

THE WEEK.

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CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

TOPICS—	PAGE
The Great Social Problem.....	167
The Government's Policy.....	167
The Premier's Manifesto.....	168
Adulteration of Food.....	168
Effect of Adulteration on Exports.....	168
The State and The University.....	168
The Indian Question.....	168
The Saskatchewan District.....	169
Sir Lyon Playfair on Protection.....	169
Mr. Parnell's Conscience.....	169
VOICES CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS.....	Fidelis. 170
REGRET. (Poem).....	Helen M. Merrill. 170
PARIS LETTER.....	Z. 170
PROMINENT CANADIANS—Sir John Thompson, K.C.M.G., Q.C., Minister of Justice for Canada.....	W. 171
IN THE NOR-EASTER. (Sonnet).....	Annie Rothwell. 172
THE RAMBLER.....	172
CORRESPONDENCE—	
A Correction.....	D. Ogden Jones, M.D. 172
The Kaiser on Education.....	Thomas Cross. 172
THE TRUTH ABOUT IRELAND—IV.....	Fairplay Radical. 173
CLOPATRA. (Poem).....	J. H. Brown. 174
MANNERS.....	K-I-N. 174
OWN SOUND: As it Was and Is.....	T. V. Hutchinson, M.D. 174
AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY.....	S. W. Dyde, M.A., D. Sc. 175
ART NOTES.....	175
MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.....	176
OUR LIBRARY TABLE.....	176
LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.....	176
PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.....	177
READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.....	179
QUESTIONS.....	179

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WE remarked in effect recently, in a paragraph suggested by "Father" Huntington's crusade, that whatever doubt might exist as to whether the poor are growing absolutely poorer, there can be none that they are becoming relatively so, by reason of the fact that the rich are becoming richer and thus widening the gulf which separates the luxury of the few from the destitution of the many. This in itself is a sufficiently sad comment on the professed Christianity of the age, and goes far to justify Professor Briggs' statement in his inaugural address the other day, in Union Theological Seminary, that "the greatest sin against the Bible has been the neglect of the ethics of the Jesus," if not Tolstoi's stronger declaration that "the Christians think that Jesus did not mean what He said." The picture drawn by "Fidelis" in another column is both harrowing and appalling, but is unhappily true to the life. We can think of no class of readers who would not do well to study it. Too long it has been the custom of even philanthropists and Christians to look on it with a kind of dull despair, as an inevitable outcome of inexorable law, or natural depravity, and pass on to more cheerful scenes and occupations. The one great merit of Mr. Booth's scheme, even if it had no other, is that it, for the first time, so far as we are aware, refuses to believe in the submergence of the wretched tenth as a fatalistic necessity, and boldly proposes to attempt a radical cure. Whether his particular scheme succeed or fail, in the comparatively narrow sphere within which it is to be tried, it is no small thing that he has dropped the seed germs of a divine discontent, and a belief in the possibility of radical cure, into the soil of many a good and honest heart. "Fidelis" indicates the two great and widely divergent sources from which the deliverance must come, if it come at all. The two, though not necessarily antagonistic, stand in no obvious relationship to each other. The one star of promise is the hope that the wealthy in the Christian churches and congregations may be coming gradually to see that their Master did mean what He said when He laid down the laws of His Kingdom, and that obedience to those laws would make it simply impossible for His followers to live in the luxury described by "Fidelis," while those whose toil coins their wealth are labouring to the utmost of their strength for a bare subsistence, perhaps living in the squalor and wretched-

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THE independent enquirer, desirous of knowing just what is the new policy, or proposed policy, which the Canadian Government is asking the people to ratify in advance, naturally turns for light to the addresses delivered by the Ministers of the Crown. Of the four Ministers who addressed the citizens of Toronto a few days since, Sir John Thompson especially undertook the task of unfolding the Conservative policy. Positively, that policy was explained as in accord with the document previously published in the press. It involves, Sir John Thompson tells us, an offer to the United States to consider the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854, with such modifications as the altered circumstances of the two countries might call for, to reconsider the abortive treaty of 1888, which settled the fishery dispute along with trade questions, to enter into negotiations which would settle the Behring Sea difficulty and all questions upon the Atlantic coast with regard to fisheries, and to reciprocate in the coasting and wrecking business between the two countries. Negatively the Minister of Justice proceeded to explain—and in this case his negative definitions are much more clearly defined and tangible than his positive—the policy of the Government does not mean that Canada is ever to lose the control of her own tariff under any circumstances; nor that the tariff legislation of Canada shall discriminate against the parent country; nor that resort shall be had to direct taxation for revenue purposes. There is undoubtedly much in these announcements that appeals to Canadian sentiment, and that is likely to be approved by those who pride themselves on their loyalty to the Mother Country. But from the practical point of view they are less satisfactory. These statements are made, it must be remembered, not simply as a declaration of Government policy, but as the reason why the Government has seen fit to advise His Excellency the Governor-General to dissolve Parliament a year before the period fixed by the Constitution and appeal thus prematurely to the people for a new lease of power. Does any impartial observer who understands the situation suppose that there is the remotest probability of negotiations for reciprocity being conducted to any successful issue along the lines indicated? We fear not. To say nothing of Mr. Blaine's disavowals, explicit almost beyond the limits of diplomatic courtesy, no one who has watched the trend of thought and feeling in the United States from the days of the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854 until now can have any reasonable hope of a renewal of reciprocity on any such basis as that indicated. We find it hard to suppose that the members of the Government themselves have any such expectation. It would have been, in our opinion, much more candid to have made the appeal to the country on

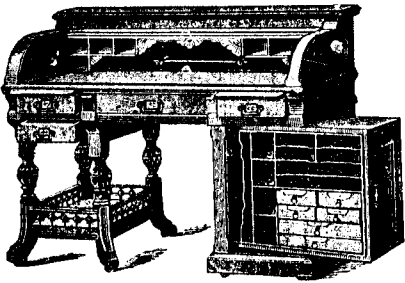
the real issue involved; that of the present protective system as opposed to the Liberal programme of unrestricted reciprocity, with at least partial assimilation of tariffs as its almost inevitable outcome.

IF any further proof than that afforded by the speeches of Sir John Thompson and his colleagues in Toronto were needed to show that the question is not really between a lesser and a larger measure of reciprocity, as the London *Chronicle* asserts, but between the National Policy and unrestricted reciprocity, that proof would be abundantly supplied in Sir John A. Macdonald's own address to the electors of Canada. From the present point of view that is, certainly, a most astonishing address. When the announcement was made that Parliament had been dissolved because of certain negotiations looking to reciprocity that had been opened, and in order that the Government might be clothed with full power by the people of Canada to conduct those negotiations on their behalf, what was more reasonable than to expect that the Premier would take the earliest opportunity of unfolding to the electors the views and purposes of his Government in that regard? Who could have deemed it possible that, immediately after dissolving the House on the ground of alleged negotiations for reciprocity, Sir John A. Macdonald should address the people in a Manifesto in which the subject of reciprocity is not once mentioned? It is not for us to say whether this is flattering to the intelligence of Canadian electors, or the kind of appeal they had a right to expect. All this, however, regards merely the pretext on which the premature appeal is made to the constituencies. The question of vital interest and importance is that of the real principles and policies of the two rival parties. Nor is there any great difficulty in discovering these. The question before the electors of Canada is clearly that of the National Policy, or protection, as against unrestricted reciprocity, which, in the opinion of most of those who have studied the subject, means really commercial union. Not for many years have the people been called on to decide between two policies so broadly distinguished. It is not the province or purpose of THE WEEK, as an independent journal bound to keep its editorial columns free from party bias, to take one side or the other on what is now so clearly a party question. We have never concealed our opinion that, if it were attainable on terms consistent with her own self-respect, and with the duty owed to the Mother Country, unrestricted trade with the United States would be a great boon to Canada, bringing her the wealth and population needed for the development of her resources more speedily than she can hope to gain them in any other way. While not without admiration of the patriotic and hopeful tone of the Premier's stirring address, we are unable, on a calm review, to admit that the state and progress of the country are so satisfactory as therein claimed. While it may be true that on the average the Canadians now in the country are as comfortable and prosperous as their neighbours, we cannot lose sight of the fact that whatever degree of prosperity is enjoyed by those who have remained in the country has been to a large extent made possible by the expatriation of hundreds of thousands of Canada's most enterprising sons who have gone across the lines to seek, and in many cases to find, the remunerative employment they were unable to find at home. On the other hand we hold that the greatest material prosperity would be purchased at a ruinous and disgraceful cost, if gained at the sacrifice of national independence and self-respect, or of base ingratitude to the Mother Land. These are, in our opinion, the main considerations which every Canadian who is independent enough to do his own thinking is now called upon to set in the balance of his judgment over against each other. There are, of course, unknown conditions attached to each which increase the complexity of the problem; such as, for instance, on the one side the uncertainty whether unrestricted reciprocity is attainable even if Canadians were unanimous in asking for it, and on the other the uncertainty whether Great Britain might not deem the settlement of outstanding quarrels, and a treaty of peace and concord with the United States, a satisfactory

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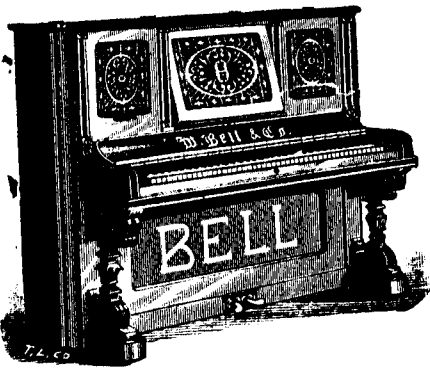
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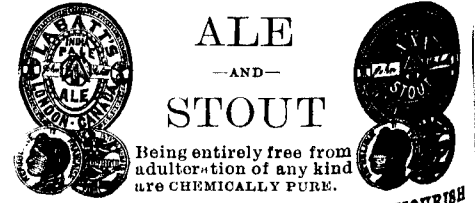
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WE remarked in effect recently, in a paragraph suggested by "Father" Huntington's crusade, that whatever doubt might exist as to whether the poor are growing absolutely poorer, there can be none that they are becoming relatively so, by reason of the fact that the rich are becoming richer and thus widening the gulf which separates the luxury of the few from the destitution of the many. This in itself is a sufficiently sad comment on the professed Christianity of the age, and goes far to justify Professor Brigg's statement in his inaugural address the other day, in Union Theological Seminary, that "the greatest sin against the Bible has been the neglect of the ethics of Jesus," if not Tolstoi's stronger declaration that "the Christians think that Jesus did not mean what He said." The picture drawn by "Fidelis" in another column is both harrowing and appalling, but is unhappily true to the life. We can think of no class of readers who would not do well to study it. Too long it has been the custom of even philanthropists and Christians to look on it with a kind of dull despair, as an inevitable outcome of inexorable law, or natural depravity, and pass on to more cheerful scenes and occupations. The one great merit of Mr. Booth's scheme, even if it had no other, is that it, for the first time, so far as we are aware, refuses to believe in the submergence of the wretched tenth as a fatalistic necessity, and boldly proposes to attempt a radical cure. Whether his particular scheme succeed or fail, in the comparatively narrow sphere within which it is to be tried, it is no small thing that he has dropped the seed germs of a divine discontent, and a belief in the possibility of radical cure, into the soil of many a good and honest heart. "Fidelis" indicates the two great and widely divergent sources from which the deliverance must come, if it come at all. The two, though not necessarily antagonistic, stand in no obvious relationship to each other. The one star of promise is the hope that the wealthy in the Christian churches and congregations may be coming gradually to see that their Master did mean what He said when He laid down the laws of His Kingdom, and that obedience to those laws would make it simply impossible for His followers to live in the luxury described by "Fidelis," while those whose toil coins their wealth are labouring to the utmost of their strength for a bare subsistence, perhaps living in the squalor and wretched-

ness which are the lot of so many. And one of the first and most potent forces in effecting this great reform through the agency of the rich will be the discarding of the old law of "supply and demand," and substituting for it the law of "brotherhood." Whether deliverance shall come to any extent from this source must depend, of course, entirely upon the capitalistic and employing classes. The only way in which the labouring poor themselves can contribute to their own uplifting lies along the lines of union and co-operation by the use of which so much has already been effected, and by the misuse or abuse of which true progress is so often retarded. There can be no doubt that the labouring classes, the many, have the power within their reach. But they need the two qualities of higher intelligence and larger unselfishness, in order to convert this latent potency into the active energy by which alone great industrial and social changes can be wrought. Few thoughtful persons can doubt that in the single-tax scheme the masses have caught a glimpse, in dim and shadowy outline, of a great principle, which may yet be wrought into the fabric of a social system built on a foundation of natural righteousness. To wrest that principle from such a use and make it a lever to overturn the God-given rights of property, destroy the structure of civil society and do away with the grounds of confidence between man and man would be to overwhelm rich and poor in one universal ruin, out of which would speedily emerge some form of the cruellest despotism.

THE independent enquirer, desirous of knowing just what is the new policy, or proposed policy, which the Canadian Government is asking the people to ratify in advance, naturally turns for light to the addresses delivered by the Ministers of the Crown. Of the four Ministers who addressed the citizens of Toronto a few days since, Sir John Thompson especially undertook the task of unfolding the Conservative policy. Positively, that policy was explained as in accord with the document previously published in the press. It involves, Sir John Thompson tells us, an offer to the United States to consider the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854, with such modifications as the altered circumstances of the two countries might call for, to reconsider the abortive treaty of 1888, which settled the fishery dispute along with trade questions, to enter into negotiations which would settle the Behring Sea difficulty and all questions upon the Atlantic coast with regard to fisheries, and to reciprocate in the coasting and wrecking business between the two countries. Negatively the Minister of Justice proceeded to explain—and in this case his negative definitions are much more clearly defined and tangible than his positive—the policy of the Government does not mean that Canada is ever to lose the control of her own tariff under any circumstances; nor that the tariff legislation of Canada shall discriminate against the parent country; nor that resort shall be had to direct taxation for revenue purposes. There is undoubtedly much in these announcements that appeals to Canadian sentiment, and that is likely to be approved by those who pride themselves on their loyalty to the Mother Country. But from the practical point of view they are less satisfactory. These statements are made, it must be remembered, not simply as a declaration of Government policy, but as the reason why the Government has seen fit to advise His Excellency the Governor-General to dissolve Parliament a year before the period fixed by the Constitution and appeal thus prematurely to the people for a new lease of power. Does any impartial observer who understands the situation suppose that there is the remotest probability of negotiations for reciprocity being conducted to any successful issue along the lines indicated? We fear not. To say nothing of Mr. Blaine's disavowals, explicit almost beyond the limits of diplomatic courtesy, no one who has watched the trend of thought and feeling in the United States from the days of the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854 until now can have any reasonable hope of a renewal of reciprocity on any such basis as that indicated. We find it hard to suppose that the members of the Government themselves have any such expectation. It would have been, in our opinion, much more candid to have made the appeal to the country on

the real issue involved; that of the present protective system as opposed to the Liberal programme of unrestricted reciprocity, with at least partial assimilation of tariffs as its almost inevitable outcome.

IF any further proof than that afforded by the speeches of Sir John Thompson and his colleagues in Toronto were needed to show that the question is not really between a lesser and a larger measure of reciprocity, as the London *Chronicle* asserts, but between the National Policy and unrestricted reciprocity, that proof would be abundantly supplied in Sir John A. Macdonald's own address to the electors of Canada. From the present point of view that is, certainly, a most astonishing address. When the announcement was made that Parliament had been dissolved because of certain negotiations looking to reciprocity that had been opened, and in order that the Government might be clothed with full power by the people of Canada to conduct those negotiations on their behalf, what was more reasonable than to expect that the Premier would take the earliest opportunity of unfolding to the electors the views and purposes of his Government in that regard? Who could have deemed it possible that, immediately after dissolving the House on the ground of alleged negotiations for reciprocity, Sir John A. Macdonald should address the people in a Manifesto in which the subject of reciprocity is not once mentioned? It is not for us to say whether this is flattering to the intelligence of Canadian electors, or the kind of appeal they had a right to expect. All this, however, regards merely the pretext on which the premature appeal is made to the constituencies. The question of vital interest and importance is that of the real principles and policies of the two rival parties. Nor is there any great difficulty in discovering these. The question before the electors of Canada is clearly that of the National Policy, or protection, as against unrestricted reciprocity, which, in the opinion of most of those who have studied the subject, means really commercial union. Not for many years have the people been called on to decide between two policies so broadly distinguished. It is not the province or purpose of THE WEEK, as an independent journal bound to keep its editorial columns free from party bias, to take one side or the other on what is now so clearly a party question. We have never concealed our opinion that, if it were attainable on terms consistent with her own self-respect, and with the duty owed to the Mother Country, unrestricted trade with the United States would be a great boon to Canada, bringing her the wealth and population needed for the development of her resources more speedily than she can hope to gain them in any other way. While not without admiration of the patriotic and hopeful tone of the Premier's stirring address, we are unable, on a calm review, to admit that the state and progress of the country are so satisfactory as therein claimed. While it may be true that on the average the Canadians now in the country are as comfortable and prosperous as their neighbours, we cannot lose sight of the fact that whatever degree of prosperity is enjoyed by those who have remained in the country has been to a large extent made possible by the expatriation of hundreds of thousands of Canada's most enterprising sons who have gone across the lines to seek, and in many cases to find, the remunerative employment they were unable to find at home. On the other hand we hold that the greatest material prosperity would be purchased at a ruinous and disgraceful cost, if gained at the sacrifice of national independence and self-respect, or of base ingratitude to the Mother Land. These are, in our opinion, the main considerations which every Canadian who is independent enough to do his own thinking is now called upon to set in the balance of his judgment over against each other. There are, of course, unknown conditions attached to each which increase the complexity of the problem; such as, for instance, on the one side the uncertainty whether unrestricted reciprocity is attainable even if Canadians were unanimous in asking for it, and on the other the uncertainty whether Great Britain might not deem the settlement of outstanding quarrels, and a treaty of peace and concord with the United States, a satisfactory

offset for any loss of trade that might result from tariff discrimination. But in this, as in most of the affairs of life, probability is, as Bishop Butler long since taught us, the very guide of conduct. Each elector must, therefore, determine the balance of probabilities for himself.

SOME of the bulletins which are being issued from the Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, at Ottawa, are suggestive as well as instructive. They show that even in Canada, notwithstanding all precautions, the process of adulteration is carried on to such an extent as leaves one almost in doubt as to whether it is possible to procure any one of the various articles of merchandize which are used as ingredients in the ordinary food of the household in a state of absolute purity. In the case of even such common and inexpensive condiments as mustard and pepper, it is shown that the commodities we are accustomed to purchase under those names contain, in many cases, very large percentages of foreign substances, and are seldom, or never, to be had in their native purity. Referring to the article of mustard, Mr. Macfarlane, the analyst, represents some people as asserting "that the public have come to understand that it is just as well that this state of affairs should continue to exist, and that so long as the mustard contains nothing injurious, and is marked or sold as 'compound,' the said public has not much to complain of." On the other hand, the analyst observes that "it may be maintained, as in the case of coffee, spices, etc., that some limit should be set to the amount of diluting substances added." We should think so. To us it seems tolerably clear that this is one of the matters in regard to which a special responsibility rests upon the Government to protect the people, for it is a matter in which it is difficult or impossible for them to protect themselves. For the present the Department is contenting itself with publishing in its bulletins not only the results of the analysis, but the names of both the vendors and the alleged manufacturers of the articles of which samples are taken. So long as these names appear only in the official bulletins, and are seen only by the few into whose hands these documents fall, we fear this plan will not prove very effective. It is greatly to be desired, we think, that the newspapers should give the public, from time to time, the benefit of the work of the Department by publishing names and facts in full.

THE foregoing remarks have reference to adulteration as affecting the quality of commodities such as are manufactured mainly for home consumption. Another aspect of the question, of no less importance, is that which relates to the quality of products manufactured for export. If we would become an exporting people, it is of the utmost importance that every precaution should be taken to guard the purity and excellence of the goods which are sent abroad. We recently had occasion to speak of the excellent reputation which has been secured for Canadian cheese, and to congratulate the Government on the steps it is taking with a view to raise the quality of our butter to an equally high standard. We are not aware that the admitted inferiority of a great deal of the latter is due, to any great extent, to adulteration, but there can be no doubt that the temptation to introduce an admixture of other and cheaper ingredients will increase as the trade itself grows. The history of the United States' export trade in cheese and butter conveys a most salutary lesson in this matter. A late number of *Bradstreet's* says: "The real character of our butter exports is well seen in the average values of foreign products in the London markets last year. The average price of butter imported from Denmark, as given in the December report of the Secretary of Agriculture, was 24c., from France 23.6c., from Sweden 23.4c., from Holland, 22.1c., from Germany 23c., from Belgium 22.5c., from Norway 24.3c., from Australasia 20.1c., from Canada 18.2c., and from the United States 17.7c." From other statistics quoted in the same paper it appears that the exports of United States' butter during the last ten years have fallen from 31,500,500 pounds in 1881, to 29,748,042 pounds in 1890, and the average price received in the foreign market from 19.8c. to 14.1c. per pound during the same period. The decline in the exports of cheese during the decade has been even greater and the depreciation in price scarcely less. And this result is directly due, *Bradstreet's* frankly admits, to the practice of adulteration and the competition of spurious and sophisticated forms. The lesson to be learned from the costly experience of our neighbours is full of encouragement as well as of warning, and gives every reason to hope that should the measures

now being adopted to improve the quality of Canadian butter prove as successful as the somewhat similar reforms in cheese-making have been, we may confidently expect a correspondingly large and profitable export trade in the former commodity to spring up at an early day.

THE address recently given by the Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education, in the theatre of the Normal School Building, of which an extended report was given in Saturday's *Globe*, contains an interesting survey of the development and growth of public school education in Europe and America. The address shows the results of a good deal of historical reading, though from the sociological or philosophical point of view it is, perhaps, a little disappointing. From the Head of the department of public instruction, in the largest and wealthiest Province of the Dominion, we should have been glad of some discussion of fundamental principles. It is obvious, for instance, that the more universally education and the enlarged intelligence and thoughtfulness it brings become diffused among the people, the more needful will it be that the relations of the State to the work of public education shall be clearly defined and broad-based upon some principle that can be defended as just and equal. So far as the public schools are concerned there is no room for doubt or cavil. They are for the children of all the people, and it is meet that they should be supported at the expense of all the people. It was when the Minister came to the universities that he failed to apply principles, and appealed to precedents only. After quoting numerous facts to show, what needed no proof, viz., that the "tendency across the water is to be generous with the universities, notwithstanding"—an objector might say because of—"the conservatism of those countries," Mr. Ross went on to say, "Surely we in Canada should fortify ourselves to deal liberally with the universities." If he means that this liberal dealing should be of the kind which he afterwards recommends, the outcome of the patriotism and generosity of the people, all will heartily approve his words. If the idea is that further aid should be bestowed upon the provincial institution from the public chest, some troublesome questions will at once arise. Does Mr. Ross maintain, for instance, that it is in the interests of the whole people that students should be trained for the medical profession at the public expense? A few moments of his lecture might at this point have been well devoted to showing how it can be for the good of the people that the University, the entire resources of which are imperatively required to maintain and increase the efficiency of its Arts work, which is, *par excellence*, the department of its work which interests the public, should have been permitted by the Government to sink so large an amount of its available funds in the new Science Buildings, which are admittedly far more extensive than can be required for the science work of the Arts course proper. Will not the public justly hold the Minister responsible for the mistake, not to say misappropriation, which was made when one of the six independent medical colleges of the Province was chosen to be the ally and beneficiary of the Provincial University, to the great and, so far as appears, just dissatisfaction of all the friends and patrons of the other five, thus unfairly discriminated against? The injustice of this diversion of the public funds appears all the more indefensible in view of the recent protest of the teachers in the Department of Modern Languages in the University, some of whom have been kept working as mere lecturers, with inferior status and smaller pay, for more than twenty years. It is said that the promotion of these to the position of "professors" is impossible for want of money. Certainly, if most of them are not qualified for professorships they ought to be, and it would be little to the credit of the University to have kept incompetent men so long in teaching positions of so much importance. But if an act of simple justice is denied or delayed for want of funds, while enough and much more than enough of capital has been sunk in buildings not needed for the proper educational work of the university, the fact is one of a kind not well adapted to encourage the public to deal more liberally with the Government institution under which such maladministration is possible.

THE *Empire of Saturday* had an interesting article in which the treatment of our Indian tribes by the Canadian Government was fully detailed and compared with that to which those on the other side of the boundary line have been subjected by the Government of the United States. It is needless to say that the comparison was very much to the disadvantage of the latter. Nor can

there be any doubt that it is in the main just and truthful. This will be admitted by very many of the friends of the Red man in the United States. Whether, if the pressure of population and the demand for land had been as great on our side of the border as on the other, the comparison would have been so favourable to us is a question into which we need not enter. The main point for us as Canadians to consider is whether our own methods are the wisest and best possible. We are glad to be able to accept, with some modifications, the picture of the peace and comparative content prevailing among the Indians on Canadian reserves as a truthful one. We fear it has not always been so, but at the present time the absence of serious complaint may be accepted as proof that the Indians are being fairly treated by the Indian Commissioners and agents, and their supplies honestly provided and promptly distributed. The question that forces itself upon the mind in contemplating the picture of quiet and contentment on the reserves is with regard to the future. Is it to be always thus? Is this life in bands and on reserves to last forever? Are Indian customs and traditions to be perpetuated? The life of the average Indian on the reserve is clearly a life of barbarism or semi-barbarism, not of civilization. The writer of the article in question puts the number of Indians in the Dominion at 121,520, and estimates that nearly 7,000 Indian children are on the rolls of the public school, either the day, the industrial, or the boarding schools. This may mean an average attendance of one-half to two-thirds that number. This again must mean that not more than one in four or five of the Indian children of school age is receiving any kind of instruction fitted to raise him from the condition of barbarism in which he has been born and is growing up. Ought a Christian people to be satisfied with such a mode of disposing of the aborigines, of whose ancient domain they have possessed themselves? Is it creditable to us and our methods that even in the older provinces where some of the Indians have made sufficient advancement to be thought worthy of votes, they are still treated as wards of the Government, and are freed from the obligations and responsibilities of citizenship? Surely this is a question which ought to be fairly faced, in our own interests as well as that of the Indians; else if their numbers increase, as they should do, on the one hand, and the population of our prairies increases as it should, on the other, we may one day find ourselves with a very troublesome Indian question on our hands, and that too long after the new method adopted by our neighbours shall have been successful in enrolling the next generation of their Indians as industrious, full-fledged citizens. Is there any good reason why twenty-five or at most fifty years of universal compulsory education, with judicious allotment of lands in severalty, should not make good Canadian citizens of those who are now scarcely better than little Indian barbarians, and thus settle the Indian question forever?

THE *Winnipeg Commercial* of February 2nd devotes a large portion of its space to a series of articles dealing with the resources and prospects of the great Saskatchewan district, which was opened to the outside world by railway communication last fall. Saskatchewan is the largest and most central of the four provisional districts which were carved out of the North-West Territory by the Dominion Parliament in 1882. It contains an area of 106,700 square miles. "In shape it is an oblong parallelogram which extends from Nelson River, Lake Winnipeg and Manitoba, on the east, to the 112th degree of west longitude on the west, and lies between or, rather, slightly overlaps the 52nd and 55th parallels of north latitude. It thus includes a larger proportion of the so-called fertile belt than any of the other territorial districts, and is almost centrally divided by the main Saskatchewan River, which is altogether within the district, and by its principal branch, the North Saskatchewan, most of whose navigable length lies within its boundaries." Notwithstanding its high latitude, its climate is said to be very similar to that of Manitoba. It is clear, dry and healthful, and is not so any noticeable degree colder than that of the more southerly province. The district is believed to be safely out of the storm belt. It has never, so far as known, been visited by the terrible blizzard or the death-dealing cyclone of the Dakota plains. The soil in the region around Prince Albert is the deep black mould of the western prairie, of the very richest description, and of such a depth that it has been pronounced practically inexhaustible. East, west and south of Prince Albert, which is the terminus of a branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway

running from Regina, is a vast region of prairie country answering to the above description, while to the north a great timber land extends hundreds of miles northward and eastward, the soil of which is also said to be excellent. As the greater part of the country is still unexplored little is known with certainty of its mineral deposits, though there are indications of great mineral wealth in the territory around Prince Albert. The capacities of the region for wheat-growing have not yet been fully tested, but it has been proved that wheat of the finest quality can be grown in the region around Prince Albert. All the information thus far gained goes to show that in this vast region, now pierced by the Canadian Pacific, and soon to be connected with Winnipeg by the Manitoba and North-Western, which is stretching out towards it in an air-line, Canada has a land which will yet afford homes for millions of hardy and prosperous settlers. All the inhabitants of the district, as well as many non-residents, have an abiding faith in ultimate railway connection with Hudson Bay and the opening up of a short route to Europe. A railway haul of five hundred miles would take Prince Albert's wheat to a port on Hudson Bay, whence it could be shipped direct to the great grain markets of the world. The country is also greatly favoured with facilities for internal communication by means of the Saskatchewan, which may be fairly called one of the great rivers of the world, and its branches. The two main branches of this river rise in the Rocky Mountains, and flow independently eastward for about one thousand miles each. They then unite in the neighbourhood of Prince Albert and flow eastwardly for about three hundred miles further, emptying into Lake Winnipeg. It is impossible to do justice in a paragraph to the varied features of this great and promising region, but these few facts, culled from the *Commercial's* articles, may serve to give some conception of its magnitude and aid in directing attention to its wonderful capabilities.

"Nonconformist conscience," however unable the *Spectator* may be to understand its workings, may be relied on to persist in its refusal to work for Home Rule, while Mr. Parnell keeps his place as Irish leader. Hence the indefinite shelving of the Home Rule programme, with the probable retirement of Mr. Gladstone, is very likely to be an event of the near future, a consummation for which, if realized, the Conservatives and Unionists should be deeply grateful to Mr. Parnell.

WE have before us a copy of the speech delivered in Leeds in November last by the Right Hon. Sir Lyon Playfair on "The Tariffs of the United States." The speech is, of course, a trenchant condemnation of protective tariffs, from the point of view of an ardent British free-trader. The arguments are for the most part familiar. He would, indeed, be a genius who could find anything specially new to say by way of argument on this well-worn topic. Some of the facts quoted with reference to the history of tariff legislation in the United States and the present state of the struggle on the continent of Europe are of interest, especially at the present moment. Sir Lyon Playfair quotes with profound astonishment, as well he might, the assertion of his friend, Senator Evarts, "a man of high intelligence and culture," that, "in our system and age of civilization, trade between nations stands for war in a sense never to be overlooked and never to be misunderstood," and goes on to show, what one would have supposed scarcely to require argument, that commerce has done more to preserve peace than any human agency. The bad example of one nation reacts upon another, and may cause retaliation to be deemed, to a certain extent, necessary, as in the case of Canada and the United States. But viewed as an abstract principle it is hard to account for the origin of the notion that one confers a favour or a compliment in buying from another more than in selling to him, since it is clear that our purchases are dictated by self-interest just as truly as our sales. In replying to the idea that commerce is industrial war, Sir Lyon quotes a sentence from Mr. Gladstone which we do not remember to have before seen and the metaphor of which is so forcible that we cannot refrain from quoting it. Referring to the good time of commercial freedom coming, Mr. Gladstone says: "Then will the ships that pass between this land and that be like the shuttle of the loom, weaving the web of concord among nations." Sir Lyon's reminder of the history of the forty-three per cent. tariff, "The Tariff of Abominations," established by the United States in 1828, only to be reduced to 23 per cent. in 1846, and to 15 per cent. in 1857, is encouraging and probably prophetic in regard to the future of the McKinley Act. His arguments to show that there is no real relation between tariff and wages, and his answer to the specious plea that "a cheap country means cheap men and women," strike at the root of protectionism in the United States. How effective are the logical blows, is a question in regard to which opinions will vary, according to interest or predilection. In opposition to the general impression that the principles of protection are becoming more and more firmly rooted in Europe, Sir Lyon quotes the leading chambers of commerce in Germany in denunciation of a system which is declared to have well-nigh destroyed the trade of some of its chief cities, and points out that the exports of both Germany and Italy are declining, while "in both countries there is an increasing misery among the population, and a remarkable exodus of emigrants." Referring to the prospects that Canada and the Mother Country will be driven closer together commercially by the McKinley Bill, Sir Lyon reiterates an axiom which those who are contemplating closer trade relations with either England or the United States will do well to bear in mind, in order to guard themselves against future disappointment, "Trade is not conducted by sentiment. If we buy from Canada, she must buy from us."

ARTEMUS WARD died not many months after his London debut, attended to the last by Tom Robertson. A strong attachment had sprung up between them, and the devotion of his new found English friend was touching in the extreme, and characteristic of Robertson's noble nature. Just before Ward's death, Robertson poured out some medicine in a glass and offered it to his friend. Ward said: "My dear Tom, I can't take that dreadful stuff." "Come, come," said Robertson, urging him to swallow the nauseous drug; "there's a dear fellow. Do now, for my sake; you know I would do anything for you." "Would you?" said Ward, feebly stretching out his hand to grasp his friend's, perhaps for the last time. "I would, indeed," said Robertson. "Then you take it," said Ward. The humourist passed away but a few hours afterwards.

VOICES CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS.

THE deep impression produced by the stirring addresses of "Father" Huntington wherever he has gone is not due only to his enthusiasm in his subject, his fine oratorical powers, his strong manly presence, and striking personality, but is due also, in great measure, to his own passionate realization of the brotherhood of man—not as a mere poetical figure, but as a solemn truth—and also of the untold misery of a large mass of suffering humanity—produced, in a great measure, by the unbrotherly conduct of many—even of those who "profess and call themselves Christians." And the enthusiasm awakened by the impassioned pleas on behalf of sunken humanity in his addresses and in that remarkable book of General Booth's, which has roused multitudes from selfish torpor, has still another aspect. It is an interesting illustration of the fact that despite all the pessimistic utterances, theological and otherwise, respecting the moral perversity of our race; despite the crass selfishness and stupid indifference that hang as dead-weights on its moral progress; that teacher will always evoke the warmest and strongest response who rouses its latent aspirations for better things, strikes the higher chords long dormant from disuse, and, in a word, appeals to the underlying moral consciousness that antagonizes and controls the natural selfish impulses which, at first sight, seem so much the stronger.

It is well that such appeals are beginning to come with timely force from men who represent our common Christianity, whose foundation-stone is love, and yet, which has been so often accused with a plausibility derived from the inconsistencies of its professed followers, of fostering an "other worldly" selfishness, of seeming to forget that the command, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself," was, by the highest authority, inseparably bound up with the other, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart." Had this been kept in the foreground as the integral human side of the Christian religion, had the Christian Church been steadily faithful to this part of her message to "all sorts and conditions of men," should we have, to-day, the spectacle of capital endeavouring everywhere to screw down the receipts of a labourer to the minimum for which men, otherwise starving, can be induced to work? Should we have the complementary spectacle of labour everywhere organizing to free from the reluctant grasp of capital a fairer share of the profits that labour toils to gain? Is there not everywhere an assumption that the employing class have a prescriptive right to live in spacious, and generally luxurious houses, to "wear purple and fine linen" and to "live sumptuously every day"; while the employed must consider themselves fortunate if they can "make both ends meet" in a bare subsistence; if their cramped abodes have a roof that will keep out the rain, walls that will afford some adequate protection from the winter's frost, and a flooring not charged with hidden germs of disease; an ideal by no means frequently realized, even in this Canada of ours? Is this a fair partnership between brothers, even if the elder brother has put the larger share into the business?

We are sometimes told in apology for the *status quo*, that even if wages in civilization do tend to a bare subsistence, that "bare subsistence would be accounted the height of luxury in a barbarous country." It is extremely questionable whether the close fetid air of a New York tenement house, or even of many houses nearer home, would be considered "the height of luxury," even by a Zulu or a Polynesian. But, even if it were so, are we, after centuries of boasted Christian civilization, to gauge the needs of freeborn Englishmen and their descendants, as regards the comforts and decencies of life, by the measure of the savage tastes and habits of "grey barbarians,"

With narrow foreheads, vacant of our glorious gains,
Like a beast with lower pleasures, like a beast with lower pains.

A recent writer on "Idealism and the Masses" well remarks that one of the ways in which a growing idealism is manifested by the masses must necessarily be the struggle for a larger life, as represented by better pay, a little leisure, a larger share of those comforts and pleasures that more and more differentiate the *civis* from the savage, the man from the brute. But, where is the "idealism" to come in if the masses are to be consoled for the pinching poverty, which is the real meaning of a "bare subsistence," by being told that, at least, it would be the "height of luxury in a barbarous country"? But, would it? What of those London "homes" that General Booth portrays, and that all large cities can match—"vile dens, fever-haunted and stenchful crowded courts, where the return of summer is dreaded, because that means the unloosing of vermin which make night unbearable; which, nevertheless, are regarded as havens of rest by their hard-working occupants? Would the savage, accustomed to unlimited range and the pure air of heaven, be likely to regard such "homes" as these as any great improvement on his own condition? But surely

The heirs of all the ages, foremost in the files of time,
Should neither be expected nor desired to be content with
such a bare subsistence as even a savage could scarcely tolerate!

And while such are the homes of hundreds of thousands, tens of thousands more have not where to lay their heads, unless it be on the hard benches of a park or the cold stones of the Thames embankment, with occasionally ("height of luxury") some pieces of paper laid over the stones to take the chill off. While such lives are lived side by

It is a question which we do not remember to have seen discussed, but which we have often thought might fairly admit of discussion, to what extent the element of conscience, that troublesome faculty which has so much to do sometimes with making cowards, enters as a source of what is counted weakness into the lives of, say, many unsuccessful business men or politicians. Or, taking the opposite point of view, is there not some reason to suppose that the absence, or what amounts to the same thing, the complete subjugation of conscientious scruples, often contributes much more largely to present success than we are accustomed to suppose? May it not be, in short, that many a man in public or in business life gets a reputation for superior ability when, were our analysis but a little keener, it might be found that his apparent superiority is due quite as much to a lack of scrupulosity as to a wealth of talent? This question is suggested just now by the will-o'-the-wisp race which Mr. Parnell has been leading some of his former colleagues during the last few weeks. We had, at the time of the Commission trial, occasion to note the singular lack of the sense of honour, particularly in regard to veracity, of which he stood convicted out of his own mouth. His admissions on the occasion in question, though they attracted little notice at the time in view of the failure of the main accusation, left us and no doubt many others with the feeling that here was a man whose conscience would never stand in the way of the accomplishment of his purposes. To say nothing of the peculiar treachery of the social crime which caused the attempt to depose him from the leadership, his whole course since that event seems to have been that of one who has been placed at a certain advantage over his opponents by the fact that he has not been hampered in word or action by considerations from which more honourable men could not free themselves if they would, and would not if they could. The latest news which makes it pretty clear that while he has been gaining weeks of time by insincere negotiations with Mr. O'Brien and others, he has been using that time diligently in strengthening his position in Ireland, sets this sinister source of his peculiar strength in a strong light. The Hartlepool election was, as a leader in a strong light. The Hartlepool election was, as the *Spectator* itself admits, a victory of Mr. Gladstone over Lord Salisbury, but it now seems likely that Mr. Parnell's bad faith may more than offset that or any other advantage that may be gained by the Gladstonians. It is, in fact, pretty certain that Mr. Parnell will succeed in maintaining his position as head of a powerful, albeit the most disreputable, section of the Irish party. On the other hand the

THE WEEK

REGRET.

WHAT time the dull, soft shadows creep
Across the bare fields, bleak and brown,
What time in silence fall asleep
Dim echoes from the distant town.

In gloom by darkling wave I dream,
Nor seek repose which shadows bring—
There is no rest while flows the stream,
No sleep the while the shallows sing—

Since every voice but breathes the name
Of him whose soul half-mine is flown
Unto the silence whence it came,
A little time to cheer my own.

For mine was sad till his sweet song
Made glad—too late, too late I knew
How great his tender love, and strong,
His noble heart, how fond and true.

But sometimes all the world is still,
Nor faintest murmur seems to stir—
Only the stars the vastness fill,
Each one a silent wanderer.

'Tis then his passioned song I hear
Amid the stillness, wondrous sweet
And soft, through darkness pulsing near
As summer winds across the wheat.

But lo! the stream again flows on,
The shallows sing through all the night,
And through the shadows grey, anon
Amid the dim and faltering light,

A deep voice trembles from the stars,
A deep voice thrills the stirless sky—
Imprisoned dark in ebon bars
This heavy heart repeats the cry :

"Too late, too late"—Ah! vain Regret,
Sad minor chord in Life's sweet song,
O, haunting voice, is there not yet
On earth, release from spirit's wrong?

I only know: I love him more
Than all the world—friends, life and home—
Ah, me! Thrice happy days of yore,
Forever lost in silence lone.

Picton.

HELEN M. MERRILL.

PARIS LETTER.

"WARMERIES" for man and beast are the order of the day. The latter are in a dire condition, whether in the savage or domestic state. In certain of the forest regions of France the wolves and wild boars are coming within the pale, and taking up position unpleasantly close to outlying hamlets. They are becoming less and less afraid of man. The mayor of a village in Dordogne narrowly escaped lately being overtaken by two wolves, for these animals now hunt in couples. He took off his fur-lined coat, rolled it up, threw it on the road, and while the enemy was examining the bundle he was able to reach a cottage in the nick of time. He was going to attend a meeting for the relief of distress, and had to apologize for inability to deliver his speech, as it was left in the pocket of his fur coat. Throw physic to the dogs, and eloquence to the wolves.

While the wolves are concentrating wherever there are flocks and herds, the bears in the Vosges and in the Pyrenees are prospecting unpleasantly around villages. The denizens of the Paris Zoo Gardens are succumbing like flies to the influence of the present glacial period. "Cold"-blooded animals, as alligators, tortoises and crocodiles, are dying off as rapidly as the warm-blooded ones—Indian buffaloes, hyenas, antelopes, zebras and monkeys. Foreign birds, especially those from Australia, New Caledonia and Indo-China, are frozen to death, as are local thrushes, linnets, or other feathered friends. Even where some of the victims were sheltered, by keeping stoves burning day and night, a higher temperature could not be obtained than 44 degrees Fah. The experiment was made to cover the hippopotamus with rugs, but the animal commenced eating them, apparently as a change of diet; it no longer is allowed to indulge in its daily tub. Unable to devise anything like a top coat for the elephant, its stable was lined with walls of straw; the animal was of the "rogue" kind, as, the moment the keepers had finished their work, Jumbo pulled down the walls and revelled in the debris.

In the provinces, and in the hitherto sunny south, the cold is more rigorous than in the north of France. At Valence, in the Drôme, the region of oranges, the thermometer marks six degrees Fah. below freezing point. In the harbours of the Mediterranean, Port-Vendres for example, the ships arrive covered with icicles, as if from navigating within the arctic circle. At Prades, in the Eastern Pyrenees, a locomotive could not be despatched because the water was frozen in the boiler tubes. At several railway stations where wine, etc., had been stored for transit the barrels burst, and when the wine was a frozen stream the poor carried away the ice. Cellars are

now provided with stoves to prevent wine, beer, potatoes, and other stored vegetables, from being frozen. The rural postmen have had in many places to relinquish the delivery of letters because pursued by wolves, wild boars and bears. The trains on the trunk railways are several hours late, but on many of the feeding lines traffic is altogether suspended. At Lyons, and in some of the minor theatres of Paris, the representations have had to be suspended, owing to inability to maintain the temperature of the building above freezing point. At Figéac, in the Lot, the bread has been frozen as dry as "the remainder biscuit after a voyage;" while in the Cerdagne, in the Pyrenees, the Assize Court has had to suspend proceedings because the notaries and bailiffs had exhausted the supply of stamped paper, and, the roads being impracticable, no supplies could be obtained.

Skating is as freely indulged in on the "blue rushing of the arrowy Rhône," as on the moribund Seine. The annual cattle fair at Alais has had to be relinquished, no farmers would send cattle, and the few who did so lost several animals. Algiers, in addition to frost and snow, is afflicted with earthquakes, and at the execution of the three men recently condemned to death by the Assizes, no curious persons quitted Algiers to witness the guillotine at work. Marseilles has cruelly suffered from the cold; among other calamities all the fish, in its breeding and fattening ponds, have been frozen to death. At Senegal sunstrokes are very general, but they do not appear to be more numerous than froststrokes here. Extremes meet; soldiers, instead of being three hours on sentinel duty at a time, are relieved every hour; among other watch orders always given to sentinels are, that they must not sit down, whistle or sing. These regulations seem wholly unnecessary, now at least.

In Paris the suffering of the indigent is quite on a par with the intense cold. At last, we have a true "People's Palace." The wing of the Exhibition building that was devoted in 1889 to the Liberal Arts, is now converted into a mammoth warmery, heated by blazing brazeros, provided with beds from the military stores, while the supply of soup, at one sou per bowl, is unstinted. The question is now, not so much to aid the needy as to positively save life. Be it remembered that for nine weeks thousands of able-bodied men, a large number of whom are bread winners, have been out of employment. Not only are their thin savings exhausted, but their thinner credit with the huxters. And the latter complain, that they are ruined; have been eaten out of house and home; that the wholesale merchants refuse supplies, and decline to renew bills. The pawn-broking establishments are at present not overworked, because the indigents appear to have long since parted with all penates that were receivable; and worse, the pledge tickets have been sold at a discount, to a frightful class of speculators; for the pawn offices never lend more than between the one-half and the two-thirds of the real value of the pledge. It is to redeem these essential pledges that a large portion of the sum of 2,000,000 frs. just voted by the Chamber, will be applied.

The absence of water is another among the many drawbacks people suffer from; this is more severely felt in the suburbs. The public fountains no longer play—it is no time for amusement; instead, they are wretched with stalactites. Were Baron Munchausen's trumpet to be blown, its sound would remain frozen till a thaw; and the hind-quarters of his steed would be replaced by a curve of ice. Melted snow water is anathematized, as it produces goitre, and the Koch lymph in this case is neither preventative nor a curative. The impartial observer would like to see columns of the newspapers opened for subscriptions, and recording more fat cheques than the smallest contributions. Financiers could lead the way, and then should follow the potential merchants and trading classes. All this might humanely precede the slow, cumbersome and eating-up net proceeds of charity representations at the public places of amusement. If the well-to-do in Paris would only fast for a day, and apply the economies to relieve the necessitous, the poor might go with a light heart to witness the skating on the Seine; the crossing of the river on horseback, and the bicycle, tricycle and quadricycle races on the river, between the Concorde and Jena bridges.

France claims to be one of the richest countries of the world; yet she has the most crushing of budgets. These are, however, inequalities in her natural or industrial wealth. Now the 86 departments are thus classified: 14 are poor; 28 well-to-do; 31 rich, and 12 very rich. Z.

side with thousands of other lives enervated and *ennuyées* by excess of luxury—superabundance of possessions—can it reasonably be denied that, in a most alarming proportion, the poor are growing poorer and the rich richer. When we know that the great cities of England contain a population greater than that of England and Wales six centuries ago, whose condition, according to Thorold Rogers, "is more destitute, whose homes are more squalid, whose means are more uncertain and whose prospects are more hopeless than those of the meanest serfs of the mediæval cities"; and that in France, in the fourteenth century, the poorest peasant was "well fed, well housed and warmly clad," how is it possible to hold to the fond delusion of universal progress? Not all the "nibblings of criticism" can do much to pare down General Booth's "Submerged Tenth," the forgotten Three Millions, "a population as large as that of Scotland," staring Christian England in the face with woe-begone, hungry eyes and hopeless despairing gaze! A thousand voices unite in testifying of the pinching hunger, the desperate struggle for work, the bitter lot of uncounted multitudes, not only in London and New York but even in our own Canadian cities. And nowhere do we hear of any fair Arcadia to balance by its light the shadows of the sombre picture. Everywhere the labourer has to resort to strikes to make his condition more tolerable. Everywhere in the long settled portions of the earth, and even in newly settled ones, men jostle and trample on each other in the struggle for "a bare subsistence."

Will anyone say that this is what ought to be the outcome of eighteen centuries of Christian teachings. Could it have been so had the Christian Church been faithful to her divine charter? Is it not time that easy-going, self-indulgent Christians should be confronted with the question, in tones as stern as those of an Amos or an Isaiah: "What are you going to do about it?"

It is not necessary to answer this question by hastily joining any man's following, however much we may respect and admire his honesty and courage. As to the Single Tax question, those of us who have not time thoroughly to study the problem have no right to deliver judgment, though we have the right to reject fallacy and assumption in the arguments on either side. It is a question for specialists to argue, and it is best for the uninitiated to remember the wise counsel of Gamaliel and reserve judgment. If it be, as its enthusiastic advocates declare, founded on eternal justice, in other words, if it be of God, it must go on, as other reforms have done, and cannot be brought to nought. If it be as visionary as its opponents declare, it will simply drop out, like other fair-seeming theories of social reformation. Time and "the logic of events"—the only irresistible reasoning—alone can decide "where doctors disagree." If it is to become the basis of an improved social life, it can only be through the conversion to its principles of the leaders of public opinion, and those who believe in it as a remedy for so much evil are but doing their duty in seeking to propagate their associations.

Neither is it the part of outsiders to decide as to the merits of General Booth's great plan for letting light and hope into "Darkest England." It is likely to be tested by experiment, and we may wait for the test, hoping that it may help many now sinking in the slough of despond to a firm standing ground. But at best it can only have a local and limited scope. One thing, however, in which all true friends of the working classes will agree with him and with Father Huntington is in the approval of the principle of co-operation and organization among workmen, as absolutely necessary to protect their rights in these days of "combinations" of capital. Yet there are many who look askance at the organization of the workman; at his "strike" for fair wages and a sufficient livelihood, who seem to feel no such disapproval of the combination of rich employers to fleece the public! It is the world's way with "the under dog in the fight."

And the Church has been too much like the world. In old times the Church was, to a great extent, the friend and protector of the poor. But the Churches of the rich have become too much Churches for the rich, and the old stern voice of rebuke of the oppressor has become faint and intermittent. The "Church's message to men of wealth" has been but seldom given, as F. W. Robertson nobly indicated. She has been ready enough to bid the servant "be content with his wages"; by no means so ready to insist that masters should "do that which is just and equal." Her professed members flagrantly violate the latter command, almost unrebuked. It is well, then, that from the extreme wings of the Christian Church, as well as here and there all along the line, we should now hear voices enforcing in no doubtful tone that great principle of brotherhood which, faithfully carried out, would regenerate society, and which follows as the night the day, the first principle of the Fatherhood of God: "If one is your Father, all ye are brethren, and love is the fulfilling of the law." FIDELIS.

THE late President Garfield said: "The worst days of darkness through which I have ever passed have been greatly alleviated by throwing myself with all my energy into some work relating to others."

"As blind as a mole" must henceforth take its place in the waste-heap of shattered similes. A German naturalist has demonstrated that moles have eyes, and that they can see as well as other animals. Not even the traditional and shady ground-hog can be counted on as sacred and assured against the profanation of science, as things go in these ruthless days.

Nature calls attention to the progress made in the establishment of botanical stations in the West Indies. Twelve years ago, the author states, there were only two botanical establishments in this part of the world, one at Jamaica, the other at Trinidad. Since that time stations have been established at British Guiana, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Barbadoes, and Antigua, while others are in course of organization at Dominica, Nevis, and St. Kitts. The curators of these stations are carefully trained men, mostly from Kew Gardens, near London, and who have a thorough knowledge of tropical plants. These stations are maintained as centres for the growth and distribution of economic plants, and for the making of experiments determining their value. The Assistant Director of the Kew Gardens, Mr. Morris, has lately left England for a three months' visit to the West India stations with a view to their further organization and extension.

PROMINENT CANADIANS—XXXIV.

SKETCHES of the following Prominent Canadians have already appeared in THE WEEK: Hon. Oliver Mowat, Sir Daniel Wilson, Principal Grant, Sir John A. Macdonald, K.C.B., Louis Honoré Fréchette, LL.D., Sir J. William Dawson, Sir Alexander Campbell, K.C.M.G., Hon. William Stevens Fielding, Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, Sir Samuel Leonard Tilley, C.B., K.C.M.G., Alexander McLachlan, Hon. J. A. Chapleau, Sir Richard Cartwright, K.C.M.G., Sandford Fleming, C.E., LL.D., C.M.G., Hon. H. G. Joly, Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau, Sir William Buell Richards, Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, M.P., Hon. Honoré Mercier, Q.C., Hon. William Macdougall, C.B., Rev. Principal MacVicar, D.D., LL.D., Prof. Charles G. D. Roberts, M.A., George Paxton Young, M.A., Hon. Auguste Real Angers, Principal Caven, D.D., William Ralph Meredith, LL.D., Q.C., M.P.P., Sir William Pearce Howland, C.B., K.C.M.G., Senator the Hon. John Macdonald, the Hon. John Hawkins Hagarty, D.C.L., Chief Justice of Ontario, Lieut.-Col. George T. Denison, Sir Antoine Aimé Dorion, His Grace Archbishop O'Brien, Charles Mair, F.R.S.C., and Chief Justice Allen.

SIR JOHN THOMPSON, K.C.M.G., Q.C., MINISTER OF JUSTICE FOR CANADA.

NOVA SCOTIA can claim some of the brightest stars now shining in the intellectual firmament of Canada. This little Province can proudly point to Sir William Dawson, Principal of McGill University, Montreal; and Rev. Dr. Grant, Principal of Queen's University, Kingston, twin stars of the first magnitude in the constellation of Canadian educationists. Sir William Dawson has won a high reputation as a gentleman of great scientific attainments. Rev. Dr. Grant is not only a leading educationist, but his public addresses on any subject always command the earnest attention of the whole Dominion, and whether the subject be theological or political, he invariably exhibits a broad mindedness and catholicity of tone characteristic of the best type of Nova Scotians.

In the realm of constitutional and parliamentary law, another Nova Scotian, Mr. John G. Bourinot, is one of the brightest lights. His reputation as an authority on questions touching the Canadian Constitution and parliamentary procedure extends beyond the Dominion, and he has on more than one occasion been selected to lecture before leading universities and historical societies in the United States on the Canadian Constitution.

And in the realm of light literature and Canadian journalism, Nova Scotia, the home of dear old Sam Slick and the gifted and insufficiently appreciated Prof. De Mille, has to-day a very clever representative in Mr. Martin J. Griffin, now Parliamentary Librarian at Ottawa, who left his native city of Halifax to become the editor of the *Toronto Mail*, in which capacity he wielded a remarkably vigorous pen for some years. As the contributor of the articles "At Dodsley's," which have appeared weekly in the *Montreal Gazette*, he has displayed all the qualities of a cultured, charming and clever critic, and it is to be regretted that his arduous duties as Parliamentary Librarian now prevent him from giving to the public more frequent demonstration of his genuine literary talent.

If we survey the field of Canadian politics and wish to ascertain the views of representative Canadians upon the political future of Canada, no more talented or more thoroughly informed political quartette can be selected from the ranks of the great parties that divide our Dominion than four Nova Scotian politicians, Sir Charles Tupper, his sturdy and life-long antagonist, Hon. A. G. Jones, M.P. for Halifax County, Sir John Thompson, the Minister of Justice of Canada, and Hon. J. W. Longley, Attorney-General of Nova Scotia.

Sir John Sparrow David Thompson, Q.C., P.C., K.C.M.G., etc., recently completed his forty-sixth year, having been born at Halifax on the 10th of November, 1844. His father, John Sparrow Thompson, was a native of Waterford, Ireland; and, when young, emigrated to Nova Scotia, where he filled several important public positions—having been Queen's printer and subsequently, for a number of years, Superintendent of the Money Order system of Nova Scotia. He was a frequent contributor to the editorial columns of the *Nova Scotian*, then edited by the late Hon. Joseph Howe, and enjoyed a high reputation as a graceful and scholarly writer and an accomplished gentleman. In the battle for Responsible Government, he was a most ardent follower of Hon. Mr. Howe, Nova Scotia's greatest son, whose name, abbreviated with affectionate familiarity to "Joe Howe," is cherished with a warm regard by the people of his native Province, who love to tell of that great tribune's sparkling wit, his wonderful eloquence, and the many gifts of his poetic mind, which rendered him irresistible as a leader of his countrymen, and the recollection of which is now among the dearest treasures of his memory.

The subject of the present sketch attended one of the common schools of his native city, and subsequently took a course at the Free Church Academy in Halifax, whose Principal was for many years a remarkably successful and popular teacher. Young Thompson on leaving this Academy selected law as a profession and became articled to Mr. Henry Pryor, D.C.L. At that time in Nova Scotia, as in many other places, a large part of the daily work which the junior articled student was expected to perform was of the dullest and most useless character, such as writing out copies of the voluminous writs and pleadings then in vogue, and generally performing the class work now done much more neatly and expeditiously by the office boy or girl with a Remington or Caligraph. It was a formidable undertaking even to pursue an ordinary set of the pleadings of thirty years ago; it was more formidable to write out a complete copy of a set, but the supererogatory was reached by the bewildered student in the

endeavour to understand the precise points of the super-subtle technicalities then expanded upon so many reams of foolscap and called "pleadings." Nowadays in order to throw light on some of the passages of Browning, clubs are formed for the special study of such writings, but the most ambiguous passage of Browning is lucidity itself compared with the intricate phraseology to be found in some of the writs in the last generation. No conception of the author of "Sordello" could approach in puzzling profundity and distracting depth a "Demurrer" or a defence under the old practice, but there was no law club or law school to help the law students of the last generation who groped along as best they could, aided perhaps by an occasional suggestion or word of explanation from the busy practitioner with whom they were articled. Young Thompson was an extremely industrious student and not only found time to study the principles of the law but also studied stenography, and became so proficient as a stenographer that after his admission to the Bar he filled the position of official reporter to the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia for several years. Stenography even in its highest plane is a profession too little appreciated by all those who have not attempted to master that difficult art. The general public have the impression that there is really very little difference between the stenographer who takes down from dictation a few letters every morning in a merchant's office and the stenographer who reports the two hours' speech of a politician, and soon afterwards hands to the printer his report absolutely faithful in every respect, except that where improvement in literary style is desirable such improvement is made according to the necessity of the case, all redundancies and errors disappearing in the process of transcription. There is as much difference between the ordinary amanuensis and such a reporter as there is between the ordinary sign-painter and a first-class scenic artist. An expert reporter is expected sometimes to summarize a ten-column speech so that it will not occupy more than the space of one column of the newspaper, and yet have no salient point omitted; and on the other hand it sometimes is his duty to compose and substitute for the awkward and ungrammatical dozen words of another speaker an elegant and highly embellished oration so that the particular speaker may not see himself as others saw him. In short stenography in its most difficult branches demands not only mere mechanical speed but endurance, patience, discretion, and a knowledge not only of oratory and its sister arts, rhetoric and logic, but also a knowledge of human nature and of the tastes of the public.

Young Mr. Thompson became a remarkably proficient stenographer and found that art a most useful ancillary to the profession of the law, and there cannot be any doubt that to the experience he then gained in reporting the public men of that day may be attributed in some degree the fluency, precision and gracefulness which characterize all his own public addresses. He was admitted to the Bar in 1865, being then twenty-one years of age. For the first few years of his career as a lawyer, his practice at the Bar was small, but he won his way to the front steadily, and at the age of thirty he was generally recognized as one of the leaders of the Nova Scotia Bar. He served as an Alderman of the city of Halifax for several years, and was also for some time Chairman of the Halifax Board of School Commissioners. For several years he was President of the Young Men's Literary Association, and also of the Charitable Irish Society of Halifax, and he was also one of the Senate of the University of Halifax while that University existed. During his active professional career he was connected with almost every important case then coming before the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia for decision. He was one of the counsel for the United States Government in 1874, before the Fishery Commission which sat at Halifax under the Washington Treaty, and there can be no doubt that the close study necessarily given to the whole fishery question at that time has been extremely serviceable to him on more than one occasion since, and notably when representing the Government of Canada at Washington in conjunction with Sir Charles Tupper in 1888.

In 1878 he entered the local political arena, and at the Provincial elections in October of that year, he was elected to represent the county of Antigonish in the Local Legislature, the Conservative party at these elections carrying almost every county in the Province. Hon. Mr. Thompson became a member of the new Government and Attorney-General of the Province, and while he remained in the Legislature was the *de facto* leader of his party, although the Government was generally known as the Holmes Government, the Premier and Provincial Secretary being Hon. S. H. Holmes of Pictou County. There were very few opportunities at that time in the Local Legislature for the display of great debating ability, there being practically no opposition in the House. Attorney-General Thompson discharged the duties of his office with conspicuous thoroughness and satisfaction, while at the same time carrying on his ordinary business at the head of the largest law firm in the Province.

The most important measure introduced into the Legislature during the *regime* of the Holmes Government was a scheme for the consolidation of the railways of the Province under the management of an English syndicate, and the construction by the syndicate of certain branch lines. While the opposition to this measure in the House of Assembly was extremely feeble, the scheme was attacked with remarkable force and ability in the editorial columns of the *Halifax Morning Chronicle*, the writer of the articles being Mr. W.

S. Fielding, a gentleman then but little known in the political world, but now the very successful Premier of the Local Government of Nova Scotia, and the most popular politician in Nova Scotia. The attack on the "Syndicate Scheme" by the *Chronicle* was powerful and persistent, Mr. Fielding aiming his blows with a precision that seemed most effective. Both houses of the Legislature, however, endorsed the scheme by large majorities, but on appeal to the people of the Province soon afterwards the Government, to the surprise of everybody, were defeated, the Liberals eventually having a small majority in the new House. The struggle at the polls had been a fierce and exciting one and the result for a time was so uncertain that the Conservative party carried on the affairs of the Province for several months after the elections, with Attorney-General Thompson as Premier, Hon. Mr. Holmes having retired from the political arena. On the formation of the Liberal Government in the same year, 1882, Hon. Mr. Thompson accepted a position on the Bench of the Supreme Court of the Province. He had been appointed a Q. C. in 1879, and was President of the Nova Scotia Bar Society for several years previous to his becoming a judge, and, at the time of his promotion to the Bench, was undoubtedly the ablest and most successful lawyer at the Nova Scotia Bar.

While on the Bench he displayed in a great degree the qualities of an ideal judge, prompt in his decisions, invariably courteous to every member of the Bar, and in all his duties exhibiting an eminently judicial mind.

As a judge he possessed a remarkable faculty for quickly discovering the crucial point in the most intricate cases argued before him, even when that point was hidden under a huge mass of other and apparently relevant questions. The exercise of this faculty naturally sometimes laid him open to the criticism of being perhaps too prompt in coming to a conclusion upon the question at issue, and too tenacious in holding to that conclusion. The writer of this sketch does not consider himself qualified to testify as to whether such a criticism in the case of Mr. Justice Thompson was ever justifiable, but as such a criticism when made is generally made by the counsel whose argument in the case has failed to convince the judge, it should be received with considerable caution and is generally groundless.

While a member of the judiciary, Hon. Mr. Thompson took an active part in the founding of the Law School at Halifax in connection with Dalhousie University, and on its establishment generously consented to become one of its lecturers. He also rendered valuable assistance in connection with the preparation of the Nova Scotia Judicature Act and Rules by which the system of pleadings and practice in the Province was greatly simplified upon the lines of similar acts in Ontario and England.

An excellent proof of the high reputation he enjoyed as a lawyer is to be found in the fact that his lectures at Dalhousie University were not only attended by the law students of the University, but also by a large number of the barristers of the city, who enrolled themselves as general students of the college for the purpose of hearing his lectures on "Evidence." These lectures on one of the most difficult of all legal subjects were remarkably able addresses, characterized by lucidity, precision and scholarly finish. In September, 1885, he resigned his position on the Bench and entered Dominion politics, becoming Minister of Justice in the Dominion Cabinet. After a sharp contest he was elected in Antigonish County, and his subsequent career in the House of Commons is familiar to every person in Canada. At the last general elections he was again elected for Antigonish by a majority of 40.

The *Halifax Herald* and other Conservative newspapers have occasionally referred to Sir John Thompson as the next leader of the Conservative party, and he has many qualifications for the position. He is a sound jurist and a polished and persuasive orator. His reply to the American case on the fishery question in 1888 is a singularly able state paper, in which he displays the astuteness and acumen of a first-rate lawyer. When the Riel agitation was at its height, as Minister of Justice he was called upon to defend the position of the Government, and his address on that question in the House of Commons was so clear, comprehensive and convincing that he established for himself throughout the whole Dominion a reputation as an able constitutional lawyer and a most eloquent and powerful debater. I have heard a Liberal friend of mine, who is not prone to acknowledge ability in opponents, concede in regard to that address with a reluctance that made his statement all the more forcible, that it was not only the greatest speech of that great debate, but one of the ablest speeches ever delivered in the Canadian Parliament, and this indeed was the outspoken opinion of Liberals and Conservatives in the House of Commons at the time. Sir John Thompson has a mind peculiarly judicial in cast, and his unimpassioned and judicial manner, while not best calculated to win the cheap cheers of a campaign crowd, make him a most effective debater when addressing a deliberative assembly. His great speech in the House of Commons on the Jesuit question was an eminently characteristic one, and will remain a monument of the oratorical and legal ability. The powerful argument of the brilliant lawyer became irresistible when delivered by one apparently showing "the cold neutrality of an impartial judge." He has a personal, professional and political record of unquestioned purity, and he is unmeasurably superior in ability to any of his colleagues in the Cabinet. In discharging the ordinary departmental duties of Minister of Justice, his business-like qualities have won the admiration of the lay mind, and all persons having official business with him recognize his

unsurpassed efficiency as a departmental officer. Possessed of an extremely bright and nimble intellect, he has also that unusual accompaniment of high talent, the capacity for unlimited "detail" and drudgery. Indeed his industry is so great that it is in itself a most valuable talent. There is nothing superficial about his qualities; all his attainments are solid. He is equally at home in drafting or in debating a parliamentary measure, and he can make an eloquent speech as easily as he can report one.

Gifted with such rare ability, why should not the most accomplished lieutenant of Sir John Macdonald succeed the veteran chieftain as leader of the Conservative party? There are two objections which might be urged against such a selection. In the first place, Sir John Thompson is a Roman Catholic, and on that ground his selection as leader would be unpopular with some people. But while his religious views would be regarded by a few fanatics in Ontario and some of the other provinces as a most serious objection to his elevation to the position of leader, it is not probable that the great mass of the Protestants of Canada would be influenced by it in the slightest degree. There are many indications that the Protestants of this Dominion, while insisting on being considered honest and sincere in their own religious opinions, are beginning to recognize the equal presumptive honesty and sincerity of those who differ from them and to manifest a broad and generous spirit towards their fellow-countrymen of the old Church who are true to the light God has given them. Moreover the leader of the Liberal party is himself an adherent of the same Church to which Sir John Thompson belongs, so that the prejudices of any fanatical element in Canada could be safely ignored.

That point disposed of, is there any reason at all why the selection of Sir John Thompson as leader of the Conservative party would not be a judicious one? There is just one other objection which has sometimes been urged with considerable plausibility when the name of Sir John Thompson has been mentioned as the coming leader. A political leader to be successful must possess the capacity for creating enthusiasm in the ranks of his own party and a warm personal allegiance among his own lieutenants. Does Sir John Thompson lack that essential quality? I cannot answer that question. He certainly does not possess that magnetic quality in the same degree as Sir John Macdonald; indeed what politician does? The old Premier is a perfect master of the art of managing men. He will listen with profound attention to the maiden effort of some young Conservative member of the House of Commons, and no matter how the young member may stammer in his speech and talk the flattest nonsense, the Premier is pretty certain to slip around at the conclusion of the speech, and, with a friendly slap on the back, congratulate his young friend on his "brilliant eloquence" and his "irresistible arguments." If a follower gets a little sore about some grievance Sir John A. Macdonald has a wonderful knack of soothing his soreness by means of a playful poke in the ribs, a funny story and an assurance not too definite that the grievance will receive every consideration from him. On the other hand, the Minister of Justice has a conspicuously cold and reserved manner. It is difficult to imagine him patting anyone on the back, and it is impossible to picture him poking anyone in the ribs! It has been stated that he hardly knows all the members on his own side of the House. This doubtless is due, not to any foolish affectation or pride, but to a reserved manner which is just as much a part of his natural disposition as his dignity or his courtesy. Those who know the Minister of Justice best claim that, although his manner seems cold, there could be no more kind-hearted, sincere, or steadfast friend. He is now in the prime of physical and intellectual vigour and has already shown that he possesses many of the qualities of an ideal statesman, and if, from constant association with his friend the Premier, he acquires some of that distinguished gentleman's capacity for keeping people in good humour, the Minister of Justice may eventually become a most successful political leader. While he has not the tremendous force of that political Titan, Sir Charles Tupper, or the massive and versatile intellectuality and comprehensiveness of the Hon. Edward Blake, yet he always brings to bear upon every portion of his political and departmental duties a steady sagacity and a consummate clearheadedness unequalled by any man in Canada. It is said, however, that he does not care for politics and if that statement be true he will never make a successful leader of his party. Emerson tells us that nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm, and it certainly is not necessary to be a profound philosopher to know that in the field of politics a leader, to be successful, must not only be enthusiastic himself but a cause of enthusiasm in others. According to recent statements in some Conservative newspapers it appears probable that Sir John Thompson may soon abandon politics and go to England as a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. His talents, his indomitable industry and his magnificent practical training combine to make him eminently qualified for that high position, and it is no exaggerated estimate of his legal attainments to say that in discharging the duties of such an exalted position he will show himself the peer of any of his judicial brethren. His retirement from politics in his 47th year, to occupy a seat in the ablest judicial tribunal in the world, would be an appropriate conclusion to a political career unique in the swiftness of its success, its symmetry and serenity.

In 1870, when a young barrister, Sir John married Miss Annie E. Affleck, of Halifax. He has a large family.

His eldest son, John, now eighteen years of age, recently underwent, with brilliant success, the matriculation examination of the London University, and it is said intends to follow the profession in which his distinguished father has won the highest honours.

Halifax, N.S.

IN THE NOR-EASTER.

NATURE'S a-shiver. Grim and stiff and gaunt
As frozen sentry stands each sleet-smote tree;
Chill cattle huddle under kindly lee;
The woods are silent—hushed each chirp and chant
In mournful union. Every pleasant haunt
Of scent and gambol, where in past-time glee
Sported and toiled the squirrel and the bee,
Is stark and empty as the home of want.
Under the ash-gray fences drifted snow
Gleams like teeth shown in anger. Shreds of blue
Patch the dun sky, and let the sun look through;
While from the clouds of mist that roll below,
Filling each pause the sonorous gusts between,
The tumbling waters lift their voice unseen.

Kingston.

ANNIE ROTHWELL.

THE RAMBLER.

AMONG curiosities of criticism—things I have a penchant for collecting—may come the following statement from an old number of the *Contemporary Review* which I unearthed the other day. Speaking of George Meredith, the unknown writer (simply unknown because the title-page of the number is gone and the page with author's name likewise) says: "He is the greatest wit this country has produced." . . . Mr. Stevenson calls "Rhoda Fleming" the strongest thing in literature since Shakespeare died. . . . "He is the greatest of all the wits, for he is greater than his wit." And so on.

Now, what is this but the opinion of one individual—whose opinion is not worth much! I think, myself, it amounts to rubbish. To proclaim Mr. Meredith as the greatest wit England has produced is not only to exclude Swift and Sheridan, but to exclude Shakespeare. If "Rhoda Fleming" be the strongest thing in literature since Shakespeare died, where must we place Carlyle, the Brownings, Byron at his best, George Eliot *et al*? Such remarks as these may do very well for Samoa but they are out of place in a prominent English periodical. However, they serve as specimens of floating criticism, most of which is, and always has been, hasty, partial and inaccurate. Many of us well may exclaim: save us from our friends!

I think that criticism is never wholly acquired, but that it has some of the elements of a gift. I have known well-read people, very well-informed people—hesitate when you ask them about a new writer or a recent book—hesitate—not from a real and Christian wish to say the truth—but from sheer incapacity to "place" the book or the author without *collusion* as the mind-readers say. Such have not the gift of critical insight, instantaneous flashing, intuitive. Certainly I do not mean to exalt unduly the glib reviewing style of talk—perfectly despicable and altogether intolerable, this latter. But without anticipating later and non-contemporaneous verdicts, people who read and think at all should and must have some opinions of their own. As to airing them—perhaps they are right in veiling them, at least from me, otherwise I might go home and write them into the "Rambler." The truth is that there are about as many genuine and trustworthy critics in a century as there are *prime donne*. Shall we allow four—five—three—how many? One of the best articles ever written on this subject was Professor Church's spirited defence of "Criticism as a Trade" in the *Nineteenth Century*—I think—about a year and a-half ago. A capital thing, by the way, from the *Saturday Review's* point of view—not from the author's—is an article in a recent issue entitled "Homer, *Fin de Siècle*." It is in the genuine good old sledge-hammer style, and will provoke laughter at once. In fact, it is far funnier than any comic production of the week ending January 24. But that would be no new thing.

Of course, I went to the "Gondoliers." I was excessively sorry afterwards, for you can do wonders with the piano score at home, and I knew all the best things in it already by heart. However, I weakly went. When the curtain rose on the Stage Peasantry (*vide Jerome*) and the inanities of the music trickled forth from the throats of those conscientious supers, mingled with the tones of an upright piano, it dawned upon me that the performance was so faulty that it became far more mirth-provoking than Gilbert or Sullivan ever intended it should be. The best song was left entirely out. The most melodious and charming duet was left out. A detestable comic (?) song was introduced, also a couple of Italian selections. Altogether it was a travesty and I hope I shall never have to endure anything like it again. What in the world is wrong with American humour when such a horror as that despicable ditty, "Birdie," is preferred to the graceful satire of our only librettist? People flock to such a performance and come away disgusted, talking of the decadence of Gilbert and Sullivan and as very few attain to the possession of a score, who is to blame them for not knowing better? As it stands without interpolation the "Gondoliers" contains

much that is delightful, although inferior in originality to its predecessors. The parodies of the old Italian school scattered through both acts are exceedingly clever. There is another parody of an old English glee. There are two bewitching duets, one of which was sung upon the opening night and left out the rest of the week, presumably because it was over the heads of the audience. So after all we are simply working in a circle. The melancholy truth is that Gilbert and Sullivan require a cultured audience.

Mr. George Grossmith, once the chief ornament of the Savoy, has been presented by the Queen with a watch set in diamonds, surrounded by a garter, and bearing the motto—"Honi soit qui mal y pense." Mr. Gilbert, it is well known, has bound himself to supply the Lyric Theatre with a comic opera, to be written in collaboration, with Mr. Alfred Cellier, next September. No doubt, a new Savoy piece will be laid on the stocks, and, in the meantime, Sir Arthur can console himself with the vision of the Royal British Opera House and his latest successes in Ivanhoe. The theatre is a very handsome one, finished chiefly in terra cotta and supplied with all modern appliances. I do hope it is fire-proof and that its exits are adequate. Most of us know what a well the present Savoy is, especially to those seated in the upper gallery. Miss Macintyre, the principal Rebecca, is an exceedingly pretty, natural and gifted young English girl, devotedly attached to her art and possessed of a fresh powerful soprano. Her successes at the great provincial festivals first brought her into notoriety and since then she has been identified with only the best performances in London.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—In your issue of January 30th, "The Rambler" in referring to my letter *re* Homœopathy and Koch's lymph, seems to have been misled by some of my remarks. I did not state that "the practice of inoculating by lymph for certain diseases is well known to Homœopathic practitioners," because it is not, and never has been resorted to by Homœopaths. In speaking of our remedy *tuberculinum*, I meant of course that it was administered by the mouth.

"The Rambler's" remarks *re* inoculation, etc., are very *apropos*, and if concurred in by the profession and public generally it would be better for "the poor suffering humanity" of the future.

D. OGDEN JONES, M. D.

Toronto, Feb. 3,

THE KAISER ON EDUCATION.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—In commenting upon the addresses delivered by the German Emperor at the meetings of the School Conference, you state that you "find it difficult to understand whether the Emperor has any very clear ideas in regard to education proper, and whether he is bent on reform mainly for the sake of the people's well-being, or simply for the sake of improving the material of the army, which he usually keeps so near his eye, that it shuts out the greater part of the great world beyond from his field of vision."

I have before me a German newspaper with the Kaiser's second speech. I submit to you a translation of a few extracts, which may, I hope, correct certain misapprehensions very generally current, as to the character and the aims of the young sovereign of Germany:—

"Gentlemen: We are in a period of transition, and about to enter upon a new century. My predecessors have always shown that, feeling the pulse of their time, they foresaw what was coming; and I think I have discerned whither the new mind and the waning century are tending, and I am resolved, as I was in taking up the problem of social reform, so also in moulding our young generation to trace the new paths in which we must needs walk; for unless we do this now, we shall have it forced upon us within twenty years." The Emperor then read to the meeting an extract from an article in the *Hannoverscher Courier* which, he said, "reflected his own thoughts." Here it is:—

"Whoever has realized the strong contrast between once and now must be penetrated with the conviction that our new State system is worth maintaining, and that it is a task worthy of a man's whole strength to take his share in its maintenance and its steady development, that the fullest liberty must be granted to the teacher in presenting the relations of the melancholy past must be freely conceded; but it must also be conceded that he alone is fit to be a teacher of our youth who stands truly, and from full conviction, on the ground of monarchy and the constitution. An adherent of radical Utopias can no more be used as an instructor than as a Government official. The teacher is, alike by his rights and his duties, an officer of the State. What he is further concerned with, a studious care for the formation of character and of independent thought and judgment, I shall not touch upon here. He who has arrived at a closer understanding as to the state and the conditions of its growth and progress will perceive the absurdity, the impracticableness and the danger of the theories of social democracy, and will recognize the duty of taking his stand manfully in the ranks of the

defenders of our State against assaults from within as well as from without. It is the highest task of Government to retain the firm sympathy of all the moderate portion of the community by enlightened concessions in the interests of liberty and the public weal."

"Hitherto," his majesty goes on to say, "our road has been from Thermopylae by way of Cannae to Rossbach and Vionville. I shall lead our youth from Sedan and Gravelotte by way of Lenthen and Rossbach back to Mantinea and Thermopylae."

I think, sir, that these extracts may suffice to show that the Emperor is quite capable of seeing other things than his matchless army, and that, if "education proper" means education that makes good citizens, he has made up his mind very clearly as to what constitutes it. The words he quotes from the Hanover *Courier* may not altogether recommend themselves to people living in countries under conditions different from those of Germany, especially to people of revolutionary proclivities, who like to make nuisances and dangers of themselves. But to all who believe, as educated Germans do, that evolution, not revolution, is what must be looked to for sound political development, the writer's opinions will appear well worth pondering. I may remark, in passing, that there are two great English productions better known and understood in Germany than in England. Shakespeare was an Englishman, but I venture to say that he is read at least as much in Germany as in England, while the best analyses of his works are German. The great father of modern evolution was an Englishman, but his teachings have been much more widely assimilated and applied in Germany than in England. True, the principle of evolution has, happily, entered largely into English politics, and did so in days long before Darwin. But it has been but dimly apprehended as a scientific political guide. To the Germans of to-day it stands out clearly as the hope of the future, and it is apprehended as such by them and their sovereign alike.

You remark, in closing your observations, upon the "puzzle that a people so intelligent and so well educated should bow their necks meekly, generation after generation, to a system of government with so much of monarchical and military despotism in it." May they not do so because they are intelligent and well educated? Is it not just possible that a look abroad at "free" countries may give them pause? They have seen the English House of Commons, once the most splendid deliberative body in the world, paralyzed for years and robbed of its former high character by the machinations of a gang of men whose conduct fully justifies Dr. Johnson's famous definition of patriotism. Looking across the Atlantic, they see a great republic, strong and wealthy indeed, but with politics so vilely corrupt that self-respecting citizens keep aloof from public affairs, and with a daily record of crime which indicates a fearfully widespread moral and ethical obliquity. May not the intelligence of the Germans lead them to choose rather to have the direction of their State in the hands of a gentleman, trained in Government, learned in all the wisdom of Germany, and having his country, his whole country and nothing but his country in his heart, than in the hands of first one faction and then of another, each fighting for its own hand, and intent mainly on keeping itself in power, if not on something viler still? "The kings are going," said Heine, "and with them the poets." That the poets are not the only good things that go with the kings is abundantly proved by the history of democratic republics ancient and modern, which goes far to show that it was not without reason that the apostle joined together the injunctions to "fear God" and to "honour the king." Universal suffrage coupled with party government must, humanity being what it is so far, bring forth the same results everywhere, if left to itself. The Germans have both universal suffrage and parties; but behind these things they have a gentleman, with power in his hands to save his country from the worst effects of party, and placed, by position and character alike, above all unworthy considerations. Their feelings towards their Kaiser, so far from being unworthy of an enlightened people, are noble and ennobling; and they may well be thankful for the presence of a monarch to save them from what they see in countries from which the kings have gone, or in which they have been reduced to shadows.

THOMAS CROSS.

Ottawa, Jan. 30, 1891.

THE TRUTH ABOUT IRELAND—IV.

CELTIC IRISH CHARACTERISTICS.

It is impossible to thoroughly understand the Irish question without taking into consideration the great difference in character between the Celtic and Anglo-Saxon races. In dealing with this part of the subject I refer only to the Celtic Irish—meaning by such, the great majority who are either Celts, or in whom Celtic blood predominates. I exclude the Protestants as a mass. Practically there are two nations in Ireland—Catholics and Protestants—given with widely different characteristics. If any one attempted to describe the Protestants it would be necessary to note the difference between the great body of those in Ulster and the others who are scattered throughout the other three provinces. Owing to intermarriages and the intermixture of the races during so many generations, a large proportion of the Protestants have partially acquired

some of the habits and ways of thinking of their Catholic compatriots.

The science of Phrenology will help us to understand this question. It is greatly superior in exactness in definitions, as also in dealing with realities, to the old-fashioned schools of metaphysics. It enables us to give a "local habitation and a name" to what old-time philosophers attempted to describe by vague generalities—often contradictory—which merely puzzled the truth-seeker and led to nothing definite.

It must be understood that the following phrenological description does not pretend to be full or exhaustive. A day will arrive when the phrenological development of races will become a branch of national statistics. Such statistics will assist statesmen in understanding and settling many obscure problems. Until then we must rely upon large averages, and be content with a more modest degree of exactness. In the absence of extensive observations—in order to arrive at approximate truth—we often have to reason from effects to causes. Thus take the case of A and B. If the first is known to be a very careful and truthful speaker, and B is exactly the reverse, then—all other conditions being alike—a phrenologist knows, without seeing either of them, that the organs of conscientiousness and cautiousness are larger in A than in B. Again, if I is known to be fickle and changeable and the reverse of persistent and persevering, and S is known to be exactly the opposite, then, under similar conditions, the phrenologist is aware that the organs of continuity and firmness are larger in S than in I, although he has not seen either of them.

The following phrenological outline—never before attempted in print—will help to explain much that puzzles people respecting Irish affairs, and will assist the intelligent reader in understanding the difficult problem which British statesmen have got to solve, namely—to raise the Celtic Irish to the British level of law-abidingness and industry. This difficulty has been greatly increased by the conduct of that British politician who has raised falsehood into one of the fine arts, who has justified lawlessness, and whose actions have enabled others to sympathize with and understand the reasons for the stern denunciation by the old Hebrew historians of that ruler "who made Israel to sin."

OUTLINE OF PHRENOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT.

Compared with the English and Lowland Scotch the following organs on the average are larger in the Celtic Irish, namely, Combativeness, Destructiveness, Love of Approbation, Hope, Veneration, Spirituality, Imitation, Individuality (the observing faculty), Language, Wit and Agreeableness. The organ of Adhesiveness, or Friendship, is also larger than in the English.

Similarly compared, they have smaller Secretiveness, Continuity, Cautiousness, Self Esteem, Firmness, Conscientiousness, Constructiveness, Time, Order, and the Reflectives.

This development inclines the Celtic Irish—relatively to the Anglo-Saxons—to be more attached to leaders and to friends, to side with them in preference to siding with justice. Thus the leader of the Clan-na-Gael was tried by a jury of Irishmen for the murder in the presence of witnesses of an American schoolmaster at Chicago. Yet he was acquitted. The South of Ireland was that day pictured in an American court of justice. They are more apt to quarrel, quicker to take offence, somewhat heedless of consequences, with less self-reliance, perseverance, firmness and moral courage, although physically brave. There are in fact few races more courageous. It also inclines them to be relatively somewhat unstable and fickle, rash in speech and in jumping at conclusions, sanguine as to what to-morrow will bring forth, inclined to procrastinate and to build "castles in the air." They are also easy of belief; apt to believe, without pausing to think what they are told by those whom they look up to as their leaders. There is also comparatively a lack of industry and of planning, and what the Americans call executive ability. They are better able to act a part than more plodding races. The manner that sympathizing English tourists—believing others to be as truthful as themselves—have been fooled, would be laughable if it were not so sad. The Celtic Irish are also wanting in method, order and finish. They are inclined to lawlessness, unless under a masterful rule. W. O'Brien, M.P., when examined before the Parnell Commission, stated on oath, "illegality is bred in us Irishmen." They are also quicker in observation and more ready in reply than the British; very fluent in speech when compared with the English and Scotch. Rather slow to understand the consequences likely to result from any given course of action, and weaker in reasoning power, but more witty than the Anglo-Saxons. Taken altogether they are warmer-hearted and more excitable, and act more from impulse and less from principle, than the English and Scotch.

Compared with the Teutonic races in Great Britain, Canada and America, the Celtic Irish have a weaker sense of truthfulness and justice, less moral courage, self-reliance and industry; but they are warmer-hearted and more venerative. Not valuing real liberty in the Anglo-Saxon sense, they are better adapted to be ruled by the masterful hand. They can when they please make themselves more agreeable than the people of the Teutonic races, and often say things to please others, which, without being meant to deceive, often practically mislead people. Froude the historian enlarges upon their capacity for winning over those of other races.

In the London *Times* of Sept. 6, there is a very special letter from "An Irish Catholic." He says: "To those who really know the Irish of to-day, at home and abroad, the truth has struck home. Above all races they are supreme in the art of being all things to all men. The Irishman can deceive himself far better than any other man can deceive his neighbour. There are thousands devoted to boycotting and the Plan of Campaign who are still under the impression that these things are not in discord with their duty to Rome." In plain English, that they persuade themselves that such actions are not opposed to any of the Ten Commandments.

At the time of the Cronin trial at Chicago, the native Americans were determined to have justice done. With that object they excluded the Irish from the juries. Although they form a large proportion of the population of Chicago, not a single Irishman was allowed to sit on either of the three juries. This practically showed the belief of the native Americans as to the unfitness of the Irish Celts to act as judges in criminal cases in times of excitement.

Michael Davitt is claimed by the Nationalists to approach nearer to British law-abidingness than the majority of their other leaders. Yet he, blackthorn in hand, led his followers against the Parnellites during the North Kilkenny election. He actually stated to a friendly London reporter that those lawless faction fights, which so astonished the American reporters, were "full of fun and Irish good humour." One reporter wrote that he had been present at a thousand political gatherings in the United States, but had never seen anything like it before.

INABILITY TO UNDERSTAND PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES.

During the recent quarrel between Parnell and the McCarthyites, the latter, with their eyes open, heedlessly walked into the trap which Parnell with his Anglo-Saxon temperament had laid for them. He positively induced them to practically ask Gladstone—like Dogberry—to "write himself down an ass." Parnell well knew that Gladstone neither could nor would reply in the affirmative to the demands made upon him. Had he acceded to their demands he would have lost a third of his followers. They had not sufficient Anglo-Saxon common-sense to understand that it was absurd to ask Gladstone to make of himself a cock-shy for his political opponents to fire at. Practically they played into the hands of the Unionists. They left him no alternative but to climb the fence, where he is likely to remain, for there are serious drawbacks to his publicly getting down on either side. They ought to have known that if he had been left unfettered and had returned to office, he would have acted again as he did in the case of the Land Act in 1881. On that occasion he positively persuaded his followers, some of whom were only lukewarm in the cause, that the Irish landlords would be better off by their rents being reduced and fixed by Government officials than they were when in the full enjoyment of their property. Had he failed to convince them, the Land Act would not have been passed in its present shape. So, in the case of a fresh Home Rule Bill, he would have endeavoured to persuade his supporters that the Nationalists would accept it as a final settlement. Had he failed to convince them, many of his own party would have refused their support. This thoughtless action of the McCarthyites has entirely destroyed the possibility of Gladstone circumventing his numerous half-hearted Home Rule supporters. All now know that Gladstone's proposed Bill will not be accepted as a final settlement. Thus they have needlessly given the lie to what he has always assured his party to be a fact.

One of the errors of British statesmen has been to disregard the fact that the majority of the Irish are ill-adapted for liberty. The forms of British justice have often in Ireland been used to defeat justice. For years together it has in many counties been impossible to get witnesses or juries to do their duty in agrarian cases. This has largely been owing to the want of moral courage to withstand "the village ruffians," recently so vigorously denounced by the Roman Catholic bishop of Cork. If Irish witnesses and juries had always done their duty, as in England or Scotland, there would have been no so-called Coercion Acts. Practically these Acts have been passed to put down coercion.

It is a curious fact, showing the singular contrariness of the Irish Celts, that the Nationalists grossly abuse, slander, and, when possible, boycott and maltreat those of their countrymen of whom every Irishman should be proud. The Irish police are mainly Catholic Celts. Their loyalty, trustworthiness, and general good conduct are most admirable, and reflect great credit upon their nationality. Exposed to all sorts of temptations, threats, abuse and ill-treatment, they are yet faithful to their duty. This conclusively shows the great capabilities of the Irish race when firmly ruled. But lax rule is most injurious to them in every way. If the writer was an Irishman he would be very proud of the Irish Constabulary. Yet the Nationalists cannot find words strong enough to vilify them. But at the North Kilkenny election they were glad of their protection in the hour of danger. Had they been absent some of the Nationalist leaders would certainly have lost their lives.

FAIRPLAY RADICAL.

PLEASURES are not of such a solid nature that we can dive into them; we must merely skim over them. They resemble those boggy lands over which we must run lightly, without stopping to put down our feet.—*La Fontaine*.

CLEOPATRA.

My fillet, Charmian, now, and now that ring
That Antony gave me yesternight to sing
The Bacchic chorus,—child, the serpent one
With crystal gem that dazzles like a sun.

And now my zone; the black and gold will do,
How soft my hair to-day is, glossy too,
A thought too pale, methinks, this cheek now shows
To match my eye, that still as darkly glows

As yesternight. O Charmian, such a night!
In the clear shine the columns stood out white;
In moonlit silence all the city lay;
We left the garden only when the day

With gold and crimson fir'd the Eastern height,
As pausing at an altar ere his flight
Into the zenith. (Yes a thought too pale:
When Antony comes their colour will not fail.)

I like this Antony. Dost not love his voice
Full-toned; so musical and clear, with choice
Of stern or tender? and his laugh so free,
So mirthful, banishes solemnity.

He hath love-lore too, Charmian; listen, sweet,
Last night in the garden, lying at my feet—
Be not so poutish, Charmian—list, I say!
Come nearer, child, nor move so far away.

That's my own sweeting: lying at my feet,
As Cæsar used, and as was very meet,
When, jesting, I essayed his faith to prove,
He swore high Rome he'd barter for my love;

The stars from Heaven he'd snatch to light my brow;
The glimmering night's rich veil should deck me now,
Did I but wish it; that by day the sun
Should draw my chariot; and, his hot race run,

The pallid moon her pearly car should place
At my disposal, while through azure space,
With Antony I sail'd o'er slumb'ring towns,
O'er sleeping seas and zephyr-haunted downs:

My beauty's sight would rouse the love-Queen's ire;
Wells were my eyes of ever-living fire;
Like night my hair in the bright day did show;
The ruddy dawn burned in my cheek's pure glow.

Pure nonsense, Charmian; yet so lightly sped,
With laughing grace, half truth, half fancy-fed:
The best part truth, since, were but his the power,
Eternal bliss, make sure, were in my dower.

(Would he might stay: my passion for him grows;
Forever stay: each friend so quickly goes;
E'en Cæsar went, forgetting all our joy;
And Anton's love cold Time may soon destroy.)

And now, what next? ah yes, you purple flower.
My pretty Charmian, art too in Love's power?
But hark,—what noise without among the men?
What Antony! hast come so soon again!

J. H. BROWN.

MANNERS.

IN presuming to write on a subject one has first to consider whether or not it is of any special importance. With regard to the question at present under consideration there is, perhaps, some little diversity of opinion. There are a certain few who contend that manner is a mere outward glaze—a veneer which may or may not cover a sound foundation. This contention is no doubt frequently true of etiquette which in reality bears no relation to good manners, in fact is entirely opposite in principle, the essence of good manners being consideration for others with an absence of consideration for self, while etiquette is merely a code of laws to be observed mechanically, not necessarily involving consideration or principle of any description. The highly gilded youth, well versed in all the intricacies of etiquette, may still be profoundly ignorant of the first principles of good manners; courtesy being commonly his least distinguishing characteristic, if his neighbour's foot obstructs him he will stamp on it because he knows that in self-defence he is bound to take it away.

On the other hand equally wise people take the opposite view. Emerson says, "A beautiful behaviour is better than a beautiful form," a statement many people will heartily endorse from their own experience of "beautiful forms" that have been entirely marred by unloveliness of behaviour. Everyone is not born in the position of a gentleman, but it is possible for all to attain the principles and manners of one; the King of England cannot be more and it would, perhaps, not be difficult to mention a few monarchs of that and other realms who have been considerably less. Sydney Smith believes "manners are the shadows of virtues," which brings us back to the starting point: if they are not the "shadows of virtues" they are worth nothing at all, and must be regarded as a species of mental "Will o' the Wisp," entirely fictitious and misleading.

Whatever may be the opinion respecting the reality of old time manners, it will hardly be denied that those of the present—these late evening hours of the nineteenth century—are in strong contrast to them. Far be it from us to say that we can sympathize with the sailor who, on being asked to write an account of the manners and customs of a certain savage race, recorded his disapproval of their style of conducting life in the immortal words: "manners, none! customs, nasty!" yet one may perhaps be forgiven for thinking at times that the so-called manners of the day are most appropriately represented by "X," the unknown quantity.

The cause of this is not so very far to seek. It is to be feared that the spirit of independence—the prevailing spirit of the times—has much to answer for, as at its door may also be laid the lack of reverence for anything in heaven or earth which is, unhappily, too often the characteristic of the rising generation. You are entirely independent, you "owe no man anything," not even love to the brethren—you rely wholly upon yourself, are more than the equal of every living creature of your acquaintance, consequently it is not necessary for you to respect yourself in respecting others. To go a step further, it may not be out of order to enquire, though at the risk of popular disapproval, even amid howls from the "third sex," whether the attempted destruction of all barriers by the fanatic upholders of supposed "Woman's Rights" (falsely so-called) may not be the cause of much that is unlovely and unloveable in the manners and customs of to-day? K-I-N.

Toronto, January 16, 1891.

OWEN SOUND: AS IT WAS AND IS.

AMONG the many delightful summer resorts for which Ontario is famous there is perhaps not one in all its wide extent which surpasses in beauty or interest the town of Owen Sound, with its charming bay, bold rocky cliffs, and the romantic scenery of its environs. Huge walls of paleozoic rock tower over the town on its eastern and western sides, the beautiful bay from which it takes its name stretches away to the north till lost in the Georgian Bay. Its shores are indented with little nooks and harbours, most inviting for picnic or camping parties.

Here in early days was the paradise of pleasure seekers. Dense forests covered the whole peninsula from Owen Sound on the south to Cabot's Head on the north, a distance of sixty or seventy miles. Bears, deer, and game of all kinds were abundant, and splendid shooting could be had unhampered by game laws from one end of the peninsula to the other, while he who was piscatorially inclined could find amusement and profit in the brooks, rivers and bays. The wild pigeons were here in such vast numbers during the summer months, that it is no figure of speech to say that in their flights they darkened the air. Will not some learned ornithologist tell us what has become of them? or are they, like all other undomesticated animals, succumbing to the inevitable law of extinction before the march of civilization?

Following the western shore of the bay for twelve or fifteen miles and then turning south, one enters Colpoys Bay, another magnificent sheet of water, its entrance guarded by three lovely islands. The scenery here is wild and romantic in the extreme. The western shore, bold and rocky, rises abruptly from the waters edge, and is still covered by the primeval forest without so much as a fisherman's cabin from Cape Crocker to within a mile or two of Wiarton. The eastern shore, dotted with snug farms, slopes gradually down from the table-land above. The deep blue water and the scenery of Colpoys Bay remind one very much of the St. Lawrence between Montreal and Quebec, and if occasionally there was an immense church or nunnery, surrounded by a cluster of small white houses with steep rust-coloured roofs, the similarity would be complete. A splendid yacht racing association could be formed on the bays, taking in the towns of Collingwood, Meaford, Owen Sound and Wiarton, and strange it is that these towns, possessing numbers of fast sailing craft, have not formed one ere this.

Returning to Owen Sound, at the head of the bay in a pleasant little valley, through which the Potomatomie and Sydenham Rivers flow, lies the town busy with trade and commerce, having a splendid system of waterworks and pure water. Its sewage system is defective; having sufficient fall, the sewage should have been carried north to the bay and thus prevented the pollution of the river and harbour. Going south from the town, a drive of a few miles along a winding road, through woods and hills, brings the tourist to one of the most beautiful waterfalls in picturesque Canada. Here the Sydenham River, flowing over a smooth table rock, leaps sixty feet into the gorge below.

From the old mill on the top of the rock, the view stretches away over the town in the blue hazy distance, till one can almost see the lighthouse on Griffiths Island. Following another road from the mill round the bend, in a northerly direction, till, suddenly emerging from the wood flanking the eastern cliff, a magnificent scene bursts upon the view. Far beneath lie the town and valley, the bay and the site of the old Ojibway village of Newash; perpendicular walls of rock stand frowning at each other, high over the tops of the trees in the valley as if mother earth, after one of her molten convulsions in the pre-Adamite ages, when our ancestors were "Protoplasmal primordial, atomic globules," had cracked her shrinking sides in the process of cooling. Nothing could exceed the

beauty of this scene on a bright morning last August when the writer re-visited Owen Sound after an absence of twenty-seven years. Memories of boyhood's happy days, old associations and scenes of long ago may have intensified the feeling of rapture when viewing this glorious landscape.

The town has many handsome private residences and some fine public buildings, notably St. George's Church, a beautiful structure of grey stone, gothic architecture, and a fit symbol of the faith it teaches, which will last forever. The present revered rector, who has recently completed the forty-first year of his incumbency, is an energetic promoter of every work conducive to the welfare of the town. Surely this is a record of which any clergyman might be proud. The Town Hall stands on the old market place where Captain Breeze, a retired officer of Her Majesty's army, opened the first school in 1848, and trained his little battalion *vi et armis*, as some of the old boys no doubt still remember.

In the summer of 1850 the quiet village was thrown into a state of intense excitement by the arrival in the bay of the gun-boat *Mohawk*, with the Governor-General, Lord Elgin, and his brother, Col. Grey. A meeting of the citizens was immediately called to devise ways and means for entertaining the distinguished visitors. Mr. Richard Carney having the best log house in the village, they were accordingly invited there. The committee was anxious to show the visitors as much of the country as was accessible. For this purpose two of the three horses possessed in the village were brushed up, or rather down, their tails banded and their harness gaily ornamented with miniature flags and ribbands. A light waggon was run down to the river and washed, Mr. Kilbourne, father of the present esteemed barrister, acting as charioteer, mounted the box, and with the trifling exception of being "knocked out" two or three times by the stumps on Poulette Street, all passed off merrily. Next day being Sunday, the vice-regal party attended divine service at St. George's Church in the morning and in the afternoon at the little church in the Indian village across the bay.

A trip from Toronto to Owen Sound was as seriously thought of then as one to Liverpool is now, and occupied the greater part of a week, the route being by Holland Landing to Penetanguishene. Here the weary traveller embarked on the steamer *Gore*, commanded by the redoubtable Captain Peck, who landed the pilgrims on Boyd's wharf, from whence they were taken up the river in large flat-bottomed boats called batteaux. The sailing vessels belonging to the port at that time were the old schooners *Sydenham*, *Fanny*, and *Eliza White*, the latter a swift vessel commanded by Captain Wm. Miller. A little schooner, the *Saucy Jack*, built here by George Brown, late in the autumn of 1851, went down in Lake Huron one stormy night with her owner Macdonald, a handsome young Scotchman, and all her crew. The body of Macdonald was, strangely, found. In the following spring a man walking along the shore between Sauguen and Kincardine saw a hand protruding from a hillock of ice, as if mutely appealing to be released from its icy prison. The body proved to be Macdonald's, his watch showing the time of night the ill-starred vessel went down.

As far back as '49 or '50, Owen Sound had a weekly newspaper, the *Comet*, which, like some of its heavenly archetypes, had a nebulous existence and a habit of becoming invisible for weeks and months at a time. This was followed by the *Times* and long and fierce were the wars waged between these rival luminaries. Editorial thunderbolts were hurled at each other which would have done credit to Geo. D. Prentice or Parson Brownlow. As an instance: "A writer on the editorial staff of the *Comet*, somewhat conspicuous by a crocodilian countenance, was about taking his departure for some part of the country where there was a railway. The *Times* would advise our illustrious contemporary to keep off the track lest the engine driver should mistake his mouth for a railway depot."

Up to the time of '49 the people of Owen Sound took sick and died without the help of a physician, but that year one of death's greatest antagonists, Dr. Henry Manley, appeared upon the stage. Like the elder Mr. Weller, he was a man of wrath, whose vigorous use of language more copious than classical and not usually found in Sunday school books, fairly appalled the peaceful villagers. A mighty hunter was this renowned Galen, and early and late, over hills and through forests could be heard the merry sound of horn and hounds, engaged in vigorous chase. He had a contract with the Government to attend a tribe of Indians over the bay professionally, but, when his services were needed, before his arrival at poor Lo's wigwam, the sick Indian either promptly died of fright or made his escape to the woods. He was, however, a right good fellow, and long may it be ere his memory fades away.

The Indians of Newash, with their Semitic names, for example, Tebah-quin, Wahbahtick, Medwayosh, Coutyosh and Kick-adoose, have long since followed the setting sun and gone west, or north-west. Their ancient pleasure resort, has also departed. Its pretty Indian name is changed to Brooke. Unightly mud roads disfigure its grassy slopes, and all that is now left of the old village is the quaint little church standing, like the last of the Mohicans, solitary and forsaken on the hill. Born orators were those Six Nation Indians, men who could speak fluently upon any subject affecting themselves or their

tribes. Artemus Ward laid down the axiom that "Injuns is pizon wherever found." Be that as it may, the race is fast passing away, and the time is within measurable distance when the North American Indian will be numbered with the things that were.

The traveller or prodigal revisiting Owen Sound after an absence of a quarter of a century or more should view the town from the top of one of its rocky cliffs, and, like Rip Van Winkle, compare the Owen Sound of his youth with the Owen Sound of to-day, with its railway and shipyards, its lines of iron steamships and all the concomitants of a prosperous city, and he will surely come to the conclusion that this is indeed the long cherished Eldorado of his hopes.

T. V. HUTCHINSON.

AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY.*

"WHAT then is the special good that Social Philosophy yields us? It is, I think, chiefly this: It teaches us to place the various ends of life in their right relation to each other. It teaches us to regard the pursuit of wealth, the pursuit of virtue, the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom, the pursuit of culture, the pursuit of political organization, the pursuit of æsthetic satisfaction, the pursuit of religious truth, not as a number of separate ambitions which one may choose and another may neglect, but as all essentially parts of a single aim which no one can renounce without in some degree ceasing to be human" (p. 375).

"The only merit which I can hope this work may be found to possess is that it has brought into close relation to each other a number of questions which are usually, at least in England, treated in a more disconnected way" (Preface, p. viii.).

It would seem from the first of these extracts that the task of social philosophy is one of startling magnitude. But Mr. Mackenzie does not mean that the enquirer into social relations must be first a philosopher, secondarily an artist, and thirdly an economist, educationist and statesman, but only that he should make clear the fundamental principle of society, and exhibit the connection of this principle with social phenomena. This Mr. Mackenzie does with such admirable clearness and suggestiveness that we are constrained to amend the too modest estimate which he gives us of his own work in the extract we have taken from the preface. Not only does he bring into close relation the various problems of society, but presents each separate problem with peculiar sympathy and insight. He is himself an embodiment of the truth that the social philosopher attains to his position not through a lack of interest in special questions, but through a depth of interest that refuses to be satisfied with regarding them as merely special. Moreover, he frequently extends his consideration beyond the writers who may be classed as economists or educationists. His judgment concerning the precise influence upon social problems of the works of such men as Schiller, Goethe, Carlyle, Ruskin and Tolstoi is penetrating and just. And not only does he quote freely and appositely, but he has himself the faculty of giving his thoughts an unusually pointed and telling expression. If the volume leaves anything at all to be desired, it is that the author should extend his discussion of the social ideals and the social sciences, economy, politics and education, even though he should curtail the preliminary remarks in Chapter I, and the criticism of hedonism in Chapter IV. He might also revise his account of self-consciousness on pp. 171-2, and of the nature of man on p. 251, with a view to putting off what seems to be a remnant of the old man of subjectivity and individualism. That it is on the harshest construction a mere remnant is manifest from the tenor of the entire work.

It is impossible to give more than an outline of Mr. Mackenzie's conception of society. His view is in brief that society is in a sense an organism. The objects of nature as a whole may be conceived to exist only as elements of an organic unity. They may be regarded, that is to say, as "a system in which the parts have a certain relative independence, but an independence which is conditioned throughout by its relation to the system—an independence, in short, which is not freedom from the system, but freedom in and through it" (p. 130). An organic view of society would consequently be "one which regarded the relation of the individual to society as an intrinsic one; one which recognized that the individual has an independent life of his own, and yet which saw that that independent life is nothing other than his social life" (p. 136). We are accordingly to understand that society is not an organism, interpreted as a living thing, whose parts are in no sense independent of the whole, but an organic unity whose members have the shaping of their lives largely in their own control. The key-note of much that is best in the teaching of Fichte, Carlyle and Emerson, is that each one must depend on himself for the shaping of his own career, if he is to achieve more than a conventional success (p. 139). Yet the independence of each man really consists in his recognizing the higher forms of his dependence. This relation of the individual to his fellow-men is the expression of his self-consciousness, which in its highest phase implies that the individual is

both identical with and yet different from the objective unity of the world (p. 168).

If this conception of society be the true one we have already, in some measure, the means of testing the value of the various social ideals which have been proposed. "Three different ideals are suggested: (1) the socialistic ideal, or that of the determination of each individual by society as a whole, (2) the individualistic ideal, or that of the freedom of everyone from all bonds except those into which he himself enters by a voluntary contract, and (3) the aristocratic ideal with freedom at the top and determination at the bottom" (p. 243). It would be pleasant to follow Mr. Mackenzie through his treatment of these three ideals. We must be content to record that the conception of society as organic precludes the adoption of any one of them, but only because it incorporates the valuable elements of each. "It must include such a degree of freedom as is necessary for the working out of the individual's life. It must include such a degree of socialism as is necessary to prevent exploitation and a brutalizing struggle for existence. It must include such a degree of aristocratic rule as is necessary for the advance of culture and for the wise conduct of social affairs" (p. 293). "It must include finally that which combines all three elements, the principal of fraternity, or the recognition of the vital relationships which exist between the individuals of a society and between the various interests that are involved in its well-being" (p. 293).

To the explanation of the relation of social well-being to the three main social interests, (1) the subjugation of nature, (2) the perfection of social machinery and (3) personal development, Mr. Mackenzie devotes the whole of Chapter VI. This and the preceding chapters, along with Chapter II, devoted to a sketch of the progress of society in modern Europe, are the sections in which he feels himself most thoroughly at home. His main task is to show that a firm grasp of the view that society is a fraternity enables us to see the true spheres of economics, politics and the science of education, and to see also that each of these sciences is dealing with only one aspect of social well-being.

Although Mr. Mackenzie deprecates the application of abstract principles to particular social conditions, he would probably sanction the view that in a community like that to be found in Canada, a community which is only beginning to be industrial and exhibits an almost unbounded individualism, it is especially important to insist that the individual "ceases to be human" just in so far as he refuses to believe that even from the standpoint of trade we are all brethren.

This estimate of Mr. Mackenzie's book is almost ludicrously inadequate. The reader must be referred to the author himself, whose work is all the more captivating because of the suppressed enthusiasm with which he portrays what is for him the ideal society. S. W. DYDE.

University of Queen's College.

ART NOTES.

HOSMER, the sculptor, is a little woman who has not a masculine trait about her. It is forty years since she began the life-work which has made her famous, but time has dealt kindly with her. Her round face beams with a constant smile, and her bright, black eyes sparkle with good humour. Her brown hair is brushed smoothly back from her broad forehead and a black silk net holds it in place. She is usually attired in a neat costume of black silk and velvet, and wears a wide lace scarf about her throat.

MR. W. W. STORY, the American sculptor and poet, whose home is the Palazzo Barberini, Rome, is modelling a figure of Christ, dressed in the Oriental Jewish robes, with the *kefiyeh* (*couvre-chef*, kerchief) on His head—the usual head-dress in the Moslem East where the turban is not worn. This, presumably, is the costume He actually wore, though it is not that in which the artists have seen fit to represent Him, preferring for some reason or other to depict Him in what are intended for Roman robes. One hand is on His heart, the other extended before Him; and He is supposed to be saying, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden." Mr. Story is also at work upon a group of an angel conducting a spirit into Paradise, the title being "Into the Silent Land." Moreover, he has in his studio the statue of Bryant designed at the request of a committee which has (or had) in charge the erection of a monument to the distinguished poet. It shows him in an attitude of meditation, leaning on the trunk of a tree (as indicating his special love of nature), and holding his soft felt hat in his hand.—*New York Critic*.

MESSRS. DOWDESWELL will shortly publish an etching by Mr. Hole, whose aquatint-like etching of Millet's "Woodcutters" we lately praised—after Constable's picture "The Jumping Horse," a canal-side scene, which is in the Diploma Gallery of the Royal Academy. Mr. Hole's latest achievement will sustain his high reputation. This etching is a faithful, loyal, and loving reproduction of Constable's masterpiece. We hear Mrs. Schliemann intends shortly to resume and bring to a close her husband's excavations at Hissarlik. Dr. Schliemann himself had fixed on March 1, as the day on which he would again begin work. Professor Kumanudis is going to publish a highly interesting inscription discovered in excavating the old market of modern Athens. The municipality of Paris has bought, for the sum of 5,000 francs, M. Labatut's fine

statue "Caton d'Utique," which many admired greatly at the last Salon. It appears, says the *Athenæum*, that M. Bouguereau's picture "La Retour du Printemps," a nude figure surrounded by genii, had, somehow or other, got so far as Omaha in Nebraska. Although the works of the famous Académicien are not of a sort likely to offend the most scrupulous modesty, a man was found fool and vandal enough to destroy the painting by dashing a chair against it. The *Athenæum* says that the French Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings had need bestir itself in defence of that most interesting relic the donjon of Jean-sans-Peur, in the Rue Étienne Marcel, Paris, which is reported to be in a ruinous state.—*Public Opinion*.

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

TORONTO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.

ON Monday evening last the second Quarterly Concert of the season, given by pupils of the above institution, took place in Association Hall. The programme submitted contained many excellent selections, requiring considerable technical skill and musical perception for their proper interpretation. During the evening, Miss Hermenie Walker, a young lady graduate in the Elocutionary Department, was presented by Mr. W. B. McMurrich, Q.C., one of the Vice-Presidents of the institution, with the Conservatory's diploma of merit. Miss Walker recited as her part of the programme Vandergrift's "Second Trial," and pleased every one with her graceful and artistic rendering of this writer's clever sketch. The ladies who contributed the violin solos are to be commended for the freedom of their style and the general breadth of tone they produced. The passages for double stopping were rendered clearly and in good time. While the harmonic playing on the whole was good, the higher notes in the Haydn "Souvenir" being faulty, more because of the defective quality of the violin used than of any want of ability in the player. The concert was very successful.

THE Toronto Symphony Orchestra gave another of their enjoyable concerts in the Pavilion last week. It is evident that these efforts of this splendid organization have secured a place in the favour of the music-loving people of Toronto, for the large hall was well filled by an audience that showed its keen appreciation of the finely selected programme submitted for its approbation. It may be premised that the orchestra was at the disadvantage of not being able to avail itself of some of its regular performers on this occasion. The performance of the various numbers showed that decided advances have been made since the first concert was given. With one exception every number was rendered with precision and accuracy, and it was evident that the exception was accidental. The special features of the concert were the singing of Mrs. Clara Shilton, the cornet playing of Mr. Herbert Clark, and the magnificent rendition of Meyerbeer's Grand Processional and Triumphant March, from L'Africaine, in which the band of the Queen's Own Rifles ably assisted. Signor D'Auria has by the success of these concerts demonstrated that he is an able and competent conductor.

THE great violinist Ondricek has given four concerts at Vienna with such success that it is said on each occasion the hall was crowded to the last place. The critics explain it by the fact that the prices charged were exceptionally moderate, a full hall, where the audience have all paid for their seats, being a very exceptional phenomenon in Vienna.

AT a Roman theatre has been revived Petrella's opera "Precauzioni." This has long been a popular work in Southern Italy. It is described as remarkable for its melodic spontaneity. One might say that it was first improvised by street singers, as is the case with many popular *chansons*. Among its prominent features are a cavatina for bass, a trio for tenors and basses, and a duo for two basses—all comic. Petrella is known here only by his grand opera "Ione." He died in poverty, despite his wide reputation.

THE season at Milan has been opened with Massenet's "Cid." Mme. Steehle, MM. Castelmary Navarrini, and Ancona were successful members of the cast, and the tenor, Cardinali, was unsuccessful. Maestro Mugnone conducted. The Milan musical paper, *Il Trovatore*, contains a series of burlesque cartoons anent this work, one picture showing an empty theatre, with only three sleepy auditors in attendance. Massenet, however, is successful in getting his operas produced in large theatres, and is to-day a recognized celebrity.

CALIXA LAVALLÉE, who died quite recently in Boston, of quick consumption, was born in Vercheres, near Montreal, Canada, on December 28, 1842, and was educated in Paris, studying under Marmontel, Boieldieu and Bazin. He was not only a pianist, but was proficient as a violinist and a cornetist; indeed it is said he could play almost any kind of instrument. His wide accomplishments helped to make him very successful as a composer of music for bands, and he had been told he could make a fortune by devoting his entire attention to that branch of composition; but replied that he would rather devote his time to work which was more artistic, if less profitable.

* "An Introduction to Social Philosophy." By John S. Mackenzie; pp. xi., 390. New York: Macmillan and Company. 1890. † Consult the valuable Index.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE FRUITS OF CULTURE: A Comedy in Four Acts. By Count Leo Tolstói. Translated by George Schumm. Boston: Benj. R. Tucker. 1891.

The Tolstói of "War and Peace" and of "Anna Karenina" (the accent, we believe, is on the antepenult), and the Tolstói of "My Religion" and of "The Kreutzer Sonata," are two very different persons; the Tolstói of "The Fruits of Culture" is a third variety of this variously-valued author.

"The Fruits of Culture" contains four acts, thirty-three persons of the drama, and a hundred and thirty-two scenes. And all what for? To depict the follies of a fashionable family, and to throw ridicule on the hobby of its chief member, who is absorbed in telepathy. And how? The first by interminable conversations between lackeys, cooks and peasants; the second by the clumsy tricks of a chambermaid. As may be surmised it is dull reading. The plot is meagre, there is little or no action, the story drags, witty or sprightly dialogue is conspicuous by its absence—we think Count Tolstói's most ardent admirers' enthusiasm will be cooled by this so-called "Comedy."

CHAMPLAIN. Written for the Montreal Pen and Pencil Club. By S. E. Dawson.

A few Torontonians of Montreal affiliations have had the pleasure of reading Mr. S. E. Dawson's eloquent and dignified poem "Champlain," which, having been read first before the Montreal Pen and Pencil Club, has been printed for private circulation only. We could not, in the circumstances, venture to quote at such length as we should like to, but may take the liberty of treating our readers to the noble lines with which the poem concludes:—

So passed his busy life: unselfish toil
His chief enjoyment.

And so his work grew strong. He ever loved
The Ocean, and upon her rocking breast
She bore him always safely; never harm
Befel him there. He loved our country most,
And when God called him, there he laid his head
In peace upon her bosom. And his work
Still prospered—till there came an evil time
When bigot counsels sapped the strength of France,
And drove to exile many a faithful heart
And stalwart arm; and faith grew faint, and fraud
And peculation smirched the lily flag,
And avarice and greed stalked through the land.
Then died the love of duty. In its place
Arose the point of honour. Poor exchange!
For honour is self-centred—duty lives
From man to God. So all the West was lost
To France. But Champlain's work survives; for still,
Though from Cape Diamond's lofty peak no more
Floats the White Flag, his dear-loved mother tongue
Still flourishes, pervading all the land
He travelled; and his faith still lives—devout,
Yet tolerant here, as in the happy days
Before the fatal revocation knelled
The waning power of France; and still survive
The laws and customs of the France he knew.

Sans peur et sans reproche—thou, blest of God!
Thy name still dwells unswayed. Never spot
Of greed, or cowardice, or lust, or hate
Stained thy white scutcheon. Swiftly sped thy soul
Up the dread circles, where the healing flames
Purge out the lingering dross and make men pure
To bear the garments of the searching light
In courts of heavenly glory. Worthy, thou,
To be a nation's founder! and may we
Be not unworthy of thee! May thy faith
In our Dominion's fortunes, and thy truth
And love of duty guide us on our course.
So shall our country flourish—thine as ours—
So long—no longer.

HANDBOOK OF ATHLETIC SPORTS. Volume III. Edited by Ernest Bell, M.A., Trin. Coll., Cambridge. London: George Bell and Sons, York Street, Covent Garden.

This volume (the third of a series on athletic sports) comprises sections on boxing, wrestling, fencing, broadsword and single stick, with chapters on quarterstaff, bayonet, cudgel, shillalah, walking stick, umbrella, and other means of self-defence.

Mr. Bell has secured writers on these various subjects, whose eminence in their respective branches enables them to speak with authority; the object being "to give in concise form a clear description of each game, with practical instruction and hints, such as will be helpful both to the beginner and the more advanced player."

The section on boxing by R. G. Allanson-Winn, winner of the middle weights, Cambridge, 1876-7, and heavy weights, 1877-8, commences with a prefatory note by "Bat Mullins," the late light weight champion of the world, who considers it "a plain, outspoken work," and recommends it to amateurs, with the assistance of a good teacher.

The chapters on wrestling (which includes all the known styles) by Walter Armstrong, late Hon. Sec. Cumberland and Westmoreland Wrestling Society in London; and on fencing, by H. A. Colmore Dunn, winner of the medal at the German gymnasium, are dealt with in a masterly manner, clearly and concisely, and will be appreciated both by the amateur and veteran athlete.

Sections on the broadsword, single stick, bayonet and quarterstaff, by R. G. Allanson-Winn, and C. Phillips-Wolley, of the Inns of Court School of Arms, will be found very useful to the beginner, and is most instructive.

The volume concludes with a few chapters on self-defence with the cudgel, shillalah, walking stick, and the homely but necessary "gamp," which should be interesting

to all dwellers in cities. The illustrations are numerous, and are taken from photographs from life, drawings and wood cuts, those accompanying the sections on boxing and wrestling being especially good.

SLAVERY in Canada is a short monograph by Mr. J. C. Hamilton consisting mainly of extracts from old journals and statutes and other sources of information on the subject.

The great geologist and geographer, Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, appears in the frontispiece of the February number of the *Magazine of American History*, accompanied by a sketch of his life. The able contribution of Hon. John Jay, LL.D., "The Demand for Education in American History," occupies the leading place. The Rev. D. F. Lamson presents a short paper on the "Emigration from New England to New Brunswick in 1763." The story of Sir Walter Raleigh's settlements on Roanoke Island is by Dr. Stephen B. Weeks. "The French Army in the Revolution," translated from the French by Miss Georgine Holmes, is concluded.

THE *Queries Magazine* for February contains a readable personal sketch of Tennyson, by Eugene L. Didier. In "English Premiers," Marion V. Dudley, after rebuking what she properly calls "a vulgar habit in America of sneering at the 'nobility' of Europe," writes very sensibly that there is "no class of people so fine and so well worth knowing in a self-respecting way, of course, as the true nobility of Europe, and especially of England." "They are gentle, graceful, self-assured, intelligent, refined, and eager to do honour to those who deserve it," and ends with a clever comparison of Lord Salisbury and Gladstone. Other contributions form an interesting number.

ONE of the illustrated articles of the *Methodist Magazine* for February is "Footprints of Wesley." Dr. Douglas writes on the development of "Methodism"; the Hon. J. W. F. White, LL.D., on "Lay Preachers," and Dr. Stafford compares at length the characters of "Wesley and Voltaire." Mr. Blackwood gives a valuable sketch of the Moravians and their influence on early Methodism. A series of papers on Eastern Europe begins with a graphic illustrated account of Hungary and some of its cities. In the science department are papers on "How the Prairies were Formed" and "Is there Life among the Stars?" "All He Knew," by John Habberton, author of "Helen's Babies," is begun. A story of "London Life in a Garret" is given.

IN *Harper's Magazine* for February the frontispiece is a portrait of Edwin Booth. The collection of twelve original drawings by W. M. Thackeray, illustrating the "Heroic Adventures of M. Boudin," with comment by Anne Thackeray Ritchie, is interesting. There are two important papers on Finland, illustrated. Charles Dudley Warner contributes an article entitled "The Heart of the Desert," which describes the great desert of New Mexico, and the Grand Canon of the Colorado. "Smyth's Channel and the Strait of Magellan," by Theodore Child. The Rev. J. F. Hurst contributes a paper on "English Writers in India," with four illustrations. L. E. Chittenden writes on "The Faith of President Lincoln," and Ellen Mackay Hutchinson on "Personal Intelligence Fifty Years Ago." Fiction includes C. E. Craddock's "In the 'Stranger People's' Country," and stories by E. E. Hale and Geraldine Bonner. Poems are by W. D. Howells, C. P. Cranch, T. B. Aldrich and L. I. Guiney. The Editorial Departments maintain their usual standard.

SOME curious, interesting, and hitherto unpublished letters of Charles and Mary Lamb cover the first sixteen pages of the *Atlantic* for February, and these letters are edited by Mr. William Carew Hazlitt. They are most carefully printed, nothing is suppressed in them, and they are quite fully annotated. One most characteristic note of condolence, written by Lamb to Thomas Hood on the death of his child, after many expressions of grief, ends with the extraordinary sentence: "I have won sexpence of Moxom by the sex of the dear gone one"; Lamb being unable to forego his wager and his pun even at such a moment. Professor Royce's second "Philosopher of the Paradoxical" is Schopenhauer. Theodore Roosevelt, in "An Object Lesson in Civil Service Reform," tells about the work of the National Civil Service Commission for the last year, and its success in gaining a large number of applicants from the Southern States to enter the civil service examinations. Mr. Stockton's serial, "The House of Martha," is as amusing as ever.

IN the opening article of the *Popular Science Monthly* for February, "From Babel to Comparative Philology," Dr. Andrew D. White tells how science has compelled the gradual abandonment of the belief that Hebrew was the first language of man. Mr. William F. Durfee's "Iron-smelting by Modern Methods" follows. "Greeting by Gesture" is the subject of an interesting article by Colonel Garrick Mallery. Prof. Huxley's paper on "The Aryan Question and Prehistoric Man," giving the testimony of geology and archaeology as to the origin of the Caucasian race, is concluded in this number. There is a translation of an article by M. Georges Demeny on "Precision in Physical Training," telling how the best results can be obtained from muscular exercise. An illustrated account of recent "Progress in Agricultural Science" is contributed by Dr. Manly Miles. Mr. Warren G. Benton tells the nature of "Chinese Buddhism." The subject of the portrait and biographical sketch is "Jean-Charles Houzeau."

LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

THE Canadian Press Association will hold its annual meeting on the 13th and 14th inst. in the City Council Chamber, Toronto.

MR. THEODORE ROOSEVELT has written for the *Historic Towns'* series—which Prof. Freeman edits, and which the Longmans publish—the volume on "New York."

"TOLD After Supper," a series of brief burlesque ghost-stories by Jerome K. Jerome, is published by Henry Holt and Company. The book is decidedly humorous.

GEORGE MEREDITH'S daughter is said to copy all her father's manuscript for the printer. The novelist does his writing in the morning in a study cottage built in his garden.

THE novel on which Thomas A. Edison and George Parsons Lathrop have been working conjointly will contain a number of sketches made by the inventor to illustrate his predictions.

THE last number of *Greater Britain* received contains a statesmanlike article on "The Commercial and Political Confederation of the Empire," by Sir Julius Vogel, ex-Premier of New Zealand.

AS the inner history of a good and charming woman's heart, overtaken by one of those infatuations that will sometimes besiege them, "Was it Love," by Paul Bourget, is a novel of unusual interest.

MR. J. G. CARTER TROOP, editor of the *Trinity Review*, is to deliver his lecture on "The Earl of Beaconsfield," at St. George's school house, on Tuesday evening next. The lecture is well spoken of by the press.

THE "Unknown" Library is the title of a new series just begun by the Cassell Publishing Company, which promises to be one of the successes of the year. The stories are written by well-known writers who prefer for the once to write over a pseudonym.

"SUPPOSED Tendencies to Socialism" is the title of the article that will open the *March Popular Science Monthly*. It is by Prof. William Graham, of Belfast, who gives his reasons for expecting a progressive improvement in the state of society, but no sudden social transformation.

MR. QUARITCH proposes to issue a dictionary of English book collectors from the earliest times to the present. It will give the chief dates and facts of each collector's life, some particulars of the more important works which he collected, and a brief account of the fate that overtook his library after his death.

THE name of Helen Campbell is famous the world over for its championship of honest labour and the rights of the woman toiler. Her new book just issued by the D. Lothrop Company is in a different field, but shows the same vigour and painstaking fidelity. It is a life sketch of Anne Bradstreet, America's earliest woman writer and reformer.

THE Report of the North American Life Assurance Company presented at the annual meeting, held on the 27th ult., and presented to our readers on another page, must be very gratifying to its policy holders and all interested in the Company. Since its inception ten years ago, it has extended its operations and accumulated its business with such energy, sagacity and prudence, that it now holds an honourable place with the foremost kindred companies of Canada. Such a result was guaranteed by anticipation when the well-known Canadian statesman, the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, was appointed President, and that capable and energetic actuary, Mr. Wm. McCabe, Managing Director, and a directorate was formed containing some of the most prominent and successful public, professional and business men of our country. The report shows that "during the past year 1,687 applications for \$2,470,450 were received, upon which were issued 1,585 policies for \$2,362,100." This is a splendid showing for last year's work, and the total insurance now in force has attained the large dimensions of over \$10,000,000. The gratifying announcement is made that the amount of overdue interest on securities held is less than a fourth of one per cent.—a striking result of careful and judicious investment of the funds by the management. The surplus shows an increase of eighty per cent. over last year, and the cash interest income an increase of forty-three per cent. within the same time, being more than sufficient to pay the death losses of the year. The success of its "Investment Policies" is also pleasing, Mr. W. T. Standen, A.S.A., the Consulting Actuary, reporting that the amount payable under those maturing this year, was in excess of the Company's present estimates on similar investment policies. The record of this prosperous and influential Company is one of the many indications of the great and solid results which are being achieved to-day in Canada by Canadian energy, enterprise and skill, and it is big with hopeful promise for the future of our country.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Bourget, Paul. Was it Love. 50c. New York: Worthington & Co.
Harris, Wm., LL.D. Hegel's Logic. \$1.50. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co.
Thwaites, Reuben Gold. Epochs of American History. \$1.25. New York: Longmans, Green & Co.
Memorabilia of Geo. B. Cheever, D.D., and His Wife. \$2.00. New York: Jno. Wiley & Sons.

READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE BRITON'S LAND.

[A Lay of Imperial Unity.]

The following patriotic lines were contributed by Mr. John Dennistoun Wood, of Melbourne, Australia, for many years a Councillor of the Royal Colonial Institute, and were published in the opening number of the "Journal of the Royal Colonial Institute," by special direction of the Council:—

Should German, Russ, or Frank demand
What country is the Briton's land,
As no vain-glorious boast would I
To that enquiry thus reply:—
His is the land where the north breeze
Blows foam across the Orcades;
Where Donegal's rock-wall flings back
The foiled Atlantic's fierce attack;
Where Dover with its cliffs of snow
Serenely views his ancient foe;
Where Calpe's (a) warders hold the key
That shuts and opes the Inland Sea;
Where lies the Isle (b) which monk knights bold
Against the Moslem held of old;
Where stands the Cape, (c) by tempests beat,
Round which Da Gama steered his fleet;
Where billows from the Antarctic pole
Against Cape Pillar's (d) basalt roll;
Where graze Australia's myriad flocks
And shine her golden sands and rocks;
Where the twin summits of Mount Cook (e)
The England of the South o'erlook;
Where lies Ceylon 'mid pearly seas
With palm-leaves rustling in the breeze;
Where rolls Hydaspes, (f) which of yore
The Macedonian's galleys bore;
Where, born mid Himalayan snows,
By marble mosques (g) the Jumna flows;
Where by the Irrawadi's stream (h)
Is heard the elephant's shrill scream;
Where summer isles (i) lie in the seas
That wash the golden Chersonese;
Where Hong Kong with ship-crowded bay
Stands at the gateway of Cathay;
Where mountains, clad with mighty pines,
Rise steep above Columbia's mines;
Where down the cliffs with thund'rous roar
The waves of the Saint Lawrence pour;
Where fishers by Newfoundland reap
The finny harvest of the deep;
Where on the Caribbean Isles,
Begirt with Palms, the ocean smiles;
Where Demerara's fertile plains
Exult in wealth of sugar-canes.
On arctic shores, in tropic seas,
The Briton's banner courts the breeze;
Beneath the palm-tree and the oak
He speaks the tongue that Shakespeare spoke
Beneath the Southern Cross and Bear
His children lip the self-same prayer;
Upon his land n'er sets the sun,
His harvest toil is never done;
As soon as England's veiled in night
New Zealand hails the eastern light;
When icebergs block Canadian seas
Grain ripens at th' Antipodes;
Each hour his ports throughout the world
Behold his vessels' sails unfurled,
Or hear the rattle, as descends
The anchor when the voyage ends.

One now we are, and shall remain
Till moons shall cease to wax and wane,
A hundred lands together strung
On this strong cord—one Crown, one Tongue.
Melbourne, Sept. 29, 1890.

KING OF RATTLERS.

The largest rattlesnake ever seen in Georgia was killed Saturday in Lee County upon the plantation of Secretary of State General Phil Cook. The news comes through Phil Cook, Jr., a son of the General. The snake has terrorized the neighbourhood for years, and its death was the occasion of a jubilee celebration amongst the darkies in that vicinity. Even the white people joined in the general feeling of relief that so dangerous and dreaded a neighbour was rid of at last. The snake, by actual measurement, was a little over eleven feet long. It had nineteen rattles and a button. The snake has been hunted

- (a) Calpe is the ancient name of the Rock of Gibraltar.
- (b) The Knights of St. John bravely held Malta against the Turks in the 16th century.
- (c) Vasco de Gama was the first European to sail to India round the Cape of Good Hope, formerly called the Cape of Storms.
- (d) Cape Pillar is the south-eastern extremity of Tasmania.
- (e) Mount Cook, the highest mountain in New Zealand, rises in two peaks.
- (f) Alexander the Great launched his flotilla on the Hydaspes, now the Jhelum.
- (g) At Agra and Delhi.
- (h) In Upper Burma the wild elephants may be heard trumpeting to each other across the Irrawadi.
- (i) Penang and Singapore.

for years, and traps innumerable have been devised for his capture. His den is in an impenetrable section of the Kinchafoonee swamp. Near this is a cypress pond, and between the swamps and the pond is the road. Hundreds of times his track has been seen across this road. People that have not seen it were loath to believe the stories told about it; but the truth finally became established and the Lee County rattlesnake became famous from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Every year the story is reprinted, with timely variations, to go the round of the press. The snake has swallowed young pigs, chickens, rabbits and other small animals, and was dreaded by the negroes like a ghost. It was difficult to induce them to travel the road between the pond and the swamp at night. Saturday the snake was found across the path near the pond, by Mr. Phil Cook. Without disturbing it Mr. Cook went off for help, returning with three or four negroes armed with hoes and clubs. Stealing up near the snake the negroes fell upon it with the hoes and clubs and finally killed it. It was cut open, and in its belly was found a full grown buck rabbit. This probably accounts for the dormant and comparatively helpless condition of the snake and the ease with which he was despatched. The snake was then thrown across the shoulders of one of the negroes and carried to the house. Though the negro was a stalwart, muscular man, he staggered under the load. It was heavier, he declared, than a sack of guano. General Phil Cook says it was the largest rattlesnake he ever saw or heard of. At any rate, this is the end of the famous Lee County monster.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

AUTHORS' BLUNDERS.

APART from natural objects of any description, what an abyss of blunders do the exacting rules of grammar plunge us into. "Neither" and "nor," for instance. How absolutely uncontrollable some pens find these little words, and what a tiresome trick they have of taking upon themselves pluralizing properties to which they have no right. Continually we hear "that neither Ida nor Gerald were able to speak for some minutes." Well, then, we suppose both of them was silent. One needs to come to close quarters with these Will-o'-the-wispish parts of speech. They are almost as terrible to deal with as those perplexing verbs to "lay" and to "lie." Over these, authors, otherwise irreproachable, frequently trip, while the great host of minor writers appear to give up wrestling with them, for we get a heroine who had "laid" on the sofa an hour; and a hero who "lies" his tired head; or another who cries out, "let that glove lay, sir," in nearly every book we open. As for past participles and past tenses, we give up noticing their little vagaries, so constant is the stream of characters who "rung for their maid, and drunk the water hastily after having sang the song—" And so forth! But one of the commonest stumbling-blocks in fiction is that much-courted and frightfully mismanaged orb, the moon. Considering how useful this luminary is for love scenes, meditations, murders, etc., the way in which people who introduce it persist in ignoring its natural movements is really most ungrateful. Thus we are frequently confronted with "day-old silver crescent moons, high up in the clear heavens"—when? Why, as soon as the sun has set? New moons are continually rising in the west, while full moons get solemnly up at midnight. More than once they have preferred to do this in the north, but in for one eccentricity they think perhaps they may as well be in for another. As for waning moons they get up as the sun goes down, and wander about, north, south, east, and west, just as the situation requires them. For the better control of poor slandered Luna, may we suggest a helping hand in that shining light of every family bookshelf—"Whitaker!" Another meteorological snare is the rainbow. Far less frequent in fiction than the moon, still, when it does get there it ought to be properly placed. What was that lady thinking of, who, having put her heroine in a church towards the close of a showery day, made her gaze out of a window in a western (!) apse, "and behold in the heavens before her a brilliant many-hued bow?" Very few minutes later we hear the building was in total darkness, at which we are not surprised. After achieving that phenomenal effort in the west, Nature must have wanted repose. Sport of all kinds is dangerous ground for the uninitiated. Even tennis is full of traps. No young man should say to his pretty partner, "A love set then to us," when their opponents have scored in half the games. Nor is it really practicable to play tennis, as a veteran writer lately made her young people do, "by faint twilight in mid-November, till near dinner-time," and dinner was at seven forty-five, and they were playing on a grass court! But that writer being veteran may never have joined in the game, and so failed to realize how net and balls become invisible before the twilight is even faint. In the same way writers little acquainted with the *Field* have been known to send a house party fox-hunting in July; others send them cub-hunting in February; some make their gentlemen bring home big bags of pheasants in April; others go hare-hunting late in March. On a par with these are the incautious folks who make their characters "tap thermometers," to see if they are rising, or who make the said thermometers record the astounding register of two hundred degrees Fahrenheit in the shade, or who send visitors to the Academy in September or to the Monday populars in May, or make their linnets lay "sky-blue" eggs.—*London Society.*

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

The Annual Meeting of the North American Life Assurance Company was held at the head office of the company, Toronto, on Tuesday, January 27th, 1891.

Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, M.P., president, was appointed chairman, and Wm. McCabe, secretary, when the report was submitted, of which the following is an abstract:—

REPORT.

The directors of the North American Life Assurance Company present their tenth annual report with great satisfaction, owing to the solid progress which has attended the operations of the company, which now ranks as one of the leading institutions of the Dominion.

At this, the second quinquennial period in the company's history, it is interesting to note the marked success achieved during the past five years, as shown by the following table:

	Total Income.	Per cent.	Total Ins. in Force.	Per cent.
December 31, '90.....	\$366,818 61		\$10,076,554	
December 31, '85.....	165,697 25		4,849,287	
Increase.....	\$201,121 36	121	\$5,227,267	108

	Total Assets.	Per cent.	Total Surplus.	Per cent.
December 31, '90.....	\$1,042,440 11		\$128,718 58	
December 31, '85.....	346,890 95		37,500 95	
Increase.....	\$695,549 16	205	\$91,217 63	243

As will be seen from the table, the total insurance now in force is over ten millions.

The large addition to the assets of the company is almost entirely in interest-bearing investments, and the amount of overdue interest, being less than one-fourth of one per cent., indicates the high quality of the securities held by the company, unexcelled, it is believed, by any other financial institution on this continent.

The increase in the surplus over that of the preceding year is \$56,878.54, a gain of eighty per cent., and that fund now stands at \$128,718.58. This large addition must be extremely gratifying to all interested in the company, and especially to those who hold its investment policies.

The cash interest income reached \$50,518.81, an increase in the year of forty-three per cent., and was more than sufficient to pay the death losses of the year.

On the recommendation of the managing director, the board thought well, at the end of its second quinquennium, to still further strengthen the company's claims to public support, by having a valuation of all its obligations by a distinguished consulting actuary of eminence and experience, whose independent examination and valuation would command increased confidence.

Wm. T. Standen, of New York, whose name is well known in Canada, and who is one of the executive officers of the Actuarial Society of America, has made such examination, and his report will be placed before the meeting.

During the present year the first series of the company's Ten Year Investment policies matures. The consulting actuary has allocated to these policies profits in excess of the company's Semi-Tontine estimates, which will be paid on the anniversary of each policy, and which have been very satisfactory to those whose policies have already matured. This company was the first Canadian institution to adopt this form of insurance, and it has become so popular that nearly all the other Canadian companies—several of them after denouncing it for years—now issue policies upon it in one form or another.

An analysis of the profit-earning powers of the successful Canadian companies, as compared with those of the large American companies, has demonstrated the great advantage in this respect in favor of our home institutions among which this company stands out prominently.

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE,
President.

The following is an abstract of the financial statement of the North American Life Assurance Company for the year ending December 31st, 1890:—

Cash income for the year 1890.....	\$ 366,818 61
Expenditure, (including death claims), endowments, and all payments to policy-holders.....	158,593 73
Assets.....	1,042,440 11
Reserve fund.....	829,176 00
Net surplus for policy-holders.....	128,718 58

JAS. CARLYLE, M.D., Auditor.
WM. McCABE, Managing Director.

Audited and found correct.

E. A. MEREDITH, LL.D., } Auditing committee of the board.
B. B. HUGHES, }

To the Directors of the North American Life Assurance Company:

GENTLEMEN,—The valuation of your policy and other obligations, which has been checked by me, shows a surplus of \$128,718 58, after providing amply for every liability of the company, real or contingent, in accordance with the requirements of the laws of the Dominion. Five years ago my report to you showed a surplus of \$37,500 00, so that the work of the past five years has yielded nearly three and one-half times the amount of surplus that resulted from your first quinquennial period of corporate existence.

Five years ago I deemed it but just to congratulate you upon the large proportion of your business written upon the Twenty Year Investment Plan, because of all other plans this one seemed to me to contain more of the essential elements which would go towards building up a very strong and healthy life company, and I notice that since that time the proportion of these policies to the entire amount of your issues is still larger. From an examination of your plans of insurance I know of no company having a better earning power, and confidently believe that the future results will prove alike satisfactory to your policy-holders and all interested in your company.

During the past year, I notice you have introduced two new plans of insurance, viz., the Compound Investment Plan and the 7 per cent Guaranteed Income Bond, both containing attractive features.

The Compound Investment Policy, while perfectly safe, is an exceedingly liberal contract. The many options you offer the insured in settlement, combined with the mortuary dividend and also the guarantee to loan the insured the eleventh and subsequent premiums, the latter being cancelled in case of the death of the insured and the full face of the policy being payable, make this one of the most desirable forms of insurance ever offered to the public.

The Seven per cent. Guaranteed Income Bond is well adapted to meet the wants of those desiring an annuity in the later years of life. This admirable plan, combined as it is with insurance, should certainly prove acceptable to large numbers desirous of having a guaranteed income upon attaining a certain age.

I have examined the Commercial Plan and its practical operation as shown by your books, and think this must be an exceedingly attractive form of insurance to the man who desires to pay in the present only the actual cost of carrying his insurance, thereby enabling him for any fixed sum to carry about twice the amount he could on the ordinary plans.

The persistence of your business, as shown by the fact that your terminations are considerably below the average, is a very conclusive proof that your methods and plans are popularly endorsed, and also that your agents have not committed the fault of giving you what we call high-pressure business, but have confined themselves to a strictly legitimate business.

As a matter of great interest to your policy holders, it may be worth while for your management to point out to them that an examination will show that your percentage of increase in surplus, as compared with your mean assets, is 6.12 for the past year as against less than four per cent. for the average of other leading companies doing business in Canada, as shown by their last reports.

Those of your tontine investment policies maturing this year are entitled to a withdrawal of their surplus in cash, or the application of the same in any one of the various ways provided for in the policies. I am gratified to find that the amount of dividend which you can safely allot to these policies, as shown in my detailed report, is somewhat in excess of your semi-tontine estimates, and this result should give satisfaction to those who were fortunate enough to select this form of insurance.

W. T. STANDEN,
Consulting Actuary.

The chairman, Hon. A. Mackenzie, M.P., in moving the adoption of the report said:

GENTLEMEN,—Owing to the Dominion Parliament not meeting as early this year as last, I have the great satisfaction and pleasure of being with you at this, our tenth annual meeting, to give you an account of our stewardship. From year to year, during the past ten years, you have entrusted to our care the direction of the affairs of this institution. The splendid financial statement laid before you, showing the prosperous position of the company, affords the best evidence that we have strictly fulfilled the trust reposed in us and that the expectations made from time to time as to its success have been realized.

As you are probably aware, we closed our books promptly on the last day of the year, when our Government Report was completed and mailed to the Insurance Department on the following day. From the report, I was gratified to notice that our interest receipts for 1890 were more than sufficient to pay our death losses for the year.

Notwithstanding the keen competition that has prevailed and the fact that some companies have lowered their premium rates, we have never considered it advisable to deviate from what we believed to be the true principles of life insurance. We hold that an adequate premium is essential to secure a solid foundation and the permanent success and safety of a life company. Under our system, whatever surplus arises is practically returned to our policy-holders.

After making ample provision for every liability we have left the handsome cash surplus of \$128,718.58. This enables us to perform a pleasurable duty, viz., to meet those of our policy-holders having ten-year investment policies maturing this year and give them results exceeding those stated in our present Book of Estimates for such policies.

A comparison with our report of 1889 shows that our premium income increased by \$48,922.90, our interest by \$15,215.18, our assets by \$219,189.63, our insurance in force exceeds ten millions and the surplus increased by the large sum of \$56,878.54, or nearly 80 per cent.—a relative gain, probably never equalled by any of our competitors. A gratifying feature of these satisfactory results is that they were accomplished at a reduced ratio in our expenses.

During last year the business of the Dominion on the whole has not been as prosperous as could have been desired, but I am pleased to notice that considerable attention has been given and activity displayed in developing the vast and splendid mineral resources of our beloved Dominion. The thanks of the whole community are due to the gentlemen who are devoting their time and energy to this new enterprise, and I sincerely trust they may be successful in inducing British capitalists to supply the means necessary to the accomplishment of satisfactory results. The successful working and developing of these mines will be an important factor in attracting both population and capital to this country, which, as you are aware, are necessary elements to aid us in building up this Dominion.

In conclusion, I would remind you that the great success of this company, and the solid position in which it stands, are not through any lucky accident, but through recognizing certain principles in its early years, sticking to these, and in carefully investing and husbanding the funds entrusted to us, and what is of the highest importance, that the management has been in skilled hands. I am proud, and rejoice at the position the company has attained, and with our great profit-earning power I look forward confidently to each succeeding year equalling, if not surpassing, the splendid results now before you of 1890.

John L. Blaikie, vice-president, in seconding the motion, said:—

GENTLEMEN,—Connected with this annual meeting there are many things of a pleasing, gratifying nature, and I may say nothing whatever of an opposite description. Let me avail myself of this opportunity to testify as to the great value of Mr. Mackenzie's services to the company. His name, representing as it does in his case, sterling worth and integrity, has been of vast service to the company, but independent of that, I may say that except during the time Mr. Mackenzie is in Ottawa attending to his parliamentary duties, he is almost daily to be found at his desk in this office, giving to every important matter that transpires the benefit of his sound judgment and clear penetration. Everyone will heartily unite in the fervent hope that he may be long spared to preside over this flourishing institution, enjoying, as he does, the confidence and esteem of the entire community.

It is also extremely gratifying that the report, and all the accompanying statements, are of such an encouraging nature.

The report of Mr. Standen, Actuary, of New York, has already been

referred to by the president, so I would only remark with respect to it, that it is worthy of very special notice, seeing that Mr. Standen occupies a very prominent position among the insurance experts of this continent, and, therefore, he speaks with authority, making his endorsement of this company's plans, financial position and general management of great value and importance.

The statements before you show a decrease in the past year as compared with 1889 in the death rate, which assuredly is cause for rejoicing, as, notwithstanding an increase of over one million dollars of insurance in force, there is a decrease of \$11,850.47 in death claims, which speaks volumes for the increasing vigilance, care and skill of Dr. Thorburn, our Medical Director.

It affords me special satisfaction to announce, gentlemen, as I now do, that the company has no dormant loans, all are active and interest yielding, and not only so, but, with one exception, yielding a higher rate of interest than those of any company doing business in Canada. This is all the more gratifying when it is borne in mind that this is the condition of our investments after the company has been in existence for ten years, and establishes beyond all question that the Finance Committee has acted in a most conservative, careful manner in conducting this important branch of the company's business. Indeed, very few loan companies, if any, established for the express purpose of lending money, having all the machinery and agencies necessary for successfully carrying on such business, can show a better record than the North American Life Assurance Company, and very few a record equally satisfactory.

In conclusion, gentlemen, let me have the pleasure of bearing testimony to the unwearied diligence and skilful management of our managing director, Mr. McCabe; also to Mr. Goldman's zeal and fidelity in discharging his important duties, and I may add, the officers of the company generally, as, to the united and hearty efforts of all the officers, we are indebted for the great success attained by the company.

Hon. G. W. Allan said: As a vice-president of the company he had much pleasure in noting the continued prosperity of the company and the marked advance made during the past year. He congratulated the president on being present on this occasion and expressed the wish that the Hon. Alex. Mackenzie might be spared many years to give the company the benefit of his advice and counsel, which no doubt had contributed so largely to the company's success.

On motion, the thanks of the policy-holders and guarantors were unanimously tendered to the president, vice-president, directors and members of the Provincial and Local Boards of Directors for their attention to the interests of the company during the past year.

Dr. Thorburn, in acknowledging the thanks of the meeting, said: As medical director he joined most heartily in the congratulations on the great success the company had attained. In his department he was pleased to record the favourable mortality experienced during the past year. The very highest proof that great care had been given to the work of the medical department was evidenced by the favourable mortality of the company during the past ten years. Another point upon which the doctor dwelt was the desirability of having reliable local examiners, in whom implicit confidence might be reposed. He believed that the North American Life had as examiners gentlemen of the highest integrity, and concluded by thanking them for their past efforts on behalf of the company.

Dr. Carlyle, auditor of the company, said: Perhaps it will be satisfactory to those who placed me in office if I make a few remarks with reference to the financial statement before you viewed from the standpoint of an auditor. From the beginning I have been one of the company's auditors. Owing to the illness and finally the death of my late colleague, I have made the audit for 1890 alone. Thus necessarily I have seen, as it were, both sides of all the moneyed transactions of the company. It affords me pleasure to be able to say that the more thorough my knowledge becomes of the book-keeping and the financial management of the company, the more I am satisfied that the statements placed before you, year after year, are altogether reliable.

It is very gratifying to an auditor to be able to say that the books and the vouchers of a company are correct and as represented, but it is more than this if he can say that he believes the money of the company is safely invested. What are the evidences of security in connection with the statement before you?

I know that the mortgages representing \$600,000 of the company's funds are in its vaults, for I examined each one of them. I find that out of so large a number of mortgages the company has had to make but one foreclosure. After examining the Government's published report of the financial condition of the various loan companies of Ontario and ascertaining the number of foreclosures made by them, and the amount of overdue payments, I am led to believe that less than one-fourth of one per cent. of overdue interest, and only one foreclosure, when so large a sum is involved, is not only highly satisfactory but somewhat phenomenal.

The debentures of the company are in the company's safe, or in the vaults of the Toronto Trusts Corporation, or deposited with the Government. Those with the company and those with the Trusts Corporation I have examined and found correct as represented; those with the Government are acknowledged in its annual published report regarding life insurance companies: I also saw that the company had scrip for all loans made on stock. These are the grounds for my belief that the company's funds are safely invested.

In conclusion allow me to say that your auditor is allowed full and free access to all he wishes to see, to satisfy himself that everything is as represented. I sometimes think that the sterling integrity of all those at the head of the company is reflected on all below them, and hence my work continues to be very agreeable to me.

Replying to a vote of thanks tendered to the agents of the company for their efficient services during the past year, Mr. Geo. E. Lavers, the company's Nova Scotian manager at Halifax, said: It cannot but be gratifying to myself as one of the oldest agents of the North American Life to note the splendid progress of the company during the first decade of its existence. A few of the salient points of this report you will permit me to call attention to. In the first place, it is certainly gratifying to note that in comparison with other strong competitive companies, the North American shows to-day a financial position not excelled by any. In the item of ratio of assets to liabilities we are also able to make a very favourable comparison.

Another point of great interest to the policy-holders, and that shows the excellent earning power of the North American assets, is evidenced by the fact that with one exception in Canada, the rate of interest earned on its investments was in excess of that of any of them, the figures for 1890, as given by *The Insurance and Finance Chronicle*, being for the North American 6.00, while the average of six of the competitors referred to was 5.23. This splendid showing of the rate of interest earned by the North American indicates to the public the careful and solid character of its investments. I have certainly much confidence in the future success of the North American as not only a safe company for insurers, but one that from its investments will give as satisfactory returns to its policy-holders under its investment policies as any other on this continent.

The usual votes of thanks to office-bearers and committees were then passed.

The directors were then elected for the ensuing year, and at a subsequent meeting the Hon. A. Mackenzie, M.P., was unanimously re-elected as president, and John L. Blaikie, Esq., and the Hon. G. W. Allan as vice-presidents.

THERE is little room to doubt that the masses of the French-Canadians have a sound practical loyalty to the British Crown and the Canadian Confederation. In a certain powerful French-Canadian romance, depicting the time of the conquest of New France by England, and brimming with what we may call French-Canadianism, one of the leading characters is a seigneur who has fought with passionate loyalty under the flag of the Bourbons. After the cession, however, he accepts the new order of things; and on his death-bed he says to his son and heir: "Serve thy new sovereign as faithfully as I have served the King of France, and receive my blessing!" It seems to us that this may be taken as an indication of a healthy sentiment at times concealed beneath the rampant "nationalism," so-called, of Quebec politics.—*Halifax Critic*.

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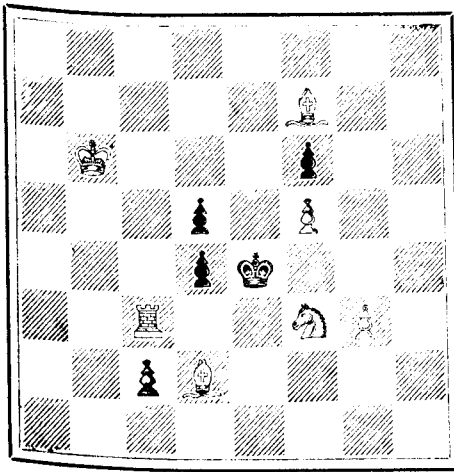
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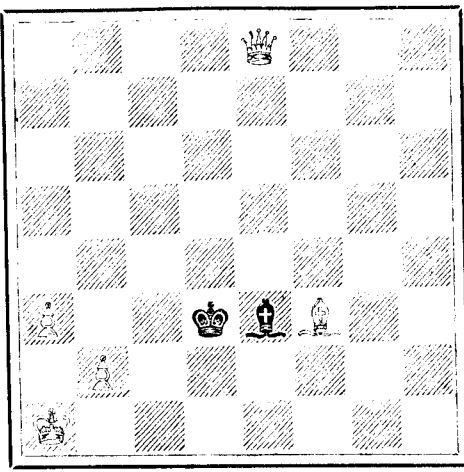
WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 540.

By F. W. Martindale.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

No. 533.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1. R-R6 | 1. K x R |
| 2. Q-B4 | 2. B-B6 |
| 3. Q or R mates | |
| 2. Q x P + | If 1. B x P |
| 3. Q x B mate | 2. B-B6 |
- With other variations.

No. 534.

Q-Q4

NOTE.—In this problem there should be a White Rook on White K Kt 3 instead of a Black Rook.

In Problem No. 536 there should be a White Kt on White Q R 4 instead of a King.

GAME PLAYED AT MONTREAL IN THE CANADIAN CHESS ASSOCIATION TOURNEY, JANUARY 9TH, 1891, BETWEEN A. T. DAVISON, OF TORONTO, AND R. SHORT, OF MONTREAL.

TWO KNIGHTS DEFENCE.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| DAVISON.
White. | SHORT.
Black. | DAVISON.
White. | SHORT.
Black. |
| 1. P-K4 | P-K4 | 15. B x B | Kt-K3 |
| 2. Kt-KB3 | Kt-QB3 | 16. B-K7 (d) | R-K1 |
| 3. B-B4 | Kt-KB3 | 17. B-B5 | Q-Kt4 |
| 4. P-Q4 | P x P | 18. P-QR4 | Q-Q2 |
| 5. Castles | Kt x P | 19. Kt-K5 (e) | Q-Q1 (f) |
| 6. R-K1 | P-Q4 | 20. Kt x BP | Q-B3 (g) |
| 7. B x P | Q x B | 21. Kt-R6 + | P x Kt |
| 8. Kt-QB3 (a) | Q-B5 (b) | 22. Q x R + | Kt-B1 |
| 9. Kt x Kt | B-K2 | 23. Q R-Q1 | Q-B2 |
| 10. B-B4 | Kt-Q1 (c) | 24. R x P | P-Kt3 |
| 11. Kt-K5 | Q-Kt5 | 25. B x Kt | Q x B |
| 12. Kt-Q3 | Q-Kt3 | 26. R-Q8 | Q x Q Black |
| 13. Q-R5 | Castles | 27. K R x Q | Resigns. |
| 14. Kt-Kt5 | B x Kt | | |

NOTES.

- (a) Up to here the opening is played according to the best authorities.
- (b) Q to KR4 would have been better, as at Q B 5 she is out of play.
- (c) Black's position is very unpromising.
- (d) This Bishop becomes a thorn in Black's game.
- (e) The effect of Black's eighth move is now apparent. There is but one square left on which to place his Queen. If he play P K Kt 3 White takes Q with Kt, and on Kt's P taking White Queen, White checks with Kt at B 6, winning a dead Rook, and if Black Kt attacks White Queen at B 5 White takes Queen with Kt winning immediately. The position here is very interesting and instructive.
- (f) The only move.
- (g) Q Q 2 would be better, this move loses at once.

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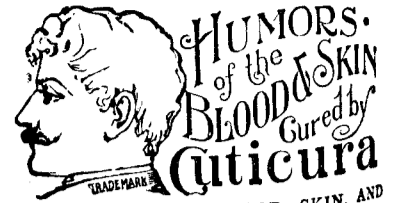
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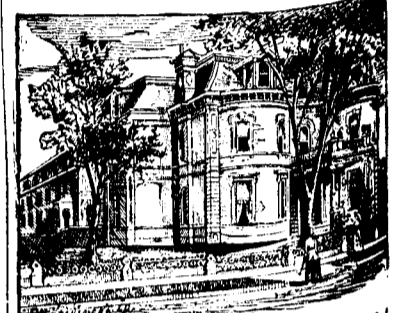
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