We should be inclined to think so. Great fortunes are rare in medicine; but probably the number of those who make a moderate, but sufficient, income out of it is larger than in most other pursuits in which educated men are engaged.—*St. James's Gazette*.

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Public Opinion.

Montreal Gazette: If the advance in population has been disappointing, at least the Canadian people have enjoyed during the last fifteen years a period of unexampled prosperity both individually and as a community, and they can stand a good deal more of the same sort of "bane and curse" under a protective system.

Ottawa Citizen: Judge Robertson decided in a case that came before him on Friday last that the word "damn" was merely an adjective expressing emphasis and not an oath. This opinion is no doubt conformable to common sense, but it is to be hoped that other methods of strengthening our affirmations will not go entirely out of use.

Hamilton Spectator: All Canada knows what the National Policy is—it is the same now as it was in 1878, and will be the same so long as the people continue to endorse it. And the question is to be fought out on those lines: The National Policy known, tried and proved, against a new policy, the authors of which cannot tell us how they propose to raise sufficient revenue to run the government.

Montreal Herald: Everywhere the Liberals are up and doing. They were caught napping in 1887 and 1891, but this time they will be ready whenever Sir Mackenzie chooses to give the signal for battle. Liberal victory is as sure as anything can be in this world, provided due work is done, and the enthusiastic manner in which the campaign is everywhere opening is assurance enough that the mistakes of indifference or over-confidence will not be made.

Digby (N.S.) Courier: That civil matters are in a deplorable condition across the border is evidenced by the figures of the past year's record as given by a Chicago paper. There were 190 lynchings; 4,912 suicides, and 9,800 murders. We Canadians take pride in saying that with us such records would not be possible and indeed they would not. The great and prosperous republic is yet unfortunate and has very many lessons to learn before all matters of civic government are reduced to the best working basis.

Bobcaygeon Independent: The proposal to build a big hotel in Toronto is an excellent example of the noble public spirit of that city's men of wealth. The proposal is that the Ontario Government should give the site, and the city guarantee bonds to the extent of seventy per cent. of the value of the completed structure. The idea is brilliant, even for Toronto. The only improvement that could be suggested is that the Dominion should guarantee the other 30 per cent. and pay for the maintenance of this iridescent dream of Greed.

Winnipeg Free Press: It will strike most people as absurd that power should be given to Canada to raise troops, levy duties, even against the mother country, insist on arrangements being made to practically permit the Dominion to guide the making of treaties with foreign countries, while the trivial matter of legislating on the subject of copyright is deemed of sufficient importance to permit the Government to violate the principle on which the relationship of Great Britain and her self-governing colonies now stands. There has been rather an excess of consideration for the feelings of the Imperial Government in dealing with this matter.

* * *

Nowhere are old soldiers so distinguished as in China. In 1890 the Emperor Kiang-Su issued a proclamation, which read in part as follows: "To thank Heaven that it has allowed us to reach the age of 20 years, we herewith raise all active soldiers of the eight banners of Manchuria and Mongolia to the rank of the nobility. To those who have passed fourscore, we give in addition a piece of silk, ten measures of rice and ten pounds of meat. Those who have passed their 90th birthday are to receive double measure in each case." When the crack regiments of the Chinese army contain men almost a century old, it is not so difficult to understand the successes of the brave Japanese.—*New York Tribune.*

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Some of the insurance companies of Paris refuse to insure people who dye their hair.

One of the London illustrated weeklies will send a scientific expedition to Nova Zembla.

One grain of gold after leaving the gold-beater's hands will cover forty-six square inches.

The Hungarian Government has taken steps to prohibit the practice of hypnotism by all persons except duly licensed physicians.

The much-lauded Behring cure for diphtheria seems likely to go the way of the Koch cure for consumption, Professor Virchow having now declared against it.

The temperature of the earth advances one degree for every 51 feet of descent. It is supposed that at a distance of 40 miles below the surface metals and rocks are of a white heat.

According to *The Electrical Review*, old people troubled with rheumatism pick up the discarded ends of electric-light carbons and carefully preserve them. The belief is that the carbon, if carried in the pocket, will cure the disease.

REV. P. C. HEADLEY, 697 Huntington Avenue, Boston, U.S.A., April 2nd, 1894, writes:

"I have found the Acid treatment all it claims to be as a remedy for disease.

"While it does all that is stated in the descriptive and prescriptive pamphlet, I found it of great value for bracing effect, one part of the acid to ten of water applied with a flesh brush, and towels after it; also an excellent internal regulator with five or six drops in a tumbler of water. I should be unwilling to be without so reliable and safe a remedy.

"I wonder that no mention is made in the pamphlet of the sure cure the Acid is for corns (applied once or twice a day), so many are afflicted with them. It was death to mine." To Coutts & Sons, 72 Victoria St., Toronto.

In his inaugural thesis (St. Petersburg, 1894), M. Trouskoliavski gives the results of his bacteriologic study of books used by hospital patients and of hospital visitors' tickets, as sources of microbic contagion. Microbiologic examination of newly-printed tickets and books revealed no microbes, but a similar examination of tickets that had been used and of books that had been read by patients showed an average of 43 bacteria to the square centimetre. While many of these are innocuous, some pathogenic bacteria are found—streptococci, tubercle bacilli, etc.—and, affixed to the paper surface, these microbes are found to retain their morbid potency for a long time.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.,
18th August, 1894.

To whom it may concern—and that is nearly everybody.—This is to certify that I have used Coutts & Sons' "Acetocura" on myself, my family and hundreds of others during the past fifteen years for headache, toothache, rheumatism, sciatica, sprains, cuts, boils, abscesses, scarlet fever, chills and fever, and also with good success on myself (as I was able) in an attack of yellow fever. I can hardly mention all the ills I have known its almost magical power in curing, such as croup, diarrhoea, biliousness, and even those little but sore pests to many people—corns. The trouble is with patients, they are so fond of applying where the pain is—and not where directed, at the nerve affected. And the trouble with the druggists is that they also want to sell "Something just as good," which very often is worse than useless.

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Miscellaneous.

It comes somewhat as a shock to learn from the London *News* that the law in Merry England pays no heed to the tradition of the mistletoe bough. A Mr. Chant has been fined 10 shillings for kissing a girl under the mistletoe against her will, although he pleaded in extenuation that "a lot of people had kissed his wife there, and he'd not made a fuss about it."

It appears that in Japan one factor entering into the problem of the choice of a daughter-in-law is her skill in raising silkworms. The thread spun by the silkworm is said to be regular and even, in proportion as the worm has been regularly and carefully fed. The prospective mother-in-law carefully and minutely examines the evenness of the silk thread in the material of the garments worn by the young lady before giving her assent to the betrothal.

Mr. W. A. REID, Jefferson Street, Schenectady, N. Y., 22nd July, '94, writes:

"I consider Acetocura to be very beneficial for La Grippe, Malaria and Rheumatism, as well as Neuralgia, and many other complaints to which flesh is heir, but these are very common here."

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Mr. Charles Mudie, the founder of the famous circulating library in London, began business for himself when but twenty-two years old. That was in 1844. He opened a small newspaper and stationary shop in Southampton Road, where he lent out books at a penny a volume. He has now the greatest private circulating library in the world, and it is probable that commercial considerations have moved him to oppose the printing of novels in one volume.

A remarkable controversy has been in progress in India between a Mohammedan, Mirza Ghulam Ahmed, and a Christian, Abdullah Alhine. The Mohammedan champion, finding himself worsted in the argument, declared that he had received a revelation, and prophesied that his Christian opponent would die from a snake-bite within fifteen months. This would be direct evidence from God that Islam was the Truth. The Christians fear that the Mohammedans may make the prophecy come to pass without waiting for any supernatural agency, for already a cobra in an earthen pot has been found at the door of the Christian's dwelling.

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So much has been written about the Gothenburg system of regulating the liquor traffic and its advantages as a temperance measure, that the following facts and figures furnished by a local correspondent of *The London Times*, which point to an opposite conclusion, may surprise many. The data are all said to be official. "Judged by an English standard," says *The Times* correspondent, "Gothenburg is a very drunken place." There has been a steady increase of drunkenness; "in 1887 the number of Swedish Breweries was 151, in 1891 202." The proportion of convictions to the population has increased. Formerly drunken women were not to be seen in Gothenburg, while in 1893 there were 144 women convicted. The third decade of the system is worse than the second, and the second more unfavourable than the first. Summing up, the correspondent says: "It is clear that the restrictions imposed on spirits and public houses have driven the people to beer and home drinking, and that in this way the women and children have caught the infection."



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* * *

Sunshine has Returned.

THE SHADOWS OVERHANGING A NIAGARA FALLS HOME HAVE VANISHED.

Little Mabel Dorety Cured of St. Vitus' Dance After Four Physicians Had Ineffectually Treated the Case.

From the Niagara Falls Review.

In speaking to a friend recently we were asked if we had heard that little Mabel Dorety, the eight year old daughter of Mrs. Dorety, Ontario Avenue, had been miraculously cured of St. Vitus' dance. We replied in the negative but stated that we would investigate the case and ascertain the facts. Accordingly we visited the home of Mrs. Dorety, when she related the facts as follows:—"My little girl has had a miraculous experience. It is about two years and a half since Mabel was stricken with St. Vitus' dance caused by the weakening effects of la grippe and rheumatism. Three local physicians were called in as also was one doctor of considerable reputation from Niagara Falls, N.Y., but in the face of the prescriptions of these physicians and the best of care, Mabel grew rapidly worse. She could not be left alone an instant and was as helpless as an infant as she had no control of her limbs at all. She could neither walk without assistance nor take food or drink. At this stage one of the attending physicians said, 'Mr. Dorety, there is no use in my coming here any more. There is nothing that I know of can be done for your little girl.' Well matters went on that way for a short time with no better results till one day I was sure the poor child was dying. I remember having seen accounts of St. Vitus' dance cured by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and I determined to try them. I was skeptical as to the effect and only tried them as a last resort, but was soon agreeably surprised at the result. It was not long before they had a good effect and I then felt certain I had found a remedy that could cure my little girl if anything could. In less than three months she was so much better that the dread disease had almost disappeared, and the pills were discontinued. In a few months, however, she showed that the symptoms had not been entirely eradicated from her system, so I had her again commence the use of the Pink Pills. I feel certain that all traces of the awful malady will be swept away, for she goes to school now and we have not the slightest anxiety in leaving her alone. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is certainly a grand remedy and I would not be without them under any consideration, for I think they are worth their weight in gold, as in my little little girl's case they have been true to all they advertise. I am only too glad to let others who may be unfortunate know of this miraculous cure through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills."

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By order of the Board, JAMES MASON, Manager.

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