

# THE WEEK:

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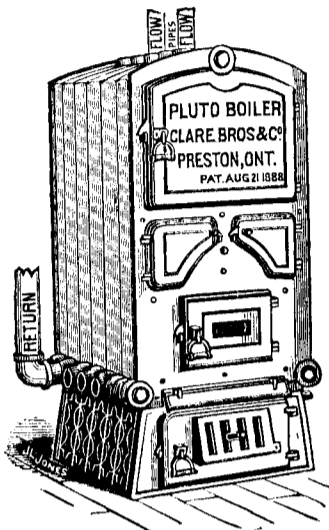
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All articles, contributions, and letters on matters pertaining to the editorial department should be addressed to the Editor, and not to any person who may be supposed to be connected with the paper.

WE are glad that there is some reason to hope that a place of compromise has been or may be found between the City Council and its efficient engineer. It would, in our opinion, be little less than a calamity should Mr. Jennings feel compelled to insist on the acceptance of his resignation. Were the question at issue that of fixing the amount of money to be spent in the Works Department of the city, the Council would clearly be justified, as the body directly responsible to the taxpayers, in insisting upon its right to limit that amount. Were the question even one of determining the general character of the works which should be undertaken, it would still be the duty of the Council to insist upon its right of saying what those works should be. But when it is merely a question of the efficient use of the money voted by the Council for the carrying on of the improvements resolved upon by the Council, we do not see how any conscientious engineer, especially one having a reputation to maintain, could be content with less than the power to choose and appoint his own subordinates and to fix their respective salaries. This power is clearly indispensable to the highest efficiency of the head of any such department. Without it the chief cannot have the necessary control. There would be an obvious and grave injustice in holding the head engineer responsible for the efficiency of assistants on any other principle. As Mr. Goldwin Smith pointed out at the Board of Trade meeting, the Council ought to control the gross sum to be spent, but the engineer should have the distribution of the amount amongst the staff. In this way the rights and responsibilities of both parties are respected. As Mr. Smith further showed the analogy between the position of a City engineer and that of a Government engineer does not hold good, in view of the more permanent tenure of office of the Responsible Government. We should, however, be disposed to go further and to maintain that one of the chief sources of waste, extravagance and corruption in Government offices would be removed were an end put to political influence in appointments and the working of the departments entrusted to competent non-partisan heads, entrusted with all necessary powers

and held strictly accountable for results. This is, we venture to say, the method that is found to work best in large private establishments. The City Council of Toronto is to be congratulated upon having it in their power to retain the services of an engineer who has clearness of head to see what is necessary and firmness of purpose to insist upon it. The plan proposed at the conference between the Special Committee and Mr. Jennings, pledging the Council not to put the law in force and the engineer to make no further advances in salaries pending the action of the new Council, seems fair to both and compromises the dignity of neither. It has the merit, too, of giving the citizens, who are really the party interested, an opportunity to pronounce upon the question. We hope that it may be accepted as a present settlement of the difficulty.

IT was but natural that the speeches on the occasion of the first convocation in the restored University of Toronto should have been pitched on a key of congratulation and hopefulness. The many tokens of practical sympathy that have been called forth by the appalling disaster which laid the old building in ruins, and the success which has rewarded the energetic efforts of the President and other officers and friends of the institution, as seen in the great additions and improvements now approaching completion, afford ample grounds for confidence in the future of the Provincial University. It was but natural that the venerable President, who has been during so long a period so closely identified with the history of the University, should have been led to make the past, as well as the present and the future, tributary to the stream of his flowing eloquence. The true friends of higher education will not care at such a moment to be critical, else they might be disposed to remind the audience, few of whom probably have made themselves familiar with those earlier chapters in our educational history, that the narrow, inefficient, sectarian and exclusive college whose revenues, derived from the Provincial domain, it was at one time proposed to distribute among institutions representing the different sections of the people, was an entirely different institution from the Provincial University of to-day. The question was one between dissecting and regenerating a barren and effete corporation. Happily, in the opinion of the majority, regeneration through reorganization was found possible. Were the friends of the still existing and, in some measure at least, flourishing independent colleges actuated, as we trust they are not, by narrow jealousies, they might perhaps discover a sneer, which we feel sure was not intended, in Sir Daniel Wilson's allusion to "the mischievous results" Sir Edmund Head foresaw as "involved in the perpetuation of a number of poorly equipped colleges, wasting inadequate resources in duplicating professorships, and expending their energies in a way that threatened to transform the Tree of Knowledge into a Upas tree, with its fruitage of embittered jealousies to turn to ashes on their lips." The allusion is no doubt meant to be purely historical (the reporter is probably responsible for putting the fruit on the wrong tree) and, as such, is adapted to make us all thankful that those embittered jealousies have so happily passed away and that all the voluntary institutions can now work in cordial unison, or generous rivalry, with each other and with the State-endowed University, in the interests of higher education. It is by no means clear that the Province is not the better rather than the worse, that those of its sons and daughters who are ambitious of thorough culture are not necessarily all put into the one educational mould. While the presence of the more richly endowed Provincial University will always have the effect of putting the smaller institutions upon their mettle and compelling them to set their standards high, no very keen historical penetration is necessary to discover that these, in their turn, have brought and are bringing to bear a most healthful and stimulating influence upon their wealthy rival. A cynic might be tempted to add that if the Colleges are at a disadvantage in having "no Minister with whom they can take friendly counsel, nor anyone to be sensitive over the responsibilities or rights of an educational department," they have at least the compensating advantage of being able to appoint a librarian or other College officer, without

having the office canvassed for as the perquisite of a party, or the appointment taken out of the hands of the proper Academic authorities, and held up, as a little prize, in the political arena. But away with odious comparisons. We are of the number of those who believe that, even in Ontario, there is room enough for all, and that by their friendly rivalry, working along different lines and by various methods, far better results will be reached on the whole than could be brought about by the uniformity and possible lethargy of a single University, however richly endowed.

ONE of the most important movements of the recent session was the adoption, at the instance of the Government, of the address to Her Majesty the Queen, asking that Canada be set free from the operation of the "most favoured nation" clauses in the treaties with Germany and Belgium. Whether or not this action on the part of the Government is, as Mr. Laurier seemed to think, a logical step in the direction of the Liberal policy of claiming for Canada the right to negotiate her own commercial treaties or not, it is certainly a step in the direction of freeing her from a restriction which seriously hampers her movements and may, at any time, become a source of embarrassment and injury. We wish that we could be more sanguine of the success of the petition. We fear that the British Government will be slow to risk the abrogation of the treaties in question for the sake of freeing the Colonies from the operation of a single clause. We are no admirers of the policy of preferential trade arrangements, in the abstract, but such arrangements seem to be becoming the fashion, and the time may come when the power to make some such arrangement may be a necessity to the commercial well-being of Canada. It was noteworthy that the leaders of both parties were at one with regard to the thing sought, though their aim in seeking the release differed widely, and though the Liberals took exception to the wording of certain clauses, which affirmed, as they contended, heretical *doctrinaire* declarations. The unanimity of the House in regard to the prayer of the petition will, no doubt, greatly increase its weight with the British Government.

ONE of the last and best bits of legislation of the late session of Parliament was the amendment of the Frauds Bill by adding a clause providing that no Government contractor, or person supplying the Government with goods, or person having unsettled claims against the Government, can contribute to any political fund without coming under the penalties provided in the Bill. This is in direct line with what was advocated in THE WEEK which a respected contributor thought would be "heroic treatment" indeed. There is really, when we come to consider the matter, no reason that can be urged in support of the clause of the Act which forbids the bestowal of gifts or commissions upon officials of the Department by persons doing business with them, which is not equally valid against contributing to election funds for the support of the Government party by persons doing business with the Government. The cases are parallel. The Government, like the official, is in a position of trust. Nothing is more common than to hear praise given to the members of a Government for its liberality in contributing to this or that object, or making this or that appropriation, as if the money bestowed were their own, or at their absolute disposal. When we take into account the true position of the Government as the agents of the people, the trusted custodians of the public funds, bound by every consideration of honesty and honour to make every purchase and use every dollar conscientiously in what they believe to be the public interests, "without fear, favour or affection," we can at once see the propriety and necessity for such legislation. No one who knows anything of the intensity of the party spirit in Canadian politics, or realizes the part played by the party organization and the party fund, can fail to see that the moment a Minister permits a contractor, merchant, or other person with whom he has dealings in his capacity as trustee of the people, to become a contributor to the party funds, that moment he places himself under a compliment which must more or less affect his freedom in all future dealings with that individual. On

the other hand, the contractor or merchant, or other dealer who contributes, and takes care to let the Minister know that he contributes to the party funds, is, in accordance with the principle laid down by Premier Abbott in a speech from which we have before quoted, investing that money with a view to future transactions, or in other words offering what is equivalent to a bribe. Ordinarily the nice sense of propriety of a conscientious trustee, in the Government or in private life, should render any such transaction impossible. But, unhappily, the evidence before the Parliamentary Committees has made it but too clear that not all Ministers of the Crown, and but an exceptional few of those who have had dealings with them, have that nice sense of propriety. Hence the need the law should become their schoolmaster in ethics. Of course all such cases as those in which a clergyman, or other private individual, has to choose between buying in the cheapest market and offending a friend or parishioner, come in a different category. The man is spending his own money and is at liberty to follow his own inclination or conscience. We are by no means sure that there may not be cases in which the higher law of the Sermon on the Mount may require us to buy in the dearer rather than the cheaper establishment.

ANOTHER address to the Queen in which both parties concurred deals with the question of Canadian copyright. The provisions of the Copyright Act that was passed two years ago, but which, for want of the assent of the Mother Country, has not come into operation, are well known, and need not be rehearsed in detail. There can be no doubt in the mind of any one who understands Canada's peculiar position in reference to this matter, that the provisions of the Act of 1889 are "such as are required in the interests of the people of Canada." The address adds that these provisions have not been shown to be in any respect unfair as regards any portion of Her Majesty's subjects. The only part of the Act to which exception can well be taken is the provision that if the British publisher fails to publish the work in Canada within one month after its publication elsewhere, any person domiciled in Canada may obtain a license, but not the exclusive right, to publish it, on condition of paying a royalty of 10 per cent. of the retail price to the author. This can hardly be objected to by the British author, if he understands his own interests, as it secures to him, in either event, as large a return as he is likely to receive in any other way. The real objector is, no doubt, the British publisher, who would like to have the sole control of the Canadian market, without being compelled to publish in Canada. But the necessity of some such provision to secure justice to the Canadian publisher, under the unique conditions in which he is placed, must be obvious to any unprejudiced mind. In any case the day is past when the Canadian market for any commodity can be kept as a preserve for the British producer or merchant. We do not believe that, in this case, the Home Government will be able to hold out against the strength of the Canadian case. Should the event prove otherwise, Canada will hardly acquiesce without a struggle.

SOME wise man has observed that there are three distinct stages through which every great reform has to pass on its way to adoption. These are the stage of contempt or ridicule, the stage of sober discussion, and the stage of popular favour. The friends of Imperial Federation have some reason to hope that their idea is approaching the second of these stages. The question has found its way into the great magazines. There is, however, one feature of these discussions which must be rather disheartening to any but the most ardent believers in the project. The magazine writers seem to be almost all on the sceptical, if not positively hostile, side, and their lucubrations are, in the main, devoted to showing either the difficulty or the utter impracticability of the project. Lord Brassey's article in the *Nineteenth Century* is scarcely an exception, inasmuch as it puts forth as the immediately feasible part of the scheme, and that which demands first attention, the very proposal which is likely to meet with the most serious objection in the colonies, especially in Canada, viz.: that of colonial aid in the support of the army and navy. Of course this in some shape would be (Sir Charles Tupper to the contrary notwithstanding) a first corollary of Federation, but it is one which will bear discussion in Canada only when the advantages of the proposed compact shall have been so clearly demonstrated that the colonies cannot in con-

science declare themselves unwilling to pay for them. We do not propose, however, to enter just now into the general discussion. We refer to the question merely to point out to the advocates of Imperial Federation the necessity of agreeing upon at least a few rough outlines, or general principles, as a basis for further discussion. A little while ago they were constantly met with the criticism that they had no tangible scheme, since no one had attempted to define what Imperial Federation means. Premier Abbott still urges that objection as an excuse for having no opinion on the subject, though he saw fit, in the resolution on which we comment elsewhere, to leave a place for the introduction of preferential customs regulations, should these be found practicable. It must be admitted, however, that of late several influential advocates of Imperial Federation have come forward with more or less definite proposals. The difficulty is that the leaders seem to be wide as the poles asunder in their opinions as to what is desirable and practicable. Lord Brassey, as we have seen, regards as cardinal the very thing which Sir Charles Tupper discards. Lord Roseberry, probably the most influential advocate of the idea in England, goes farther and rejects the two leading features of Sir Charles' outline. He pronounces both colonial representation in the House of Lords, or in the British Privy Council, and an imperial customs-union, impracticable. Lord Roseberry holds that the question depends for the present on conferences at frequent and stated intervals. Lord Brassey quotes with seeming approval Lord Salisbury's opinion that attendance at such conferences would involve grave inconvenience to colonial statesmen, an opinion in which most colonists will no doubt heartily concur. And so the discussion goes on, leaving us farther than ever, apparently, from having definite proposals to discuss. Meanwhile it seems hard to resist the force of Lord Brassey's observation that to make a united empire we must have both a *Zollverein* and a *Kriegsverein*—both a tariff-union and a war-union—while the way to either is hedged across by most grave if not insuperable obstacles. Nevertheless it is, from the Canadian point of view, most desirable that the discussion be pushed to a conclusion favourable or unfavourable as soon as possible. We do not see how any thoughtful person can doubt that one potent contributory cause to the lamentable lack of growth revealed in the Canadian census, is the colonial status with its disabilities.

MR. GLADSTONE'S article in the *Nineteenth Century* wrought out in a mathematical formula the basis of his confidence and that of the party he leads, in a speedy return to power. His speech at the recent meeting of the National Liberal Federation has the same confident ring. It is, moreover, of special interest as setting forth unmistakably the intentions of the party in regard to a number of questions of home policy, though the cabled extracts give us but little of the criticism of Lord Salisbury's administration of the Foreign Office, which the correspondents have been promising us. That is probably reserved for another occasion. First and foremost, Mr. Gladstone confirms the assurances that have been from time to time given by his lieutenants, that Home Rule for Ireland is still at the top of the programme. It has indeed for some time past been evident that those who hoped that the Parnell quarrel would lead to the indefinite postponement, if not the final abandonment, of the Home Rule project, were reckoning without their host. The sudden death of Mr. Parnell, news of which has just arrived, will probably simplify rather than complicate the problem, and expedite rather than retard the Home Rule movement. It is now clear that the British nation is, unless something unforeseen should occur to change the whole current of events, now within measurable distance of an Irish local Parliament. Whether this means internal peace and unity, as so many hope, or ultimate dismemberment and ruin, as so many fear, the future must decide. It is not unlikely that it may mean neither, but just a transference from one shoulder to the other of a burden that must in the nature of things always be hard to carry. Apart from this the Liberal programme is not wanting in important and even startling announcements. Disestablishment in Wales and Scotland; payment of members of Parliament; and the "one-man-one-vote" electoral franchise may be mentioned as among the most important. But by far the most noteworthy thing in Mr. Gladstone's speech, if the brief cable extract rightly interprets its spirit, is his singularly plain language in reference to the House of Lords. His ominous intimations in regard to what may

happen in case the Lords take Lord Salisbury's hint and attempt to block the wheels of the Home Rule car, are, we suppose, the Liberal answer to the Premier's suggestion. Both threats seem, if a colonial onlooker may venture to say so, strangely ill-advised. Both certainly tend to increase the difficulties which beset the course of the Upper House. The very fact that the Lords are exposed to such influences—for no doubt both threat and counter-threat are intended to influence the action of the Upper House in advance—go far to show that its usefulness as an independent branch of the national Legislature is at a pretty low ebb. Meanwhile speculation as to what the approaching struggle may bring forth in British politics gives way to wonder at the perennial vitality and vigour of the octogenarian statesman. Never before, probably, in all the history of Britain, did an uncrowned king so sway the multitudes by the magic of his voice and personality.

THE Sigi incident has at last been officially explained, the explanation being in substance that it was merely an ordinary military manoeuvre on the part of the Mediterranean fleet, performed with the full consent of the Sultan. This explanation, like that of the Porte touching the Sultan's concession of the Russian claim to send vessels of the Volunteer Fleet, though in reality transporting men and munitions of war, through the Dardanelles, may be taken for what it is worth. Both are no doubt correct so far as they go. Whether there was not in both incidents more than appears on the surface of the respective explanations may well be doubted. The relations in time, first of the Turkish concession to the fall of the Turkish Grand Vizier, Kiamil Pasha, in consequence, as it was regarded in Constantinople, of his too great friendliness to the British policy in Egypt, and second, of the Sigi manoeuvre to that concession, seem too significant to have been the result of mere accident. But be that as it may, these events have thrown a flash of light on what are regarded by many as the most dangerous features of the European situation, so far, at least, as Great Britain is concerned. The resolute words to which they gave occasion in that portion of the British press which is believed to reflect Lord Salisbury's views, and the angry responses of the Russian press on finding Great Britain still inflexible in her insistence on the enforcement of the Treaty provision which shuts the Russian Black Sea fleet out of the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, reveal a state of feeling which may, we might almost say must, lead to war between the two nations the moment that changed circumstances of any kind may give Russia hope of success. It is not yet known how much of truth there may be in the rumours of violations of territory and advance-guard skirmishes on the Afghan frontier, but it is certain that the attitude of Russia in the East is one of perpetual menace and England's one of perpetual vigilance. What is Russia's chief motive in this? Is it that she really covets India, or a portion of it for its own sake? Or is her persistent pressure in that direction simply due to the fact that she regards India as the vulnerable heel of the British Empire, which she hopes some day to wound as a means of forcing Great Britain to give way in regard to the Dardanelles question. Assuming, as Russia herself intimates, that the latter is the real motive, the grave diplomatic question arises whether it would not be both to the advantage of Great Britain and in the interests of European peace to repeal the old Treaty and give the Russian fleet free access to the Mediterranean and the Ocean like other Powers. England's chief aim is no doubt to safeguard her route to India. But if the freedom of the Dardanelles would take away the motive of Russia's designs upon India and her hostility to England, the voluntary concession of that freedom would be a far more effectual safeguarding of British interests in India. Apart from this purely selfish view of the situation, there can be no doubt that Russia's exclusion from the Dardanelles is a very great hardship to her, and one such as no other nation would submit to a moment longer than compelled by necessity. The *Spectator*, representing no doubt the view of an influential section of British opinion, admits the force of this view, and complains only that Russia seeks to effect her purpose by underhand machinations instead of by straight-forward diplomatic pressure. "We see no wisdom," says the *Spectator*, "in refusing to the Russian nation a freedom of motion enjoyed by every other Power in the world, and would willingly see the Dardanelles declared part of the open sea, but that is no reason for enduring a violent breach of laws deliberately passed by Europe to prevent certain dangerous contingencies." There is much reason

in this view. It remains to be seen whether it is the view of the Liberal party.

THE experiments carried on in Texas during the month of August by General Dryenforth and a number of scientific assistants, who went out under the auspices of the United States Government with a view to testing the possibility of artificially producing the atmospheric conditions which cause rainfall, were interesting by reason of their novelty and still more so by reason of the incalculable benefits that would surely be brought within reach by a successful result. The first series of experiments is at an end, and General Dryenforth gives the public his unofficial report in the current number of the *North American Review*. His article is followed by one by Professor Simon Newcombe, LL.D., of Washington, who, dealing with the scientific basis of the experiments, denies the possibility of their success. The two articles in juxtaposition form a singular combination, and one which may in the future become historical. General Dryenforth rehearses briefly some scientific discussions of the past in reference to the possibility of producing rainfall in times of drought, and in arid regions, by artificial means. He also collates from history, and from letters written in 1870 by a number of officers who, in answer to enquiries which were at that time made, bore unequivocal testimony to the fact that many of the great battles of the Rebellion were followed within a few hours by heavy rains. After describing the plan of operations, the kind of explosives used, etc., the experimenter comes to his account of the crucial tests which it was his business to apply. He describes three operations made respectively on the 9th, the 18th and the 25th of August. The results were, in brief, that whereas in each case the sky was clear, or almost clear, at the commencement of the experiments, heavy rains, extending over considerable areas, fell within a few hours after the explosions were made. The scene of operations was an arid region in the interior of Texas "which had been suffering from a severe drought of several months' duration, and a lack of good rains for several years." All that Gen. Dryenforth tells us of experiments other than the three is contained in the following sentence: "Besides these three heavy storms which occurred after the principal operations, not less than nine showers of much less importance fell during the sixteen days of our experiments; a most extraordinary occurrence in this locality, and especially at this season of the year." Whether these showers stood in any significant time relations to minor explosions produced, the writer unfortunately fails to say. The point is evidently of great importance, because had it so happened that on several occasions explosions were made without being followed by rain within a reasonable period, the weight of the positive evidence above given would be very seriously diminished. But assuming, as we are bound to do, the truthfulness of the narrative so far as it goes, it can hardly be denied that a strong presumption is created in favour of the theory of the would-be rain-makers. In the face of this account, it certainly argues on the part of Professor Newcombe, a remarkably strong faith in the soundness of his *a priori* deductions from alleged scientific principles, that he should have come forward to demonstrate, as he at least attempts to do, that it is incredible and impossible that sound should produce rain. As to the alleged results of the experiments, Professor Newcombe contents himself with intimating that he knows too little about them to do more than ask questions suggested by well-known scientific truths, forgetting apparently that science cannot brush aside new facts once they are ascertained, and that such new facts may become at once important factors in modifying or enlarging our knowledge of what is "scientifically possible." Most readers will, we think, feel that it is too soon to form definite conclusions, and will await with interest the results of the further tests which are soon to be made at El Paso, Texas.

THE conference at Washington on trade relations between the Republic and Canada, which has been looked forward to with so much speculation, has been indefinitely postponed at the request of President Harrison. The reason assigned for the request is the inability of Secretary Blaine, in consequence of infirm health, to take part at present in such negotiations. We can well understand why, under the circumstances, the presence of Mr. Blaine at the conference should be regarded as indispensable, and, were that gentleman known to be absolutely too ill to take part, it would be unnecessary to look further for explanation of the delay. It should, indeed, be so in any

case. But it is unfortunately the characteristic, not to say reproach, of modern diplomacy, that the reason assigned for a certain course of conduct does not always reveal the whole or even the real motive by which that course is prompted. This seems to be so well understood as to be accepted almost as a matter of course, and hence the journalist may, we suppose, without offence, cast about for causes other than that specified. In the case in question such are not hard to find. We had occasion, when the correspondence in regard to this matter was brought down at Ottawa, to comment on certain astonishing facts revealed, facts which placed the conduct of the Government and of the Canadian High Commissioner in a very strange light. By Sir Charles Tupper's own admission to Mr. Blaine, the statement given to the Canadian public that the United States Government had taken the initiative in regard to the proposed conference, was distinctly untrue. The correspondence further made it clear that Mr. Blaine's request, which might well be regarded as a condition, that the negotiations should, for the time being, be kept secret, had been utterly disregarded. To what extent the memory of these two occurrences may still influence the mind of Mr. Blaine we can only conjecture. A remarkable article in the *New York Tribune*, a few days since, intimates that the memory of them still rankles, and is a chief cause of the manifest reluctance to enter upon the negotiations. As, however, the appointment for October 12 was made after the facts in regard to these occurrences were known, it seems highly improbable that this view is correct. As has been suggested from many quarters, it is much more probable that the approaching Fall Elections, especially that in Ohio, in which the integrity of the McKinley Bill is the chief issue, may suggest a strong motive for postponement. In that case it is not unlikely that similar causes may continue to operate until after the next Presidential Election. We have never been sanguine in hoping for the success of the proposed Conference. Unhappily the views of the two Governments in regard to the trade question are quite too far apart to leave much room to hope for a successful compromise. But now that the subject has been broached and a conference agreed on, it is highly desirable, so far as Canada is concerned, that it should take place with as little delay as possible. The very fact that such negotiations are contemplated has given rise to a certain amount of suspense and uncertainty in business circles. The disappointing revelations of the census have to some extent intensified this feeling. It is, on the other hand, for all reasons desirable that the public should be enabled to feel that the policy of the country is fixed, the goal of its ambition clearly defined. It is, therefore, to be earnestly hoped that the state of Mr. Blaine's health may be such as to admit of his complying with the request of our Government, that the Conference be held during the brief Parliamentary recess.

#### WHAT OF SIR HECTOR?

THE fates are not dealing as kindly with Sir Hector Langevin as they did with his late Chief. The admirers of Sir John Macdonald were spared the grief of seeing the nimbus with which they had encircled him during life deprived of a single ray at the supreme moment. Sir Hector Langevin has to face political, if not personal, disgrace just when the prize he long coveted was within grasp, and now there is none so poor to do him reverence. Fallen as he is, he is an example of what steady plodding and force of character can accomplish with average ability. For forty years he has been in public life, in one capacity or another, as alderman, as mayor, as member of Parliament and as Minister. In none did he achieve any reputation, but in all he managed to convey the impression that he was exceedingly useful. By seizing a propitious moment, he became leader of the French wing in the House of Commons. As soon as Sir George Cartier was lowered into the grave, his lieutenant caused a hurried and informal meeting to be held, and himself to be nominated in that statesman's place; it was a clever stroke there was no one else suggested, and he was elected. There were murmurings after, but the accomplished fact had to be accepted, and until the present revelations Sir Hector was looked upon as the legitimate heir of the late First Minister. A better foil to Sir John A. Macdonald could not have been selected. They were the opposites in everything except in the opinion that the ends justified the means. Sir John was essentially original and witty, Sir Hector was commonplace. In the one was the spirit of Ariel, in the other the ponderous sagacity of Lord Thurlow, of whom it was said, no one could be as wise as Lord Thurlow looked. But Sir John had this defect that he could not resist being prolific in promises, and his utterances were, consequently, not always taken seriously, whereas Sir Hector had the reputation, especially valu-

able in a politician, of never giving his word without intending to keep it. Without any personal magnetism or oratorical power, Sir Hector Langevin was never popular, but his tenacity, his extreme carefulness and method, and his long service caused him to be looked upon as an eminently safe man, and the pattern of respectability. Fond, like his predecessor, Sir George Cartier, of describing his compatriots as Englishmen speaking French, he rather cultivated Anglo-Saxon solidity and phlegm. And his unruffled demeanour, squarely set figure, immaculate frock coat and silk hat, and countenance clean shaven, save for an imperial goatee, together with a manner combining the suavity of the politician and the condescension of the office holder, stamped him as a wary, resolute and successful man. Among the mercurial Frenchmen in the Province of Quebec, he was considered the personification of solidity, and the very qualities which prevented popularity, gained for him respect; and in Ontario, the sleek, dapper little Frenchman, with his mastery of detail and cold-blooded precision, was looked upon as the type of the wily plotting Jesuit, and a source of strength to his equally astute but more captivating leader.

Now that Sir Hector is deposed, what will he do? He undoubtedly has strong claims, and there is a revulsion of feeling in his favour, as one who, if not more sinned against than sinning, fell through excess of zeal, and chose to fall alone. For, despite the majority report, no one believes in its theory of mild-eyed simplicity and guilelessness on the part of the Minister. Will he insist on being given the Lieutenant-Governorship of his native province, and seek some solace in the official tinsel of that position? Or will he, as a private in their ranks, strive to fight his way again to the front, against greater odds than the late First Minister had to meet after the Pacific Scandal? Or will he give up politics, and in the practice of domestic virtues seek to leave behind the old existence,

Forgetting, or never regretting, its roses,  
Its old agitation of myrtles and roses.

Both to Ministers and ex-Minister the question is puzzling, but to the country, now that the nine days' wonder is over, it is indifferent. HABITANT.

#### PARIS LETTER.

IT is calculated that there is one European for every fifteen thousand Chinese in the Flowery Land. The Pere Aubry, a life-long resident in China, predicted in 1877 the exact dangers at present existing between the Westerns and the toppling and drifting authority of the Government of Peking. Now that the yellow race is entering on its dislocation stage, why should not Europe, it is asked, facilitate, by a collective bombardment, the self-dismemberment of the Celestial Empire, and protectorate its several provinces by making separate and independent treaties with each? It ought not to be more difficult to carve out China than Africa, or to recast the map of Europe. Each Western, including cousin Jonathan, taking a few provinces under its wing, and framing free commercial intercourse rules, ought to be able to have and to hold China, and by opening up that dark continent prevent the yellow race from sweeping westward later on. The fanaticism of John Chinaman will soon die out when he perceives he is not encouraged and not punished by the authorities; he will become tranquil when in a position to turn an honest tael, and is no longer at the mercy of arbitrary mandarins. Give him, say, the liberty and protection of British India.

It is with anything but a light heart that France joins the collective cat-o-nine-tails party in process of being told off to whip the Celestials into humanity, and also to scourge the offending Adam out of them. She must expect a temporary counter-shock at Tonkin. All this implies an expenditure of men and money—two resources France cannot abuse. Then she must keep her weather-eye very open in Europe, and not unclosed on Africa. The relations between France and Germany are becoming less and less satisfactory; the French view the impending collision with augmenting gravity. The German deplores the inevitable, but is anything but dismayed about the issue. The reduction of the German military service from three to two years will give her—as she has a one-fifth greater population—one million more soldiers than France. Obligatory military service is over eighty years old in Germany; practically, it is but aged thirty months in France.

The working classes indulge in no hosannas over the promise of the Government to stake its existence during the coming session—opening on October 13th—on the Labourer's Pension and the Land Mortgage Bills. The worn-out workingman will be able to look forward, at sixty years of age, to a pension of 600 frs., partly made up by life-deductions from his earnings. He thinks the State ought to take nothing from him. The Land Mortgage question in France is a combination of extortion and usury, and cries aloud for redress. It is no use questioning the work of the Revolution, which, by abolishing primogeniture, enlisted younger sons to demolish estates. The small holdings thus created exist, and, though land has lost that prestige which had tripled its value, there are plenty of amateurs still to invest in it; the peasant above all. To his corner of land he has the mania to add another corner; he rarely pays cash down, but by instalments. The land does not bring him in more than two and a-half per cent., and he borrows money at five per cent. to pay off his liability; he labours like a slave,

but the burden is too grievous to be borne; the debt is foreclosed, and the same land tragedy is played by new actors. Only the usurers gain. The Government Bill framed on the lines of the Torrens Act will enable the small holder to borrow on his *lopin* at three per cent. like the rich. E. Zola is not ill, as is rumoured; he is closely occupied writing a drama in collaboration with Alphonse Daudet—not the specialty of either, save when Madame Daudet helps. In any case Zola lives very retired; the only place to meet him in society is at the balls and dinners given by his publisher, Charpentier. He believes that the world is down on his talent. When he has no intimate friend with him, he passes his evenings playing dominoes with his wife. Whether he partakes of it or not, there must always be a substantial dinner on the table; if not, that gives him the blues, by recalling his early days when the pinch of poverty was only another name for starvation.

Sportsmen are wailing and gnashing the teeth: there is no game this season in France, and what little there was the poachers had secured before the legal hour for gunning. Others maintain the theory that wandering dogs destroy the birds—partridges and quails. The former this season depend more on their legs than their wings; as for the quails, the wonder is that any at all exist, since they can be sold outside the close season. The best poachers are said to be in Périgord, where the fabricants of the famous game pâtés are supplied with their stocks of partridges before the opening day for sport. It is remarked that if you want to enjoy game well cooked, you must go into the provinces and seek it at an humble inn, where it will not be cooked in an oven, as at Paris, nor the "bouquet" drowned in spices and seasonings. Luther held that game was a melancholy meat, due to the animals always living under the sense of danger. It is a common remark that ladies dislike eating hare—it being too strong; in this they agree with the Turks and Armenians. Pliny maintained that the flesh of the hare made the consumer beautiful, graceful and amiable. As to "hung" game, Pasteur is the foe to encouraging enemy-microbes in our food.

The enthusiasm for Russia is not on the increase; her intending to borrow half a milliard of frs. from France has wet-blanketed their little relations. "Loan oft loses both itself and friend." Half of European Russia is doomed to famine, and she is not in a condition to fight a scientifically armed foe. The feeling is gaining ground that it is with England, rather than Germany, that the Muscovite must count. The intention of England to create a vast naval station at the Cape is considered proof that the Suez Canal would be speedily closed in case of all-round war. Perhaps, too, the Cape defences being strengthened is a precaution against the French fortifications in Diégo-Suarez Bay, Madagascar.

It may not be generally known that the Republic has not only Kings as visitors and householders, but prisoners also. The King of Annam is guarded a prisoner in a suburb of Algiers; he was "removed," just as John Bull acts towards divine right sovereigns in India when they become ugly. The King of Annam is twenty-three years of age, is a good photographer, a fair artist and a capital bicyclist. It is the latter accomplishment that has led to his being ordered to observe curfew hours and limited wheeling. Occasionally he cycles to the port of Algiers, where he might become a stowaway on an American or English ship, and, escaping to Annam, make things there unpleasant for the French protectorate. He is in the adventurous age, is found in everything, and is allowed 25,000 frs. a year pocket money. Better to be first in Gaul than second in Tonkin.

St. Cloud has been holding an alimentary exhibition, limited to French necessities of life. At the private view the *invités* were at liberty to taste what they pleased of the 200 exhibits, solid as well as liquid. One purveyor from Caen is ready to supply snails ready for the grill; it appears "that to prepare a snail for table well is equivalent to the discovery of a planet, and the adding of the seasoning ingredients exacts as much calculation as a problem of gravitation." A noted horse butcher reminds the working classes that "a 'beef'-steak—even from a horse—is better than a meal of haricots and salt." He relates one of his misfortunes: He had purchased a splendid American trotting horse, and entered it for the Trotting Club races; being a favourite much money was put down on it. On the morning of the race the animal fell into a gas cutting and broke its leg. It was shot; the owner converted the flesh into Lyons sausages, and invited his brother Trotting Club men to lunch off them. To what strange uses do race horses pass—from blue ribbon to sausage.

About as agreeable as mirth at a funeral was the act of the Pole, who has just repeated three times under the nose of the Grand Duc Alexis, the brother of the Czar, "Vive la Pologne!" The cry staggered the French for a moment. The unfortunate will have to pay dear for his ill manners. Were he a Frenchman and sure to live a quarter of a century, he might become a president of the Chamber. Some journals have a rubric under which they class all false news; sometimes the canards are good, that, for example, where M. Floquet declares he did not utter the *Vive* in question.

Marshal Macmahon said to M. de Behaine: "This year (1875) it is not probable Bismarck will declare war against us, and the next year (1876) we will be ready."

Z.

## IN MEMORIAM.

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, DIED AUGUST, 1891.

He was a man, take him for all in all,  
I shall not look upon his like again.

## I.

ONCE more hath grisly Death, the tyrant grim,  
To mortal men appeared and snatched away  
Another victim, and a noble; him,  
Our light and guide, he scrupled not to slay.

Now art thou gone whose bright effulgence shone  
When Freedom's path was dark with glooms of night;  
Thy star has led the weary searcher on  
When darkness hid each feeble flickering light.

Thou didst not fear to lead when others failed,  
No hollow mockery could deceive thy sight,  
Thou paidst no homage to a falsehood veiled,  
Nor didst thou deem that seated wrong was right.

Foremost wert thou amid the sons of song,  
Who tune their harps to no ignoble strain,  
But fight their battles with the night of wrong,  
And haste the coming of the day again.

## II.

Thy tireless muse in "divers tones" did sing;  
Full oft the lover's lip and lingering sigh,  
Some timid wooer softly whispering,  
To his fair maid the tale that's told for aye.

Anon some idle traveller's pleasing tale,  
That, in some wayside hostel feathily told,  
Makes grateful pastime while rude storms prevail,  
And winds are keen and winter nights are cold.

At times thou sang'st of bye-gone college days,  
Of learned men and books, and curious lore  
Of student life and pranks and merry ways  
Of *Alma Mater* in the days of yore.

Then, turning to the State thy critic eye  
In Attic verse thou didst to us reveal  
Our "statesmen's" faults and foibles, how they lie  
And gull the people, cheat the commonweal.

Not bound too fast in party's tangled creed,  
But free to pour on all the light of day,  
Thou didst not fear at times to place the meed,  
Where more of worth than cunning statcraft lay.

Nor didst thou fail to sound the call to arms,  
The battle-cry of Freedom's holy cause.  
And firm amidst the strife and war's alarms  
Thou stood'st for equal rights and equal laws.

Thou wert a bard whose trumpet-notes awoke  
The slumbering nation to redress a wrong;  
Who, when the long-impending conflict broke,  
Led on to glorious victory with his song.

## III.

The confines of no narrow creed could stay  
The aspirations of thy noble soul;  
Thou saw'st beyond into the greater day,  
Nor lingered'st till the night upon thee stole.

This was thy faith, if I mistake it not,  
That God, the Father, loves His children well,  
But men on earth must make or mar their lot,  
And for themselves prepare their heaven, their hell.

Not Christ alone, the Son of God, was slain  
To teach to men the better, holier way;  
Earth's myriad martyrs have not died in vain,  
We feel them guide us upward day by day.

This pure evangel didst thou gladly teach,  
That men are brethren and should ever love  
And help each other; the same gospel preach  
Good men on earth and saints in heaven above.

God's Fatherhood, the brotherhood of men,  
These were the corner-stones of thy belief;  
And new-inspired by thee took heart again,  
Full many a soul o'erburdened by his grief.

## IV.

Not thine own land alone doth grieve for thee,  
Not there alone doth lasting sorrow bide,  
Her island-mother, far across the sea,  
Doth weep for thee as 'twere her son that died.

Safe rest, for, jealous guardians of thy fame,  
Two mighty nations from Old England sprung,  
Shall ever watch o'er thee and keep thy name  
Immortal as their own good Saxon tongue.

A. F. CHAMBERLAIN, M.A.

Kootenay Lake, B. C., Aug. 29, 1891.

OUR necessities are few, but our wants are endless.—  
H. W. Shaw.

A SUGGESTED NEW DEPARTURE IN  
BRITISH POLITICS.

MACAULAY as also other eminent men of the last generation observed and lamented the growing deterioration of the House of Commons so far as statesmanlike qualities and moral courage were concerned. Mr. Bright, one of the clearest and most incisive of orators, repeatedly stated that, outside of official circles, there were not twenty English and Scotch members of Parliament who were really in favour of Home Rule; and Mr. Parnell recently publicly repeated that not more than one-third of the English and Scotch Gladstonian members are even now really in favour of it. Yet the Gladstonians have surrendered their private beliefs to Mr. Gladstone on such a vital question as that of breaking up the Empire, and as a consequence with the reasonable certainty of civil war in Ireland. But although with respect to members of Parliament and public men generally there has been a falling off of moral courage, yet it has been otherwise with the mass of the people. The latter crave for true leaders, and when these are wanting, many like the Israelites of old, make for their adoration false gods; very commonly veritable brazen images.

Two deeply-seated characteristics of the English people—not sufficiently borne in mind are as follows: (1) they admire pluck and moral courage, especially when combined with ability and straightforwardness; and (2) they also dislike cowardice, either physical or moral, dodginess and Pecksniffianism; but not being as a mass a quick-witted race, these points must be clearly put before them and pretenders must be exposed. Therefore, in this age of sham-liberalism, it should be the aim of the Unionists to display the qualities admired by their fellow-countrymen, but more especially moral courage; and also to show up, so "that they who run may read," the evils of the objectionable qualities in the second category. "Time and chance which happeneth unto all" have so ruled events, that it is in the power of the House of Lords by inaugurating a great reform, to baffle the designs of those who, for the sake of office, are all things to all men; and who, with that object in view, vehemently contend that certain actions are lawful and justifiable to-day which yesterday they denounced as heinous crimes.

Mr. Gladstone has contributed an ingenious but rope-sand article in the *Nineteenth Century*, in which he claims that the next general election will give him a majority of over one hundred. He is proverbially sanguine, and of late years has not always been reliable in his statements. It was shown in the *Times* that in his calculations he had, in counting his next year's chickens, made a mistake of eighteen, through the school-boy blunder of reckoning that number twice over. He has since written to the *Times*, manfully acknowledging his error; but he also had made a second one, and, although it only amounted to two, yet two such low-class school-boy mistakes in arithmetic in a carefully-written magazine article destroy our confidence in his calculations, and are evidence that his great age has begun to tell. According to Mr. Gladstone on the appeal to the country in 1886 on the question of Home Rule, the reply of the nation was as follows:—

	For the Union.	For Home Rule.
England ...	340	123
Scotland .....	29	43
Wales .....	5	25
Ireland .....	18	85
	392	276

Mr. Gladstone therefore shows that there was a Unionist majority of one hundred and sixteen, and that seventy-three per cent. of the English constituencies declared against him. But with all deference to him, his totals of three hundred and ninety-two and two hundred and seventy-six do not make six hundred and seventy, which is the real number of the House of Commons. Macaulay's school-boy would have laughed at such arithmetic. Since 1886 four Unionists have gone over to Mr. Gladstone, and he has also won eighteen seats on the bye-elections, thus reducing the Unionist majority to seventy-two. It is notorious that bye-elections in England incline in favour of the Opposition for the time being; besides this, in the majority of those during the last five years, the ignorant classes of the electors have been led to believe by Gladstonian candidates and agents that Home Rule has been shelved. In one case the small-pox returned the Gladstonian candidate—those opposed to vaccination, who were numerous in that town, voting solidly against the Government whose duty it is to stamp it out. Both wings of the Irish Nationalists felicitously claimed it as proving that the electors were in love with Home Rule, whereas it really showed that they preferred the small-pox. There is great truth in the popular proverb, "of two evils choose the least." In a second instance the successful candidate, a large employer of labour, had promised not to employ any men who did not belong to a union, although he himself is an active member of the Shipping Federation League, whose leading principle is free labour, employing both union men and non-unionists. A third seat was won by the circulation of an illustrated circular, falsely stating that the Unionist candidate had alleged that workingmen, so far as land was concerned, were only entitled to their graves. These are samples of reprehensible electioneering tricks, and prove the truth of Macaulay's charge of Parliamentary deterioration.

Practically, the Unionists have little to fear at the next general election. Both sections of the Nationalists concede that in Ireland the Unionists will win five

seats, but the latter claim from seven to ten, and have arranged to contest forty-eight Nationalist constituencies. In Scotland, owing to Mr. Gladstone stating that an attempt will be made to disestablish the time-honoured Scotch Church, the Home Rulers will lose many Liberal voters, who prefer their Church to Mr. Gladstone. This will cause the loss of several Scotch seats, at a low estimation, say only three. In a similar manner he has promised to try and disestablish the English Church in Wales, with the result of alienating many Liberal Episcopalians, who believe the Church of England to be of vastly more importance than a great orator. The estimated Welsh loss from that cause is only put at one, although it is certain to exceed that number. Therefore, in Ireland, Scotland and Wales, it is reasonably sure that he will altogether lose nine seats, but probably more. Consequently, as compared with 1886, Mr. Gladstone will have to win in England one hundred and sixteen seats to give him the majority of one hundred claimed by him. If he wins sixty-seven seats there will be a tie, if he only wins thirty, there would be a Unionist majority of seventy-two. His only real chance of success is for his candidates, as in the majority of the bye-elections, to assure the uninformed agricultural labourers that Home Rule has been abandoned, and also that if they vote for him, they will, in some mysterious manner, get a slice of the land without paying for it; although he himself does not promise it, and has no intention of carrying out anything of the sort; for, to his credit, he has emphatically stated that the nationalization of the land would be robbery.

Now that the Conservatives and Liberal-Unionists have got what they did not possess in 1886—a joint organization—the probability is that there will be a handsome Unionist majority in 1892; but if by false representations that Home Rule is dropped, and by indirect bribery, which was so scornfully rejected by the pre-reform electorate in 1874, and by the Irish landlords in 1886, Mr. Gladstone should obtain a majority, the question arises, what course should be pursued to neutralize that mishap? Mr. Labouchere asserts in *Truth* that there are only thirty-five Home Rulers in the House of Lords out of five hundred and thirty-seven Peers, and that thirty out of the thirty-five have held office. From other statements which have been made, it is clear that if the Peers, by rejecting a Home Rule Bill, exercised their lawful and solemn duty, to frustrate the trailing of the red-herring across the electoral scent, and thus to compel, by a dissolution, a direct appeal to the nation on the square issue of Home Rule or the Union, it is the intention to raise a quarrel between them and the mass of the people, by falsely representing to the latter that the Peers were dictating to them. It would therefore behove the Peers "out of the nettle danger to pluck the flower safety," and to seize and turn the enemy's guns against himself.

I therefore respectfully propose that the House of Lords should inaugurate a new principle—a mode of dealing with troublesome questions of magnitude which would practically be one of the three greatest political reforms of the century; but which at the same time would act conservatively, and would frustrate the Pecksniffianisms which of late years have to unreflecting people passed as statesmanship. It would absolutely prevent the fruition of attempts to get office under one pretence, and then using the power thus obtained for another object not contemplated by the electors.

#### THE REFERENDUM AS A REMEDY.

The Peers under those circumstances before voting on a Home Rule Bill should appeal to the nation on the principle of the Referendum, and take the votes of the electors of the United Kingdom on the simple issue (1) the Union or (2) Home Rule with civil war in Ireland and a breaking up of the Empire. This would get rid of the small-pox-grave-yard, red-herring and bogus issues, and the people would be brought face to face with the vital question. If they decided for the Union any Separatist Bill would be thrown out by the Peers then having the nation at their back. If they decided the other way the Bill would pass to be repented of at an early day.

#### THE FAIREST WAY OF COUNTING VOTES.

The constituencies to be reckoned according to their respective populations, thus if three Irish constituencies have between them a population of 80,000 and the majority vote for Home Rule, they to count as 80,000 for Gladstone; and if one London or other English constituency had a population of 100,000 and the majority voted for the Union then that should count as 100,000 against Home Rule. Thus Ireland would only vote for its population of 4,700,000, whereas now on the basis of the twenty-nine millions in England and Wales returning only 495 members; Ireland in Parliament counts as being equal to 6,034,000 English people.

#### THE GERRYMANDER OF 1884.

This would practically neutralize the Irish gerrymander and reduce the number of Irish voters from 103 to 83; it would also rectify the over-representation of Wales and of rural districts generally, and would thus ignore and defeat the adroit gerrymandering of Mr. Gladstone in his Reform Bill. He practically poses as the advocate of unequal electoral rights—the Peers would represent fair play and would necessarily win. It is certain that if in 1884 he had believed that giving too many members to Ireland and Wales would have resulted in strengthening the Conservatives, he would have said with Pecksniff on a noteworthy occasion, "My friends let us be moral." But

as he well knew that it would weaken them he practically said, "My Christian brethren, let us best the enemy—let us gerrymander the Egyptians." Practically an overwhelming majority of the people would cordially agree with the dictum of the House of Lords, that a Londoner's vote should not be of less value than that of an illiterate Celtic Irish peasant, living in a two-roomed hut, rated at a pound a year, and whose vote is the property of his priest. Mr. Gladstone could not fight on such an issue. Counting the votes in that common-fairness way—all votes being of the same value—the Unionists would be in an immense majority. By the Peers carrying out the mandate of the people Mr. Gladstone would be placed in a false position—in military phase he would be outflanked, if he then dissolved—his parliamentary adherents would be awkwardly situated, for many of them would have to face constituencies which had just decided against them.

#### THE RESULT OF EQUAL ELECTORAL DISTRICTS.

If it had not been for the gerrymander in 1884—if there had been equal electoral districts—the majority against Home Rule in 1886 would have been at least 146 instead of 116. Equal electoral districts on the basis of the then population would have transferred nearly twenty votes from Ireland and Wales to England, and would also have additionally added to the representation of the British large towns, where the great strength of the Unionists is; and have diminished that of the less populous and less intelligent districts where Mr. Gladstone has more influence. At present Ireland with a population much less than of Greater London, and not possessing one-fourth of its wealth, has forty-one more votes. The House of Lords would rectify this by the referendum. London is overwhelmingly Unionist.

#### SCOTCH DISESTABLISHMENT.

One of the political evils in America is what is known at Washington as log-rolling. If by the system of log-rolling Scotch Disestablishment is carried through the House of Commons, the Peers should call for a referendum in Scotland only, reckoning the votes of the constituencies in the same manner as in the Union case. If a majority of the Scotch were opposed to Disestablishment the Lords should reject it; if on the other hand the majority were in favour of it, they should pass the measure. According to the *Weekly Scotsman* of September 12, on the question of Disestablishment being put to the vote in the parishes of Annan and Green Knowe, 1,333 out of 1,990, nearly sixty-seven per cent., voted against it; therefore there is reason to believe that the majority of the Scotch are opposed to it.

#### WELSH DISESTABLISHMENT.

This would also apply to the question of disestablishing the English Church in any part of the kingdom, say for instance Wales. In a similar manner take the votes of the population of England and Wales only—resisting the application of the thin edge of the wedge on the question of separation; and treating the population of the southern part of Great Britain as forming one nation, seven hundred years under the same crown—is surely sufficient. It is certain that Welsh disestablishment would thus be defeated.

#### PARLIAMENTARY OBSTRUCTION.

The Peers could thus take the sense of the nation on the question of Parliamentary obstruction and misconduct—putting the question as in the case of all other associations, clubs and gatherings—whether those who misbehaved and obstructed business should or should not be expelled during the whole of the then Parliament, there is not the shadow of a doubt what the overwhelming answer would be; and the Government obeying the mandate of the people could disregard the great orator when he thundered on behalf of the wrong doers. Our great fault is a want of moral courage—there is any amount of immoral courage on the part of the disorderlies and of their allies.

This proposed reform respecting Bills embodying great constitutional changes, or cases of obstruction, etc., in the House of Commons—(the Peers having a free hand to appeal or not to appeal to the people)—would practically lead at an early day to equal electoral districts, which would add to the power of the more intelligent of the population and diminish that of the less intelligent—and this should be the aim of all true statesmen.

As the Unionists would vote on such an appeal, the Separatists would be compelled to follow suit or acknowledge defeat. The moderate expense could be met by subscription, and hosts of patriotic volunteers would do the work free of cost. Any constituency where coercion of any description was adopted against the voters to be struck out of the calculation altogether. This would indirectly remedy another crying evil in one of the sister lands.

#### A NEW ERA IN STATESMANSHIP.

This principle, if acted upon, would create a new era in statesmanship, and it would prevent the growth on a large scale of that Pecksniffianism which of late years has done so much to lower the tone of political morality. But it requires a statesman of creative energy and force of character to infuse the necessary moral courage into the Peers; for the only real difficulty is a possible lack of moral courage in the House of Lords. Nothing that Mr. Gladstone or any other person could say or do could prevent the Peers from taking the opinion of the nation—the great majority of whom would be pleased by the implied value put upon their good sense; and no Act of Parliament would be required. Limited space prevents the statement of additional reasons in favour of the proposal,

which, however, will suggest themselves to persons of intelligence.

Upwards of a century ago a Tory House of Commons passed the famous resolution "the power of the Crown has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished"; so of late years the power of sham-Liberalism has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished—and the proposed reform would effect that object and destroy the plans of present or future politicians, who to gain power are all things to all men.

FAIRPLAY RADICAL.

Toronto, September 29.

#### TOWARDS AUTUMN IN ENGLAND.

FLOWERY rush and stately flag, broad leaved water lily, tufts of green willow, veritable islands, fill the pond this cool October day. Dark green water is shimmering in the light, here and there disturbed by a fish's leap, by a water vole or flea, the latter appearing in all sizes, from the huge female to minute baby, disporting themselves in the shady bays, and here water milfoil offers a retreat. Rhododendron, elder, oak, fir, edge the silver sand sloped banks, which, at this season of the year, are fringed with graceful reindeer moss. Fir tree needles strew the ground, and green velvety patches of grass: ants and spiders scramble across the pathways, busied in garnering winter provision. Dead branches covered with gorgeous *Parmelias* crack under foot at every tread, and where autumn tinted briar and bracken are reflected in the water below.

Pines and fir trees, with rude rough bark, are covered with thin powdery *Verrucarias*, and perforated in endless patterns by the strong bill of the woodpecker. Here he has made for himself a home, to return to year after year: and has rudely scored off all the outer rind in search for minute kinds of insects. When rain is coming his voice is heard, jarring and vibrating like a saw, as he holds on with those four sharp claws to the perpendicular trunk of the tree. In the near neighbourhood a squirrel has taken up his abode, and the remains of his drey (rudely put together) are tossed and blown by the wind. The young squirrels at this season may be met everywhere in the woods, but vanishing away like lightning, as they catch sight of mankind. The old parents on the contrary appear quite tame, and will venture within a couple of yards, if quiet is maintained. Why is it that wild animals, and birds as well, may be watched for endless periods if the eye is directed beyond them? Where that old clump of hazel grows out of the reedy pool—and is scored moreover so very deeply by woodbine—a wren hops ceaselessly hither and thither. Now and again a pigeon rises with a loud fluttering of wings, or a rabbit brushes hastily across the woodland path.

Down that narrow foot-track, away towards the wooden bridge, a hare has come out to feed, with dropped ears, nibbling away at the thick herbage, unmindful of his foe the weasel. A carpenter bee is flitting around, coming and going every minute: a jay overhead is chattering and jabbering "is it rain, is it rain?" How many a nest of his has been here shot through by the keeper? What sort of larder has he kept, all the hot summer days?

Over the silent pond beyond us, fly and dart the swallows; the swift long since took his departure—did he start at a hundred and fifty miles an hour? Splash, splash go the wild duck at a very short distance hence, where tall reed and bullrush offer unlimited protection, and the pigeons shrill prolonged cry sounds at intervals as if alarmed. When disturbed by footsteps, it is the mallard that first takes flight; the duck that leads the flight of the drake who quickly follows. Every night now are birds arriving, and each day sees new guests; as some come others go, in constant streams of migration. By these reedy pools and ponds, they seem to halt and refresh; the moonlight nights of October will witness a busy scene. During the daytime, at any rate, and especially by early morning, herons are by no means infrequent visitors, and in the keeper's cottage a rude screen of blue-grey feathers bears faithful witness to the statement. Do herons, by-the-by, possess a power in their eye, peculiar to themselves or common to all other birds? Do not sparrows, starlings, thrushes, thus allure and fascinate their prey? Miles away from this point herons find their home and nest, and scream all day in cool fir and pine trees; and roost, by-the-by, often where they have reared their young.

In the bright sunlight where shadows from overhanging boughs make lace work all round the pond, field mice, with their short stumpy tails, come out to feed, and their eyes glittering like black beads first attract attention. They creep about in and out, among tufts of reedy grass and bracken, vanishing away in the recesses of old trunks at the very least sound. Sometimes snakes come down to swim in the shallows of the old pond, their sloughs or tough skins being found in the dry heather on the banks: and carried by old Dorsetshire folks in their hats for headache. Farther afield, in the outlying reeds, where snipe and woodcock foregather, foxes have lain ere now, and barked at mid-day. Sometimes even in bright sunlight they pass the pond on the prowl, and, hard pressed, will turn to bay on a shepherd's or moucher's dog.

Carp are very often found in the mud, shaded by leafy fern tangles; while tench, dace, trout—on a hot day—float idly with head against the stream. Among the tall rush and spear that fringe the sides of the lake, the

reed warbler, from time immemorial, has built his nest, or constructed it, by-the-by, on mechanical principles, that with the least flush of water, it floats with the reeds. Just at this season the old nests come into sight, as the reed cutter's punt makes a roadway through the thickest recesses—very beautiful they are, compact and watertight still. Sometimes the birds may yet be startled, and dart over the top of the reed and rush, disappearing straightway among the thick, dense undergrowth. But the majority have already departed into the stream of migration. At any rate, in summer or winter, our *Newsy Bit* is full of interest; of botanical and ornithological study there is no end. When falling leaf and fading tree reveal at this time all their treasure, some inkling may be gathered of what reed and rushes once held.

E. K. PEARCE.

#### OUR LOG CABIN BOOK-SHELF FOR 1891.

THE collection of books constituting our Log Cabin Book-Shelf for the present year, 1891, is of a more restricted character than any of the preceding collections under the same title which have been exhibited in the Pioneers' Lodge. It is confined to works written by, or relating to, the great scholar Erasmus, who did so much in the early period of the sixteenth century for the revival of learning in Europe. The claim of this special collection to a place on our Log Shanty Book-Shelf rests on the same grounds that have justified the exhibition of previous collections there, it being a *bona fide* accumulation of books originating years ago, at a time when the opportunities were few for making any literary collections at all of a curious character, and formed by one greatly lacking guidance and experience at the moment, but at the same time anxious for self-improvement intellectually. Having accidentally, at a very early age, fallen in with an obscure copy of the Colloquies or Dialogues of Erasmus arranged for school purposes, I chanced to become greatly interested in its contents, familiar acquaintance with which became more easy soon after by the acquisition of a copy of L'Estrange's quaint Old English translation. Erasmus, as is well known, exhibits himself in these colloquies as what I have styled an Anti-Obscurantist, that is, as one inclined to remove, in a friendly way, the clouds and mists which in the lapse of years had insensibly gathered over the face of things in the literary and religious world. Thus indoctrinated, one became somewhat desirous of becoming an Anti-Obscurantist himself in his day and generation; and this, in a very humble degree, I succeeded in doing, as the tenor of the several collections of books that have from time to time formed our Log Cabin Book-Shelf will show. Furthermore, when the date of the commencement of these several collections is considered, in the first quarter of the present century—say, 1824-25—I think I may lay some claim to the honour of being in these parts, like Erasmus himself, a Pioneer Anti-Obscurantist. While residing as a student at Cambridge from 1833 to 1837 I used often to contemplate with great interest the so-called "Erasmus' Walk" in the grounds of Queen's College, also a certain small tower attached to the same college, known as "Erasmus' Turret" from the fact that a study of the great scholar was situated in it. It was in this turret that Erasmus began the examination and collation of such existing ancient manuscript copies of the Holy Scriptures as he could lay his hands upon in their original languages, which led eventually to the publication of his famous edition of the Greek Testament in the year 1516—a memorable step taken by him. It was the starting point in a method of studying the Sacred Scriptures which was destined speedily to revolutionize the theology of Europe and wrench it out of the hands of the so-called school-men—the Scotists and Thomists, the prime Obscurantists of their era. The office filled by Erasmus at Cambridge was that of Margaret Professor of Divinity, a professorship which still continues in existence. In 1867, my early conceived and long continued regard for Erasmus, received its crowning gratification. In that year I was so fortunate as to be able to pay a visit to the spot where the mortal remains of the great scholar are deposited in the cathedral at Basle in Switzerland, and to read the laudatory inscription on the mural tablet placed there in his honour. It was at Basle that the first edition of his Greek Testament was printed by his friend Frobenius in 1516. Had Erasmus lived a few years later, and been found anywhere in the Netherlands or along the Rhine, he would certainly have suffered death at the hands of Alva or the officers of the Inquisition, acting under the direction of Philip the II. of Spain.\* Even in England he would not have been safe, as is evident from the fate that befel his two friends, Bishop Fisher in 1535, and Sir Thomas More in 1538, who both lost their heads on the scaffold for refusing to accept the doctrine of the Royal Supremacy as held by the irresponsible despot Henry the VIII. Had Erasmus then been residing in England, he might have presented a view of the doctrine in question so technically qualified as to allow of an assent being given to it by his friends, such an assent as would have satisfied Henry. The Royal Supremacy as interpreted by the Tudors and Stuarts down to the flight of James the II. was sufficiently monstrous. Under Constitutional Government in Church and State it is now regarded as a doctrine quite harmless and even

seemly. Having become very familiar with the first traditions of Christianity as recorded by the Apostles and Evangelists, Erasmus could not endure the forged documents, Fictions, the Glosses, and so called developments and definitions, which in his time kept out of view the deposit of Divine truth. His constant aim was that these should be taken out of the way in a good humoured manner of his own. If as Vossius conjectured, *anti* opposed to and *moine* monk, be the real derivation of *antimony*, then there was much antimony in Erasmus' remedies. He especially assailed the monks. The Monks and Friars had multiplied exceedingly throughout the length and breadth of the land, in the British Islands as well as on the continent of Europe. The rank and file of these orders had unhappily degenerated into a condition of great ignorance and narrow-mindedness. Being brought into intimate relations with the humbler classes as preachers and licensed mendicants, they exercised a very powerful influence amongst them, creating a greater obstacle to the general spread of improvement in regard to manners and education than any other class of men in the community. Through the instrumentality of his friend Colet, Erasmus may be said to have inaugurated a new and better school system for Great Britain, Colet being indebted to him for many of the enlightened ideas embodied in the rules and conditions of St. Paul's School, the first of that group of remarkable institutions which was established in England after the so-styled *Renaissance*, or New-birth of learning, in Europe. Teutonic, as distinguished from Latin Christianity had in Erasmus, one of its earliest promoters. At the same time Erasmus was very conservative. He exhibited no desire to disturb the primitive organization which held together Christian society in the several nations of Europe, although that, too, in the lapse of years had become encumbered with excrescences, which he desired to see judiciously removed. Several extremists who took part in the great controversies of the age strenuously endeavoured to draw Erasmus into a line of action foreign to his natural temperament. Going so far, why not go further? Or, if so conservative, why break at all with the old condition of things? Happily for himself and for the world, Erasmus did not fall into the snare. Probably it is due to the moderation of Erasmus that he was permitted to die a natural death. It should be recalled, too, that several of the Bishops of Rome treated him with friendliness, as for example, Adrian VI. and Leo X. Nevertheless, it cannot be said that he closed his days in peace. As the end drew near, the onslaughts upon him of Obscurantist writers increased in virulence. Erasmus long suffered grievously from calculi. At length the malady carried him off. He entered into his rest at Basle on the 12th of July, 1536.

Among the volumes referred to may be mentioned: "The Adagia of Erasmus, with notes of various commentators and full Indexes." Folio. Hanover, 1517. With the fine device of Wechel on title page. "The Commonplace Book of Erasmus." After selecting and arranging under distinct heads, the most pithy passages to be found in the whole compass of ancient classical literature, Erasmus adds to several chapters a dissertation, in which he gives expression to his own enlightened ideas. Of this work, a writer in the *British Quarterly Review* uses the following language: "That volume is probably the most astonishing monument of literary diligence existing in the world, and however, the *homo unius libri* must in most cases, be regarded as poorly furnished with intellectual wealth, that could scarcely be said to be the case if the single book in question happened to be the Adagia of Erasmus." "The Colloquies of Erasmus." (In Latin.) Amsterdam, 1662. From the press of Elzevir. 24mo. With fine engraved title page by Cornelius Dusend. Erasmus is seen standing with a telescope in his hand, with which he has been examining a small open sphere suspended against the sky. This is intended to represent "The World of Humanity." Below appears the motto: *Vidit, Pervidit. Risit.* "He saw it; saw through it; indulged in pleasantries upon it." The pleasantries of Erasmus were not malicious, but were intended to be sanative. "Erasmus' Praise of Folly." (In Latin.) *Encomium Moria.* Leyden. John Maire. 1668. With notes by Gerard Listrius. This work was composed by Erasmus on a journey from Rome to England in 1508. Folly herself is supposed to speak. All the flagrant abuses of the period in Church and State are ironically lauded by her. This journey was by the Rhaetian Alps to Constance and Strasbourg; then down the Rhine to the Netherlands. He beguiled the time by gathering material for his Satire. After a short stay at Louvain, he passed over to England, where he finished the composition in the house of Sir Thomas More, to whose name there is doubtless a humorous allusion in the Word *Moria*. There were twenty-seven editions of this celebrated work published during the lifetime of the author, and it was translated into many of the languages of Europe.

H. SCADDING.

Toronto, September 6, 1891.

THE path of genius is not less obstructed with disappointment than that of ambition.—*Voltaire.*

WISE men ne'er sit and wail their loss,  
But cheerly seek how to redress their harms.

—*Shakespeare.*

IF you tell a woman she is beautiful, whisper it softly; for if the Devil hears, he will echo it many times.  
*Durvaige.*

#### LINES TO A DREAMER.

O CHANGE all this thinking, imagining, hoping to be;  
Change dreaming to action and work; there's a God in  
your will.  
Self-mastery and courage and confidence make a man free,  
And doing is stronger than dreaming for good or for ill.

Then make a beginning; don't lie like an infant and weep.  
Begin with the dearest and crush some delight-giving sin  
Right out of your life, with a purpose of death before  
sleep;  
A passion controlled is an index of power within.

Some hard self-denial; let no one suspect it at all,  
With ruthless self-torture continue, nor half an inch yield.  
Step fearless and bravely; hold on and believe—you won't  
fall;  
Companions you've none but the best on this grim battle-  
field.

Stagnation means death. If you cannot advance you  
retreat;  
Steel purpose maintain; let it be the first aim of your life;  
Beware of those mushroom resolves as impulsive as fleet,  
And remember, the nobler the end the more deadly the  
strife.

For the hope that another may save you is coward and  
vain,  
And the ladder, by which you must climb to yon far starry  
height,  
Is of cast-iron rungs from the furnace of suffering and pain.  
Then forward; and courage! from darkness to truth's  
golden light.

DU BOIS-NOIR.

#### TEETOTALLERS AND TAXATION.

THE increase of the duties on beer and liquors is an extra tax on the brewers and the distillers, the dealers and the saloon-keepers, and not upon the consumers. So said the Minister of Finance when introducing his Budget. As a problem in the economics of taxation, it is a pity the duties were not made high enough to fall to some extent on the consumer—but only as such a problem is it a pity. It would then be seen whether enhanced prices restricted the consumption of liquors in Canada, and, if so, why such should be the effect in Canada when exactly the opposite is the result in all other countries. It is a general law in political economy that to cheapen an article is to cause an increase in the consumption of that article. Just the opposite, however, is the case with intoxicants. In all ages in every country it is seen that the higher the price of liquors and the more harassing the restrictions on the liquor trade, the greater has been the consumption of drink and the more marked the increase of drunkenness. The history of the liquor traffic proves this. In 1735 England was a drunken country, and with a view to its improvement licenses were increased to £50, and 20s. a gallon was levied on gin. What was the result? Did drunkenness decrease? Quite the contrary. The consumption of spirits in England and Wales rose from 10,500,000 gallons in 1733 (i.e., before the passing of the Act) to over 19,000,000 gallons in 1742. Riot and violence followed the attempts to enforce the Act; rebellion and murder were feared, the troops were called out, and although within two years of the passing of the Act 12,000 persons had been convicted of offences against it, it had become odious and contemptible, and policy as well as humanity forced the Commissioner of Excise to mitigate its penalties. The consumption above named was by a population not exceeding six millions, the average consumption *per capita* in 1742 being no less than three gallons. The Government repealed the obnoxious statute of 1736 in 1743, substituted a duty of only 7s. 6d. a gallon at the still head, and reduced the license to 20s. Notice the result. In 1842, one century later, with this regulation still in force and with a population increased to sixteen millions, the consumption was only 8,166,985 gallons in the year, or only half a gallon a head, showing a diminished consumption of five-sixths. The consumption of spirits at the present time strengthens the view here taken, and, indeed, shows that the consumption increases with an augmented rate of duty, for with a duty of 10s. 5d. a gallon, to say nothing of excise licenses for distilling, retailing, etc., the consumption has advanced since 1842 to 1.06 gallons *per capita*. The experience of other countries points the same way. In France, where brandy is cheap, one will not see as much drunkenness in six months as will protrude itself in one night from the heavily taxed dram-shops of London and New York. In Jersey and Guernsey, where almost every shop sells drink, where rum may be had at twopence-halfpenny and brandy at threepence the half-pint, and a glass of strong ale for one penny, there is not a thirtieth part of the drunkenness to be met with that may be found on any similar area in England.

It is quite within the natural fitness of things that the state of affairs should be as stated above. The same laws that regulate the consumption of necessaries and comforts do not apply to the consumption of drink and other luxuries. The sale of the former is limited by price. The sale of the latter is limited by the desire of the consumer,

\*For particulars of the incredible inhumanities of Alva, the Inquisition and Philip II. in the Netherlands, see Motley's "Rise of the Dutch Republic," and Thorold Roger's "Holland," in the series entitled, "The Story of the Nations."



which in a great many cases is of extraordinary strength, and in not a few amounts to a frenzy. To attempt to regulate this desire by artificially raising the price of what is desired, both common sense and experience show to be futile. That prices have no deterrent effect in purchasing liquor is proved by the progress of the temperance movement, because temperance has spread most amongst those to whom money is no object. Drunkenness has decreased most amongst those whose power to get drunk is greatest, but whose inclination or desire to do so, it seems, is least. John Bright has told us that when he first entered Parliament, drunken M.P.'s were twenty times more common than afterwards; and the present Lord Chief Justice of England says that in his younger days a drunken rector at a dinner party was an ordinary occurrence. This testimony is mentioned here because in both instances the arguments were given to show that such a state of things happily belongs to a by-gone age; and it is important to remember that duties of customs and excise have had no effect in bringing about so desirable an improvement. "Drunk as a lord" did not give way to "drunk as a pig" by the operation of fiscal legislation, but by an improved social tone which made drunkenness no longer "lordly" but "swinish." It is now as great a disgrace for a farmer or an artisan to be intoxicated as it is for a clergyman or a member of Parliament.

The drunkard is the stumbling block to a nation's life, just as to his own; and this will be the case so long as Ministers of Finance declare they have nothing to do with morals. The present Minister of Finance told a deputation the other day that he could not see his way clear to prohibition because of the revenue he obtained from the consumption of intoxicants; and that is precisely the reason England not only tolerates but encourages the opium trade in her great Eastern dependency. This is a very sad state of affairs. It is equivalent to saying "we are opposed to these national evils, but they pay, and therefore we support them." And to be right and to raise revenue from intoxicants, it is right to offer facilities for so raising a revenue. "Drink, drink, and fill the exchequer," virtually cries the Minister of Finance. When England had to pay the Alabama Indemnity, her consumption of spirits had increased so much during the current year that it was declared in her House of Commons that "she had drunk herself out of the Alabama difficulty," and this was said not as a stigma, but as a boast. Is there not something immoral in all this? Is it not compounding one's sins to admit that liquor is a national evil, and then to say that it must be endured for purposes of revenue? What is the use of legislating against crimes when the parent of crime is fostered for the money he brings in? How much nobler was the conduct of the Emperor of China than is that of the Finance Ministers of the nations of white faces. This monarch rejected every consideration of revenue when urged to admit opium at a duty. There was indeed something sublime in his declaration: "It is true I cannot prevent the introduction of the flowing poison; gainseeking and corrupt men will, for profit and sensuality, defeat my wishes, but nothing will induce me to derive a revenue from the vice and misery of my people." Western morality should consider this, so should every citizen. Is it not an immoral position in which to be placed, that of sharing the advantages of a Government largely paid for out of the sale of that which is the cause of so much misery and vice? That the drunkard should be the "mainstay" of our constitution is mean, cruel, short-sighted and fraught with evil to the State.

There is yet another consideration on this head. No one can help regretting the vast amount of money squandered in the drinking saloons. All a man's earnings, however, are not so spent. Tea, coffee, sugar, food and clothing are articles (in most instances) he first purchases, and it is only as a rule what he ought to have saved that is spent at the saloon. This points to a simple remedy: cheapen the articles that compete with intoxicants. Let tea and whiskey fight the battle on a fair field and no favour, and tea will conquer. Let coffee be cheap, and it will largely supersede the use of intoxicating drinks, as it has done on the continent of Europe. This is proved to some extent by the fact that sailors on the steamers trading between Liverpool and New York, who, having the option of an allowance of rum, tea or a pecuniary equivalent, usually reject the rum. Indeed, even light, cheap wines would drive beer and spirits out of the market. Adam Smith says that, if we consult experience, the cheapness of wine seems to be a cause, not of drunkenness, but of sobriety.

The fact insisted upon here, viz.: that cheap spirits do not cause drunkenness, leads to a very curious conclusion. That is, whether the country would not be better off with untaxed spirits sold by unharassed traders, than with heavily taxed liquors sold by hampered and suspected saloon keepers. Professor Kirk, of Edinburgh, thinks that untaxed whiskey and free trade in whiskey would be a blessing rather than a curse. He says that when a man buys for sixpence a gill of whiskey of the "ordinary drinking strength at which Scotch whiskey is sold," he only gets one-third of a pennyworth of whiskey, the rest being for water, duty and other needless adjuncts. Now, double that quantity is more than drunkards regularly take at a sitting; so that, supposing a man with his last shilling in his pocket entered a public house, and then reeled home under the influence of a half pint of whiskey of the "ordinary drinking strength," instead of being penniless as now, he would have ninepence or tenpence in his pocket for his wife to spend in such things as the family could enjoy in

sober gratification. Such is Professor Kirk's ingenious argument.

To summarize what has been above written, it seems logical: First, that duties of customs and excise have not restricted and do not restrict the consumption of intoxicating drinks; secondly, that the best way to prevent drunkenness is to teach men the wisdom of sobriety, and the folly of drunkenness. If, too, we would have a nation less drunk we must offer it greater encouragement to be more sober. As this may be a long process, let us therefore cheapen the articles that compete with drunkenness, in order that policy may dictate what prudence neglects. Thirdly, it is not only unjust and impolitic, but highly immoral to raise a revenue from the consumption of "flowing poisons." The Minister of Finance ought to discover some other means of raising his revenue. He is paid to do so, and he must remember that ultimately he will be bound to do so, because, with the spread of education and refinement, and as the moral tone of society improves, drunkenness will be thrust into the background, will fade away, wither and die, and the "mainstay" of the Exchequer will be no more.

WILLIAM TRANT.

Colham, Assiniboia.

### JULES BASTIEN-LEPAGE—HIS COUNTRY AND HIS LIFE.

IN the month of June, 1856, I passed a few holidays in a village of the Meuse by the name of Damvillers. It is found midway between Verdun and Montmedy. Damvillers was once a fortified town, but nothing remains to-day of these bellicose souvenirs. The village is quiet and rural, and the inhabitants are exclusively confined to agriculture. In the centre of the valley is the little river called the "Tinte," which winds its way amongst the rushes and weeds, and the monotony of the fields is altered somewhat by long lines of poplars, whose branches profile themselves in slender angles against the sky. The streets, neglected and solitary, were bordered by cottages painted in grey and dirty yellow. For a boy of twenty-two years there was really nothing very attractive there. I passed three melancholy evenings at my window, regarding the twilight as it descended on the house tops of brown tiles. In one corner of the yard was a large green merchant's cart, by its side glassware was packed, the white varnish reflecting the light from a cottage window. My only interest consisted in listening to the gossip of some women in session at the door of a tin-shop. Next was a group of children playing ball. I sometimes wonder if the one with bushy blond hair could have been he who is now found amongst the contemporary painters and whose name is Jules Bastien-Lepage. Each evening the bushy haired lad would then play with his companions and awaken the solitary place with his voice. Now he is known throughout the world to those interested in art and artists. Jules Bastien-Lepage was born in Damvillers on the first of November, 1848, in a house that forms one of the angles of the village. It is a plain, simple house, with its yellow front and grey window shutters. On entering the first room of importance is the true village kitchen of the Meuse, with its high chimney piece, on which are ranged copper kettles and bread pans, amid scattered pieces of coloured crockery. Next to the kitchen comes the dining-room, which, if need be, can be used as a sleeping-room; and above is the granery, straw loft or carpenter shop. The more cheerful room on the ground floor was the one in which the painter of the "Hay Makers" and "Joan of Arc" first opened his artist eyes. The family was then composed of his father, a man of industry and good sense, his mother, a woman with a golden heart, and his grandfather, now retired to be near his children, and to live on the modest products of the fields. At five years of age Jules began to show his desire for drawing; his father, always disposed to aid him, paid great attention to little Jules' productions. At this time he would copy the lamp, the ink-stand or jug; studying these little things trained his eye and hand, and begat love for his work and accuracy of detail that was largely his occupation during his early life as an artist. His father had not yet thought of making him a painter. The fond dream of his grandfather was to try and find him a Government position, which would allow him to pursue his course in drawing. At eleven years of age he left the school of this community and was placed in the college at Verdun, where for six successive years he carried off all the prizes for drawing. For a while, however, his career was undecided. At each college vacation he returned to Damvillers; he would draw persistently in the books, on the walls, on the doors, and even to this day are to be seen traces of his first sketches upon the walls. In the fields he received his impressions of the vineyards and country life that he afterwards studied so profoundly. The gatherers of faggots on the road in the woods; the frog fishers; the washerwomen bathing their linen on the border of the river; the gardens of the village in April when the trees are without leaves; the potato fields during October when they burn the faded leaves—all these little village episodes were imprinted in his youthful memory. At the age of seventeen he decided to go to Paris, where he studied in the studio of Cabanel until 1870. When the war interrupted his studies he enlisted in a company of sharpshooters, doing his duty bravely, and as soon as the armistice was declared went to Damvillers to see the family, who were impatiently awaiting his return. His fixed idea was to get back to

Paris, where he tried illustrated work for a time, but finally won his first success at the Salon of 1874, with his grandfather's portrait. The Jury gave him a third-class medal, and the State bought his picture for the Museum of Verdun. During this time he finished his "First Communion" and a portrait. These two works gained for him a second-class medal at the Salon of 1875, and in 1878 he went to London, where the Prince of Wales sat to him for a portrait; a remarkably faithful likeness it was. In 1879 he exhibited "October" and the portrait of Sara Bernhardt, which established the reputation of the young master, and won for him the only recompense still open to him: "The Cross of the Legion of Honour." The same year he showed at the St. Armand Club the portrait of his brother, who was then competing for the Prix de Rome (Architectural division). Talent appears to run in the family. With his "Joan of Arc" he sent to the Salon of 1880 a very fine portrait of M. Andrieux, Prefet de Police. His last great work was the "Joan of Arc," which recently sold in Boston for \$30,000. Along with whatever technical defects the picture may possess, there are so many technical as well as other excellencies that its presence in America will doubtless not be without good effect upon the large and earnest body of artists and art-students. Some of them may learn from it that, while actual drawing and painting and the laborious drilling and cultivated observation that lead to proficiency are the first things for an artist to consider, they are not the last and only things; that though a work of art, to live at all, must take hold of the intellect, yet to win more lasting fame it must go farther and reach through the intellect the human heart.

ART.

### THE RAMBLER.

ALMOST without exception the daily press treated Madame Modjeska to undiluted praise, yet I did not like her Beatrice nor did I succumb to any wonderful charm of presence. In fact I was greatly disappointed in her personality. From where I sat in the Dress Circle she presented very little actual beauty. Where were the large, dark and sad eyes? I could not distinguish her eyes at all, and suppose her to have extinguished her eyebrows altogether in order to match her golden wig. This was a serious mistake. Her features, somewhat sharp, especially in profile, had no soft frame to enhance their clearness, and in an old rose satin cloak particularly the loss of effect and contrast was sad. From under the wrap should have flashed the dark eyes of which we heard so much, but they didn't. Blondes are often failures on the stage for this reason, and as she wished to make Beatrice a blonde she at least should have retained her own eye-colouring, following Neilson in this respect, who was a consummate artist in all these matters. Then, beside the merely superficial question of dress, where was the spontaneous mirth, the real, unaffected gaiety of heart, the fascinating abandon of the Shakespearian heroine? Modjeska may be a delightful actress but she is not the ideal Beatrice, and for one very good reason, that a foreigner can hardly be said to represent adequately any Shakespearian character. Beatrice—what is she, though of Messina, but an English girl? What are Hamlet's soliloquies but some of the finest blank verse in the English tongue? And, therefore, a Fechter as Hamlet, or a Modjeska as Rosalind, is at best a reproduction—not the thing itself.

But the Benedick of Mr. Thalberg was as thorough and satisfactory a bit of work as we have seen here for many a day. He was so essentially a gentleman, moved and spoke so easily, that it was a pleasure to watch him. Even in the airiest character there must be a certain repose upon the stage and in this he was not deficient. You know the amateur always from his incapacity for keeping still and his nervous wish to be doing something or speaking to somebody. Then how too reminiscent of Henry Irving and his ways was that inimitable villain, Don John? I wondered at the gods not appreciating more keenly than they appeared to do his wonderful exits—Irving to the life. As for Dogberry, the entire City Council should have been in the stalls listening to his garnered wisdom. I wonder if he looked back a few years and reviewed the different companies he had known in this town, and then speculated on our ever supporting a new one! Probably he did not bother his head about us.

Principal Grant, some ten or eleven years ago, delivered the following opinions:—

"Whatever influences society in Ottawa, will reach over the country, for the capital is becoming more than the political centre of the Dominion. Our legislators come from the people, and we need not to be ashamed of the personnel of either House. In Canada, as in Great Britain, the best men are willing to serve the state, and a stranger who judges us by our legislatures will not go far astray. They are divided into two great parties, and each party includes representatives of the various denominations and races that compose our people. The dividing line between them is neither race, nor religion, nor geography. It is sometimes difficult to know what the dividing line is, yet the necessities of party so completely prevent them from splitting up into the various sections and cross-sections to be found in the legislatures of France and Germany, that, as in Great Britain and the States, independent members are few in number. With us, too,

the 'independents' have the rather shady reputation of being waiters on Providence or sitters on the fence."

Matters among us have changed indeed since those lines were written. We had rather not be judged according to our legislatures.

It is "real pleasant," as our neighbours say, to see the girls and boys of Church Street school out at play these bright October days. As many of the clever young teachers may be readers of THE WEEK, I have found something which may prove of use to them, and here it is—hints for the recreation hour:—

"Every teacher ought to march out into the yard with the children, and stay there and play there with them. We need to be recreated more than the younger ones under our care. We must be sure to leave the windows of the schoolroom open at the top and bottom.

"At this season of the year boys are prone to play marbles, while girls are inclined to jump the rope. There are strong arguments against both these games; and, although it might not be well to create an appetite for them by making them a forbidden fruit, we can so direct that something else will grow in their places, and they never will be missed. 'Snap the Whip,' 'London Bridge,' and 'Leap Frog,' are games in which quite severe accidents are likely to happen, and teachers need to maintain a careful oversight of such plays.

"This term my girls bought a quantity of fancy ticking, and for 'a sewing lesson' made it into bean bags. There are so many enjoyable and useful diversions with bean bags, such as Teacher, Circles, and Faba Baga, that they are without exception the best articles one can take to the play-ground. Girls need games like these to develop the muscles of arms and chest, and teachers can indulge in them without losing too much of that awful dignity which generally envelopes them, and which might drop off too utterly if they played 'tag.'

"Last week we had long measure in arithmetic, and at recess took our foot-rulers and yard-sticks into the play-ground, and 'played' with very good results. Sometimes we make the multiplication tables with pebbles, or make designs with a pointed stick, as they do in Hop Scotch. After a rain, when we have some "rivers" in the yard, we make canyons, and levees, and crevasses, and extensive systems of irrigation and drainage. It pays, and in more ways than one, to go out with the children at recess."

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### THE RAILWAY JUGGERNAUT.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—The *Mail* will rank as a judicious paper, careful in its general descriptions of the bearing of events upon the human and civic welfare, and the happiness and progress of the community it writes for. We give the following item from its columns:—

"STRATFORD, Ont., Sept. 16.—An accident which will in all probability terminate fatally occurred at the Nelson Street crossing of the Buffalo and Lake Huron division of the Grand Trunk Railway about nine o'clock this morning. The victim, Mrs. Thomas Donkin, a woman of about forty-five years of age, was going down town to do some marketing. She walked along the sidewalk on Nelson Street with her head hanging down as in a deep study, and walked before the locomotive of the express train from Goderich, which was passing at the time. She was struck by the engine and knocked some fifteen or twenty feet away. The train was only moving at a speed of about four miles an hour, and was stopped before it had moved a car's length. The unfortunate woman was picked up unconscious with a deep gash in her left temple which fractured the skull at the base of the brain. The engineer, James Green, saw the woman approaching the train and sounded his whistle, but she paid no attention to it. He supposed she would not attempt to cross the track and did not stop his engine. Instead of stopping, however, the woman walked straight ahead as if no train was coming and was struck by the engine, with the result as stated. The woman was not as some supposed deaf, and her peculiar action in walking before the engine cannot be accounted for. She moved to Stratford with her husband from Hamilton some three years ago. Her husband works in the Grand Trunk Railway shops. The latest account is that she cannot live till morning."

In the paragraph quoted above from its issue of September 17, it may claim to be no worse than other Canadian journals in their news' columns in what I may describe as the sacrifice of the paramount interest of human welfare and life protection. Christianity teaches us to live and love as brethren, and to exercise our intelligence in obedience to this great law, and in spite of all the conflicting interests that the ages have developed it is this great principle, as it struggles to the front, that conserves the welfare of States. Now, no one would think of writing of his own wife or sister as the *Mail's* reporter has done of his poor fellow subject of our progressive Dominion, whom his title describes as "a woman knocked down by an engine on the track" who "did not heed the danger whistle." Do we really know no better than this in Canada? Do we thrust our women amongst all those giant forces to take their chances of life or destruction? In practice, we do no doubt at present, but who but a

reporter for the press, taking all things as they come, would, even by implication, defend our miserable practice? The Grand Trunk directors who have the control of the line that passes through Stratford—a control exercised with small interference from our ruling powers in Canada—sit quietly in Old Broad Street, London, and talk about the prospects of a dividend, probably ignoring such trivial occurrences, but their president is in Canada and should be interviewed. He returned with Mr. McIntyre, a Canadian director, and Mr. Dalton McCarthy, M.P., has also returned to our shores. Mr. Ingram, M.P., and others will aid the movement in Parliament. There is really no great mystery to retard the question. The stations in Canada are not policed as in Europe; one has often to haul his own portmanteau across the rails. There is no friendly hand put forth to avert the danger of an on-coming train, and guide a poor confused woman across the bewildering tracks. In many cases there are no gates or watchmen at the level crossings. Not discussing those special dangers to-day, we may remark that even the straying of cattle on the tracks, through those openings, fails to move the stolid inaction of the Grand Trunk directors, although trains have often been wrecked in this way. We must admit it is hard to move any board of directors who may, at the time being, be short of a dividend, but then disorganization will not produce the dividend, but can only operate adversely to the prosperity that must evolve it, and the Board ought to understand this. The great subject of safety on railways has already been enlarged upon in THE WEEK, and it is for the House at Ottawa now to say what they think about it as representatives of the people, or for our more deliberate Senate to take the initiative. If Parliament were not sitting, we should appeal directly to the Minister.

The first principle of all government is to stop the destruction of the people, when through unheeded causes the families of the land are being despoiled and ruined, and Canada ought now to rank herself among the nations and take action for emergencies as other nations have done in the long annals of human and civilized progress.

X. Y.

#### BALANCE OF TRADE QUESTION.

To the Editor of THE WEEK:

SIR,—In a late issue of THE WEEK a writer signing himself "Y" has an article on the above subject. He asserts that the country whose imports exceed its exports is doing a losing trade. But the reverse of this is true.

He lays down the following law: "That every country has to meet its adverse balances of trade with gold as true as Euclid." There were no such fallacious propositions in Euclid in my school days. A nation's balances are not paid in gold, for gold is always included as an article of export or import, and, if such were the case, the imports and exports of a nation would be equal.

Where "Y," along with many others, makes his mistake, is that he puts a nation in the place of a merchant or a number of merchants, and confounds a nation's exports with a merchant's sales and the nation's imports with what the merchant buys. While manifestly a nation's exports are analogous to what a merchant pays out (for his goods), and the nation's imports are analogous to the merchant's sales (or the money that he takes in for his goods). In other words, a nation's imports are the pay it receives for its exports, and in a profitable international trade should always exceed its exports.

We often see merchants advertising "Selling Below Cost." If Mr. Y should meet Mr. W, a merchant who was doing a genuine "below cost" business, he would probably accost him in such a way as this: I congratulate you, Mr. W, that you have seen through this export and import question, for I see that your exports (what you pay out for your goods) are exceeding your imports (the sum of money you receive for your goods) and you must consequently be making money rapidly. Or take another illustration: Captain X leaves Montreal with a cargo of lumber, etc., for the West Indies, worth, say, \$5,000. He sells out there and takes on a cargo of molasses, etc., and proceeds to the Baltic where he sells out again and buys a general return cargo. He arrives with it in Montreal and sells out for \$10,000. Mr. Y would undoubtedly rush up to the Captain and exclaim: Why, Captain X, you surely must be mad to start out on a trading voyage like that, for do you not see that your imports greatly exceed your exports, and if you make many more such voyages you will be ruined? But, perhaps, the Captain could not see the point.

New Westminster, B.C., Sept. 16, 1891.

AIX-LA-CHAPELLE has its holy relics not less renowned than those of Trèves. They are deposited in the Karl Chapelle, the cathedral that Charlemagne built, and consist of a robe of the Virgin, the swaddling clothes of the Infant Christ, the cloth in which the body of John the Baptist was wrapped, and the linen cloth with which the Saviour was girded on the Cross. John, Patriarch of Jerusalem, is said to have bestowed these precious gifts upon Charlemagne in the year 799. Certainly the shrine in which they are preserved dates back to the thirteenth century. Once every seven years the relics are exhibited to the congregation of the faithful, who flock to Aix from all parts of Europe. The next opportunity will be in 1895.

### AUTUMN LEAVES.

BEAUTIFUL autumn leaves, stained with crimson and gold,  
Gleaming through purple mist like fairy gems of old.  
Holding the golden light by spells of mystic power;  
Tinting the landscape o'er with beauty's magic dower.

On gently rippling streams, through dusky forest glades  
Reflecting sunlit hues in tenfold brighter shades  
Far off on hillside slopes, where royal maples burn  
The quivering aspen leaves to daintiest amber turn.

Over the old grey wall a crimson glory creeps,  
From out thick, tangled brake a blaze of sumach leaps  
Through gloomy hemlock swamp, fair treacherous ivy  
glows,  
And o'er the fallen pines its scarlet drapery throws.

Gracing the lowly sward, a bright mosaic lies  
Of myriad tinted leaves, whose gracious beauty vies  
With tarnished gold of fern, or pale brown withered grass  
Touched to sudden splendour as shining sunbeams pass.

Beautiful autumn leaves! the Master all divine,  
Who made the flowers to bloom and taught the stars to  
shine,

To us, who dwell below, hath in His bounty given  
Symbols of loveliness to win our thoughts to Heav'n.

EMILY A. SYKES.

Toronto.

### ON HUNGER, APPETITE AND TASTE.

IT is universally conceded by the medical profession everywhere that errors in diet, and more especially over-eating, cause, directly and indirectly, a very large proportion of the disease which so afflict mankind. What is the remedy? What are the preventive means for this large proportion of disease? A better general knowledge respecting the relations of hunger, appetite and taste to the functions of the body naturally suggests itself as one remedy which should, and doubtless would, prevent a great deal of sickness. Hence these lines.

Two special causes may be assigned for over-eating: One, a general impression that the more one eats the stronger one will be; the other, the gratification of the appetite, or the sense of taste—the pleasure of eating gratifying food—eating food that is pleasing to the palate. Now at any certain or given time, the human organism is in a condition to properly digest, absorb and prepare as nutriment, for making new blood, only a certain necessary amount of food, an amount in accordance with the needs and demands of the system, and this amount precisely is suggested by a peculiar sensation or feeling called hunger. Hunger is caused by an excitation of sensory nerves by various parts and organs more or less exhausted for lack of nourishment supplied to them. The digestive and other nutrient organs will only properly utilize the amount suggested by the sensation of hunger, and not what one chooses to gratify the palate with and swallow into the ever accommodating but greatly abused stomach. Plainly, therefore, it is not what one habitually eats, but it is what one has a natural hungry desire for, and hence can properly digest, and transform into chyle for renewing the blood supply, that gives the strength. All that one eats beyond the demands of natural hunger becomes a burden upon the organism, which it must labour under and strive to get rid of. The excess of food interferes with the natural healthy functions of the body. Sometimes it ferments in the stomach and interferes with the proper digestion of that which is demanded and would otherwise be properly digested. Sometimes the stomach may digest, or imperfectly digest, more than natural hunger demands, but this digested excess may over-tax the liver or the kidneys or the forces of the circulation. The excess accumulates, in the intestines, the blood and other fluids, day by day and week by week. The over-taxed stomach perhaps cries out with symptoms of indigestion; or the liver, with symptoms of "biliousness"; or the kidneys or the skin or the spleen, with other warning symptoms; while the whole organism is in a well-fitted state, affords a suitable soil, for a successful invasion by the germs or bacilli of the specific diseases. In some vigorous individuals the local symptoms,—of indigestion, "biliousness," etc., may not appear until after years of excess; the organism being for a long time able to throw off the superfluous food. Late, if not soon, however, the transgressions are sure to produce its effect, marked in a degree smaller or greater according to circumstances.

This peculiar sensation of hunger, then, in a natural state, and when not abused by long continued excess and neglect and when properly attended to and respected, is a safe guide to the quantity of food required by the system. It is however so constantly disregarded and made secondary to the gustatory appetite stimulated by the "palate," that few people probably know what true hunger really is, if we except the very poor in large cities; so constantly too is a desire to gratify the "palate" mistaken for it.

Appetite is rather a desire for personal gratification, and in a gustatory sense is constantly liable to be abused, and to overcome and crush out the more benign sensation of hunger. Johnson asks: "Who is there that has not instigated his appetite by indulgence?" By indulgence the gustatory appetite soon becomes a very unsafe guide to the quantity of food required, and it must be controlled by will power if the natural physiological functions of the body are to be preserved.

As Hooker long ago said, "The object of appetite is whatsoever sensible good may be wished for; the object of will is that good which reason does lead us to seek." In the gratification of the gustatory appetite reason must come in as a guide, considering, in a measure aside from the appetite, the needs of the system, and will power—self control—must be exercised.

The sense of taste, which was evidently given first as a guide in the selection of food, has been usually either exalted, properly enough, into a source of legitimate pleasure, as when one eats in reason guided moderation of those simple "fruits" of which Milton sang, "Whose taste gives elocution," or it has been degraded into a source of the lowest and grossest sensual gratification, and many sorts of diseased conditions with an incalculable amount of human suffering.

Safety lies only in the selection of plain, simple viands, properly and agreeably cooked and served, and slowly and deliberately eaten, with due regard and respect to that feeling of satisfaction which one feels when one has had enough, rather than to a feeling of satiety. Habit, or use, is a strong factor in connection with this question of "enough."  
—The Canada Health Journal.

## ART NOTES.

QUEEN VICTORIA, it is said, is having a magnificent portrait of herself painted, and she intends to hand it personally to M. Waddington for transmission to the French Government. The portrait will be placed in an immense frame, upon which will be the blended emblems of France and England. Upon one corner of the frame there will be an expression of personal good-will toward France, written by the Queen herself.

It was a little surprising to come upon a picture by Marie Bashkirtseff at the Luxembourg gallery the other day; for clever as, undoubtedly, she was, considering her youth, it is difficult to discover that degree of intrinsic merit in her work to warrant such an unusual honour. By the way, I have just heard a characteristic story about this precocious Russian girl, which, coming as it does, from a friendly countrywoman of hers, whose estate adjoined that of Marie's family, it is easy to believe. Marie was notorious at home, says this lady, for two things: her untruthfulness and her desire for notoriety at any cost. On one occasion, she was found, robed like a monk, haranguing a mob of Russian peasants, to whom she was discoursing on the philosophy of Schopenhauer. "What is she talking about?" was asked a grinning old "moujik," at the edge of the crowd. "I cannot say, little mother," he replied. "We do not understand what she says. But when such a noble, beautiful lady condescends to talk to us dogs of the earth, of course it must be for our good; so we listen and are grateful."—Art Amateur.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE Monday evening rehearsals of the Toronto Vocal Society in the Y.M.C.A. lecture room, Yonge St., have begun under the energetic baton of Mr. W. Edgar Buck. The choruses, part songs, etc., selected for the Society's first concert, to be held early in December, are of unusual merit; the material of the latter being fully equal if not superior to that of former years.

Among Harvest Festivals that of St. Simon's, Howland Street, held on the 29th of last month, was remarkable for the satisfactory production of Dr. Garrett's "Harvest Cantata," a beautiful modern work, rich both in melody and harmony. Those who attended went away convinced that in quality of tone, precision of attack, and purity of style, Mr. Harrison's choir—composed solely of men and boys—cannot be surpassed in Toronto. The "Cantata" is about equal to half-a-dozen average anthems.

MR. W. WAUGH LAUDER, the eminent concert pianist and music lecturer, late of Cincinnati, is now established in Chicago with his studio at the Steinway warerooms, 174-176 Wabash Ave., and residence at 3625 Forest Ave.

JULIA MARLOWE, the actress, is said to have a wonderful memory. As a test not long ago she committed to memory and recited the entire letter of Baron Fava to Secretary Blaine after it had been read but twice in her presence.

FRANCISCO CORTISI, the great Italian singing teacher, lives alone in a little villa just out of Florence, where an old housekeeper prepares his spaghetti and his wine for him. He has practically retired at the age of sixty-five and teaches but a few hours a day.

THE Gondola Band at Venice is a great success. The boat goes through the principal canals, followed by a number of small attendant gondolas bearing lanterns, and it is said that the scene and the soft music have a "ravishing effect" on the dwellers in the city of the Adriatic.

THE gains of Bernhardt in the last 10 years averaged \$60,000 a year; in the last five \$100,000—yet in 1872 at the Odeon Theatre she earned only \$40 a month. In 1891, when she first acted out of France, she made \$50,000, and in the year of her first visit to America she made \$120,000 besides expenses.

EMILE ZOLA is a constant visitor at the Paris Opéra Comique to hear Bruneau's opera to the text of his own "La Réve." The great novelist is no ignoramus in musical matters, having studied the clarinet with great zeal

some twenty years ago, as well as being a good pianist, so that he appreciates the music as a connoisseur.

WHEN Patti made her debut at Covent Garden Theatre 30 years ago she received \$500 a month. In 1870 she was paid \$400 a night, and in 1873 \$850 a night was her fee. In 1883, during her American tour, she received, it is said, \$5,000 a night. On her last visit to the United States, Patti was paid a minimum fee of \$5,000 a night, plus half the gross receipts above the sum of \$10,000.

THE latest operatic sensation has naturally been in the hands of the parodist. At the Wallner Theatre, Berlin, a musical farce, a parody of Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" and of Sudermann's "Die Ehre," entitled "Cavalleria Berolina," has gained success. The libretto is by Herr Kraemar, and the music by an anonymous composer, believed to be Dr. Zoppler, whose name has not as yet gained a wide recognition.

MOZART is to be grandly commemorated at Vienna during the Centenary performances. It is stated that all his operatic works are to be given in the best possible manner, and the Philharmonic Society of the capital will also produce his symphonies and concertos. On the other hand, a performance of his "La Clemenza di Tito" has been prohibited by the authorities at Prague on account of its socialistic tendency.

A LITTLE band of mandolin players, consisting of 12 young women, headed by Princess Maud of Wales, assemble each afternoon to practice on this charmingly romantic little instrument. During the past season the Princess Maud devoted some of her spare time to studying the mandolin, and became so interested that she succeeded in imparting her enthusiasm to a select party of her friends. The result is that the mandolin is the most fashionable instrument in Europe, and Princess Maud's little orchestra is by far the most distinguished musical organization on the other side.

WE have already had cricket and football teams, operatic singers, prize-fighters, and tragedians, from the Antipodes, but now we are to have another novelty in the shape of an Australian Dramatic Company, which Mr. George Darrell is about to bring over from Melbourne. The company will, according to present arrangements, produce only Australian plays by Australian authors. Mr. Darrell has fixed his dates so that he may open in London directly after the pantomime season of 1891-92, and the initial representation will be "The Sunny South," which is said to have been very favourably received in the Colonies.

WILLIAM F. SHAW, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, has invented a music holder. This device comprises a support on shelf having a recess in its rear side and a slot in its front face, a lever pivoted in the recess projecting through the slot, while two transverse rods having cranks connect the lever at opposite sides of its pivot with the inner cranks of the rods, spring fingers being mounted on their outer cranks. The device is adapted for almost instant adjustment to allow or prevent the turning of leaves of music, at the will of the performer, and is convenient for use at a table as well as on a piano or organ, while it may be employed as an easel for supporting pictures, etc.

A SCOTCH clergyman who was addicted to playing the violin, and who also played on the violoncello, was once waited upon by a deputation of his parishioners. After listening to their remonstrance against his playing, which they asserted was derogatory to his clerical calling, he asked: "Gentlemen, did you ever see my fiddle or hear me play?" "No." "You shall do both." Bringing out his violoncello, he began a hymn tune and asked them to join him with their voices. After they had sung several hymns in this fashion, they admitted through their spokesman that their pastor's instrument was "nane o'yer scandalous penny-waddin' fiddles" that they had heard of, and that "a muckle respectable, releigious sounding fiddle like that there could be nae harm in?" The minister had succeeded in removing a ridiculous prejudice.

ACCORDING to a writer in *Nature Notes*, the magazine of the Selborne Society, a correspondent in Natal mentions that "when the Cicada is singing at its loudest in the hottest portion of the day, it is attended by a number of other insects with lovely, gauze-like iridescent wings, whose demeanour left no doubt on his mind that the music was the attraction. The Cicada, when singing, usually stations itself upon the trunk of a tree with its head uppermost, and the insects in question, to the number sometimes of fifteen or sixteen, form themselves into a rough semi-circle at a short distance around its head. During the performance one of the insects was observed occasionally to approach the Cicada and to touch it upon its front leg or antennae, which proceeding was resented by a vigorous stroke of the foot by the Cicada, without, however, any cessation of its song. The insects composing the audience were found to be extremely active, and so wary that they took flight at the least alarm on the too near approach of any intruder." So it seems that the Cicada gives a concert, stalling being comfortably and orderly arranged for the audience, who indulge in what looks like some sort of applause. Probably the interesting soloist, like certain singers, does not approve of encores, and kicks those demanding such. As to the precipitate flight of the audience, when approached, that might be explained by the fear that the man had come to collect the tickets, and that the stall-holders had neglected to supply themselves with these.—Musical News.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

ALPHABETICAL DIGEST OF CASES RELATING TO CROWN LANDS AND COGNATE MATTERS. By George Kennedy, M. A., LL. D., Law Clerk to the Department of Crown Lands for Ontario. Toronto: Warwick and Sons.

Mr. Kennedy, in this very useful little compendium, disclaims his intention of presenting "every case in which a point relating in some way to the Crown Lands Department has been decided." Of this we feel sure, however, that this little, unpretentious volume will prove of great service, not only to the legal profession, but to all who are interested in any way in the bearing of the law upon the varied phases of dealing with crown lands.

ON NEWFOUND RIVER. By Thomas Nelson Page. Price \$1.00. New York: Scribner's; Toronto: W. Briggs. 1891.

This is a very charming story, redolent of the atmosphere of old Virginia, written by a pen of no ordinary power and grace. The story begins with the meeting of two children, the one the son of a very important landed proprietor, the other the granddaughter of an obscure and unknown recluse. The boy was sent away to school at a distance that he might forget the girl; but they met when he had become a young man and she a young woman. The old obstruction of his father's will remained, and other difficulties had arisen; so that the course of true love did not run at all smooth. We must not reveal the conclusion; but we must remark that the characters are firmly and finely delineated, so that they remain clear and distinct; the narrative is lively, the situations good, and the whole work pleasing and harmonious. It is altogether a very pretty book.

A MAIDEN'S CHOICE. From the German of W. Heimburg. Price 75 cents. New York: Worthington Company; Toronto: P. C. Allan. 1891.

This is another volume of Worthington's excellent and beautiful International Library, which consists of works of contemporaneous fiction chiefly translated. On the whole, the work of translation is well done, and the books seem to be selected with care and ability. The writer of the present novel may be described as of the school of Walter Scott, although naturally the colouring of the book is quite German. The plot, like a good many recent German stories, turns upon the aristocratic exclusiveness of the German nobility, and shows us how strong a power class distinctions still are among that people. The hero is a proud young nobleman, inheriting much of the family *hauteur* of an insolent old grandmother. The nearest neighbours to the baronial castle are paper makers, people of refinement, who have grown rich as the baronial house has grown poor. Out of these materials a very good story is constructed. The incidents, without being sensational, are of sufficient interest to sustain the attention and excite the expectations of the reader, and the whole is very well told.

THE STORY OF PORTUGAL. By H. Morse Stephens. Price \$1.50. London: Fisher Unwin; New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; Toronto: Williamson and Company. 1891.

Every one who has read Mr. Stephens' history of the French Revolution as far as it has appeared will know the kind of work which they have a right to expect at his hands, and they will not be disappointed in the present volume. The author does not pretend to the same minute acquaintance with the details of Portuguese history which he has shown in connection with the incidents of the great revolution, and such knowledge is not at all necessary for a history of this kind. But he displays, and, we imagine, almost a unique acquaintance with all the authorities for Portuguese history, and he has produced a book which admirably fills a vacant place. What do most people know of the history of Portugal? And to what source could an intending student of the history be referred? There is no book in the English language which gives the information contained in Mr. Morse Stephens' new history. It belongs to the series known as "The Story of the Nations," which has some weak volumes in it; but the present is not one of these. It is, apart from its qualities as a history, very well written. We do not quite like the phrase "different to"; but this is a small matter.

FLUTE AND VIOLIN, and other Kentucky Tales and Romances. By James Lane Allen. New York: Harpers. 1891.

If the Southern States are now more closely united with other parts of the great republic than was formerly the case, they still retain their old character and sentiment, as is shown by the fascinating literature to which they give birth. Here is another volume of tales, which seem to us to represent all the maturity of the old world together with the special colouring of the South. Full of sadness, yet without the theatrical element which spoil some of the more northerly writers, these stories must evoke the tenderest and purest emotions of the human heart. We confess that, as a rule, we prefer stories with a good ending. Life is sad enough without having fictitious sorrows engrafted upon it. Yet there are times when it is good to

go to the house of mourning; and we are thankful to have gone thither under the guidance of Mr. Allen. "Flute and Violin" is a story of a clergyman and a cripple. "King Solomon of Kentucky," a striking and pathetic tale of the Cholera Visitation in 1833. "Two Gentlemen of Kentucky" is a very charming story of an old Colonel and his emancipated slave, Peter, living in their old relations like "two gentlemen." "The White Cow" and "Sister Dolorosa" are two stories of a similar character, the one telling of a brother who fell in love after taking his vow, and the other of a sister who lost her heart. These are very touching and beautiful pieces of writing.

MARIE ANTOINETTE AT THE TUILLERIES (1789-1791). By Imbert de Saint-Amand. Price \$1.25. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons; Toronto: W. Briggs. 1891.

The volume before us, although the second of a series of three, is yet complete in itself. The interest of its subject, the ill-fated queen of Louis XVI., is perennial; and it loses nothing in these graphic and brilliant pages. The author writes with the vivacity and brilliancy of a talented Frenchman, and there is not a dull line in his book. The volume begins with the installation of the royal family at the Tuilleries, after they had been brought from Versailles by the mob in 1789, soon after the taking of the Bastille. There are three parts. The first takes us down to the Holy Week of 1791, and has for its most interesting subject the intercourse between the Queen and Mirabeau. According to the present writer the Queen would not seem to have been so much to blame as many writers have made her out. At least Mirabeau declared she was the only man the King had. The second part of the volume is taken up with the miserable flight to Varennes. It is not quite easy for any writer to depict the scenes connected with this ill-managed business so as not to provoke unfavourable comparison with the splendid descriptions of Carlyle; yet the story is here worked out with great brightness and power; and the exact truth of the matter (which still seems to be somewhat a matter of doubt) is perhaps brought out here as well as anywhere. The third part treats of what was virtually the imprisonment of the royal family in the Tuilleries after the return from Varennes. There is nothing specially new here, but the writer takes a more favourable view of Philippe Egalité than has been usually adopted by historians. Altogether this is a very charming volume.

LEWIS MORRIS opens the September number of the *English Illustrated Magazine* with a fine melodious "Song of the Year." Rabbi Singer gives another instalment of his "Russo-Jewish Immigrant" article. "The Queen's Private Gardens at Osborne" are pleasingly described by L. R. Wheeler, and prettily illustrated by H. R. Bloomer. Alan Adair's short story, "Two Jealousies" is good reading; "Emanuel Hospital, Westminster," by Robert Hunter; "Turkish Girlhood," by Fatima; a bright and very readable sketch of "Cheswick, Past and Present," and the serial "The Witch of Prague," by F. Marion Crawford, complete the number.

THAT bright, entertaining and well-edited periodical, the *Methodist Magazine*, in its October number supplies its readers with a mass of varied and attractive matter. Its cheery articles of travels, its pithy and able editorial contributions, and its timely, interesting and helpful selections with the numerous illustrations, stories, poems, etc., make it, though small in size, very large in interest to its many readers in and out of Canada. We may here remark that its accomplished and learned editor is about to conduct a party of tourists to the East. We know of no one more competent or desirable to lead others over the historic ground of the Orient with whose varied and attractive features the Doctor is so familiar.

THE article by the editor in the *Magazine of American History* for October, "A Group of Columbus Portraits," gives fac-similes of the oldest and rarest engraved prints of Columbus portraiture extant. The double-headed contemporary print of the portraits of Ferdinand and Isabella is included. W. F. Ganong follows with a paper on "The St. Croix of the Northeastern Boundary," and four illustrative maps. Hugh McCulloch writes on "Daniel Webster." The longest article in the number is an able and scholarly study by Right Rev. M. F. Howley, D.D., P.A., of Newfoundland, on "Cabot's Landfall," the scene of which he traces, according to his judgment, in an elaborate accompanying map. The frontispiece is a picture of Bonaparte about the time that he made peace with America.

LANDSEER'S pathetic and beautiful picture, "The Shepherd's Grave," is the frontispiece of the October number of the *Magazine of Art*. The opening article on "The Two Salons" is from the pen of Walter Armstrong. The illustrations are from the pictures described, and are capital. The second part of "The Dragon of Mythology, Legend, and Art," is given. "A Waif of Renaissance Sculpture" is by Stephen Thompson; it refers to the tomb of Barbara Ordellaffi, built A.D. 1466. "The Ladies Waldegrave" are given a full-page picture; the engraving is from Sir Joshua's famous painting. David Cox and Peter De Wint are the subjects of an illustrated paper. In "The Romance of Art," by Leader Scott, we are told of the happy life of the sculptor Ammannati and his wife, the poetess Laura. The next paper is on "Animal Painters, Past and Present," and is illustrated with engravings from the works of Landseer, Straub, Rubens, Paul Potter, and some modern painters.

DR. GEO. STEWART'S paper on Lowell in the *New England Magazine* for October is a credit to its Canadian author; a fine portrait of Mr. Lowell taken from the last photograph of the poet forms a frontispiece of this number. Mr. Henry Wood writes on "Healing through the Mind." Hamlin Garland contributes an entertaining paper on Mr. and Mrs. James A. Herne; his contribution deals largely with the dramatic work of Mr. Herne, especially the play "Margaret Fleming." Theodore Stanton discusses "Some Weak Spots in the French Republic." Moncure D. Conway writes on "Madame Blavatsky at Adyar." Thaddeus B. Wakeman defends Nationalism. H. C. Bradsby discusses the present political outlook under the caption "Leaderless Mobs." Will Allen Dromgoole's story, "A Grain of Gold," deals with the convict lease system of Tennessee.

*Harper's Magazine* for October opens with a paper of unusual merit on "Cairo in 1890," by Constance Fenimore Woolson. Dr. John C. Van Dyke contributes an appreciative article on "The Art Students' League of New York." Frank D. Millet, in "A Courier's Ride," relates the story of an adventure in Bulgaria while serving as war correspondent in the Russo-Turkish war of 1877. Walter Besant's interesting paper on London describes the life of the common people in the Plantagenet period. Among other important articles are the "Letters of Charles Dickens to Wilkie Collins," edited by Laurence Hutton; "Common Sense in Surgery," by Helen H. Gardener; George du Maurier's "Peter Ibbetson"; the conclusion of Mr. Howells' "An Imperative Duty"; a striking short story, entitled "A Legend of Sonora," by Hildegard Hawthorne; and "An Unfinished Story," by Richard Harding Davis.

MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY announce publication of "The One-Hoss Shay," with its companion poems, "How the Old Horse Won the Bet" and "The Broomstick Train," by Oliver Wendell Holmes; "Stories of The Saints," by Mrs. C. Van D. Chenoweth, new edition, with a frontispiece illustration; "The Historical, Political, and Diplomatic Writings of Niccolo Machiavelli," translated by Christian E. Detmold, with steel frontispieces and a biographical sketch; "The Rivals, and The School for Scandal," by Richard Brinsley Sheridan, edited with an introduction and notes to each play, and a biographical sketch of Sheridan, by Brander Matthews, with portrait of Sheridan, new edition; Riverside Literature Series, No. 51, Rip Van Winkle and other American essays from the sketch book, by Washington Irving. Contents, "Biographical Sketch of Irving," "Rip Van Winkle," "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," and "Poka-noket."

THE "Duchess" contributes the complete novel to the October number of *Lippincott's Magazine*; the story is called "Lady Patty," and it compares favourably with the other popular novels of its author. Julien Gordon (Mrs. Van Rensselaer Cruger) contributes a thoughtful paper entitled "Healthy Heroines." She declaims against the delicate style of heroines to be found in old-fashioned novels, and declares: "If we turn to history we will find that the few women who have ruled it, and the hearts of men, were not invalids." The clever author embodies in the article a number of sensible and valuable directions to women for the preservation of health. "A Tiffin with a Taotai" is the curious title of an article by Edward Bedloe, United States Consul to Amoy, China. John Gilmer Speed has a paper entitled "The Common Roads of Europe." "With Washington and Wayne," an article by Melville Philips, tells of the Chester Valley and vicinity, and of the many historic and interesting spots that that vicinity embraces. Among other articles may be mentioned a paper by William Agnew Paton, upon "The Lost 'Landfall' of Columbus," and a short story, "The Bells of San Gabriel," contributed by Gertrude Franklin Atherton. Poems are contributed by Roden Noel, Florence Earle Coates, R. T. W. Duke, Jr., Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Katherine Lee Bates, and Helen Grace Smith.

"CAN WE MAKE IT RAIN?" is answered by an article in the *North American Review* for October from the pen of General Robert G. Dryenforth, who has charge of the Government experiments in rain-making in Texas; the practical details of the operations are clearly described by General Dryenforth, while the scientific basis of the experiments is admirably presented by Professor Simon Newcombe, LL.D., of Washington. "Drunkenness is Curable," by John Flavel Mines, is a continuation of the discussion commenced in the September number. The sketch of the civil war in Chili, by Captain José Ma. Santa Cruz, late commander of the monitor *Huascar*. "The Evolution of the Yacht" is an interesting sketch of the improvements which have been made in yacht-building during the last ten years in the desirable qualities of speed, safety and reliability in manœuvring, by Mr. Louis Herreshoff. "The Economic Man" is the title of a thoughtful critical paper by Mr. E. L. Godkin, the editor of the *Nation*. Hon. John Russell Young, ex-Minister to China, gives his views of Chinese progress under the title of "New Life in China." The death of James Russell Lowell, who for nine years, 1864 to 1873, was editor of the *North American Review*, has called from Mr. Richard Henry Stoddard an eloquent tribute to the nobility of his manhood and his genius as a writer.

An ignorance of aims  
Makes it impossible to be great at all.  
—E. B. Browning.

## LITERARY AND PERSONAL GOSSIP.

BALZAC'S house in the Rue Berryer, Paris, is about to be demolished.

BEATRICE KIPLING, a sister of Rudyard, has just finished a novel called "The Heart of the Maid."

W. E. H. LECKY, the historian, is about to appear before the world in a new guise, namely, as a poet.

THE latest health report from Robert Louis Stevenson is "robust." His letters from the South Seas show abundantly that he is not overworking himself.

THE October issue of the *Review of Reviews* pays great respect to the late James Russell Lowell. It contains a group of five original articles, portraying different phases of Lowell's character and work.

WORTHINGTON COMPANY, of New York, announce for immediate publication as No. 9, in their Rose Library, "Asmodeus, or the Devil Upon Two Sticks," by Le Sage, with designs by Tony Johannot.

EDISON, the world-famed electrician, is writing a novel dealing with the conditions of the life of the future. Mr. Lothrop is collaborating in this story, presumably with the intention of investing it with a sentimental interest.

IN its November number the *Cosmopolitan* will publish a series of letters written by Gen. W. T. Sherman to one of his young daughters, between the years 1859 and 1865, and covering most of the important events of the war of secession.

HARPER AND BROTHERS are to be the publishers in the United States of "The Collected Writings and Memoirs of the late Field-Marshal Count Helmuth von Moltke." These writings, which are issued by authority of the Count's family and legal representatives, will throw much light upon the history of momentous events in Europe within the latter half of the present century.

MR. JOHN LOVELL, the well-known Montreal publisher, has undertaken the formation of a joint stock company—"The Canadian Gazetteer Publishing Company, Limited,"—for the publication of one of the most important and useful undertakings ever projected in Canada. "Lovell's Gazetteer and History of Canada" when completed will be a monument to the pluck, perseverance and unflinching energy of its projector. We heartily wish Mr. Lovell success in his great and patriotic work.

MR. BLACKBURN HARTE has appropriated the well-known literary caption of the *Montreal Gazette*, "At Dodsley's," under which Mr. Martin J. Griffin writes with so much ability and culture. Mr. Harte has also amplified it and placed it in the columns of the *New England Magazine* as "In a Corner at Dodsley's." Having cornered Mr. Harte at Dodsley's, we would commend to him caution and circumspection in writing of Canada and Canadian affairs, as well as "frankness and unconventionality." Some of the best authorities on Canadian subjects are at variance with many of Mr. Harte's expressed views. We might instance Principal Grant's incidental strictures in his notice of Mr. Howland's "The New Empire," which appeared in our last issue.

HARPER AND BROTHERS' announcement of publications in October includes "The Warwickshire Avon," by A. T. Quiller-Couch, profusely illustrated from drawings by Alfred Parsons; "Literary Landmarks of Edinburgh," by Laurence Hutton, illustrated by Joseph Pennell; "Art and Criticism," a series of monographs and studies, by Theodore Child; "Studies in the Wagnerian Drama," by Henry E. Krehbiel; "The Boy Travellers in Northern Europe," by Thomas W. Knox; "The Spanish-American Republics," by Theodore Child; and "American Football," by Walter Camp, illustrated with thirty-two portraits. They will also issue very shortly the first volume to appear of "The Collected Writings and Memoirs of the late Field-Marshal Count Helmuth Von Moltke," which describes the Franco-German War of 1870-71.

THE October magazines furnish striking evidence of the growing favour with which Canadian literary work is being received in the United States. Both Roberts and W. W. Campbell have poems in the *Century*, to which periodical, by the way, Douglas Sladen contributes some verse inspired by the St. Lawrence in Autumn. Roberts also appears in the *Atlantic Monthly*, and Lampman has one of his flawless sonnets in *Scribner's*. Then in prose M. J. Griffin writes of Sir John Macdonald in the *Atlantic*; Mrs. Harrison of the Siege of Louisburg in the *New England Magazine*, while J. Macdonald Oxley has a serial running in the *Young People's Union*, which is attracting considerable attention. It is safe to say that never before had our *litterateurs* a fairer field, and certainly they seem to be taking full advantage of their opportunities.

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Adams, Henry. Historical Essays. \$2.00. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.  
Henty, G. A. Redskin and Cowboy. \$1.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.  
Henty, G. A. Held Fast for England. \$1.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.  
Leighton, Robt. The Pilots of Pomona. \$1.50. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons; Toronto: Wm. Briggs.  
Le Sage, A. R. Asmodeus. 50c. New York: Worthington Co.  
Ochorowicz, Dr. J. Neutral Suggestions. 4 Vols. 30c. each. New York: Humboldt Pub. Co., 19 Astor Place.

READINGS FROM CURRENT LITERATURE.

MY LOVE.

Not as all other women are  
Is she that to my soul is dear ;  
Her glorious fancies come from far,  
Beneath the silver evening star,  
And yet her heart is ever near.

Great feelings hath she of her own,  
Which lesser souls may never know ;  
God giveth them to her alone,  
And sweet they are as any tone  
Wherewith the wind may choose to blow.

Yet in herself she dwelleth not,  
Although no home were half so fair ;  
No simplest duty is forgot,  
Life hath no dim and lowly spot  
That doth not in her sunshine share.

She doeth little kindnesses,  
Which most leave undone or despise ;  
For naught that sets one heart at ease,  
And giveth happiness and peace,  
Is low-esteemed in her eyes.

She hath no scorn of common things,  
And, though she seem of other birth,  
Round us her heart entwines and clings,  
And patiently she folds her wings  
To tread the humble paths of earth.

Blessing she is : God made her so,  
And deeds of week-day holiness  
Fall from her noiseless as the snow,  
Nor hath she ever chanced to know  
That aught were easier than to bless.

She is most fair, and thereunto  
Her life doth rightly harmonize :  
Feeling nor thought that was not true  
Ne'er made less beautiful the blue,  
Unclouded heaven of her eyes.

She is a woman : one in whom  
The springtime of her childish years  
Hath never lost its fresh perfume,  
Though knowing well that life hath room  
For many blights and many tears.

I love her with a love as still  
As a broad river's peaceful might,  
Which, by high tower and lowly mill,  
Goes wandering at its own sweet will,  
And yet doth ever flow aright.

And on its full, deep breast serene,  
Like quiet isles my duties lie ;  
It flows around them and between,  
And makes them fresh, and fair, and green,  
Sweet homes wherein to live and die.

—James Russell Lowell.

THE DRAGON OF MYTHOLOGY, LEGEND AND ART.

IN the birth-time of the dragon-myth, the primitive Aryan, suffering under the manifold ills of life, attributed them all, we cannot doubt, to the operation of a malevolent force not unlike to his own, and sought a shape—*monstrum, horrendum, informe ingens*—in which they should be abhorred, and, it might be, slain. He projected his own personality into the operations of nature, of which he felt himself to be the plaything ; and gave, as Shelley phrases it, "a human heart to what we cannot know." In the cloudy stronghold of darkness his enemy was sheltered, a monstrous shape, "if shape it might be called that shape had none," from whose terrors he suffered most cruelly when the drought came, and famine and pestilence were spread abroad through the plains. This is no mere poetical view of the matter, for in the Veda the earliest presentation of the enemy of Aryan man is Vritra or Ahi, the throttling snake, who is not only the universal enemy, but is also in a special manner the thief, and the black withholder of the rain ; and, conversely, Indra himself, the sustainer of the universe, the wonder worker and the old guide of man, is in special degree the light-maker and rain-bringer. Everywhere in the Veda the elemental conflict between these two goes on. Indra, youthful, agile, ruddy and strong, goes forth in his chariot, the thunderbolt forged by Tvashtri in his hand, his steeds snorting and neighing, to battle with Ahi or Vritra, the enemy. He is accompanied by clouds of Maruts, and the whole artillery of heaven is discharged ; the earth and the sky crash with his thunderbolt, the cloud-castles of the monster are shattered and broken, the celestial fountains are loosed and the rain flows plentifully on the earth below. . . . To the Chinese and Japanese belongs the credit of having conceived the dragon in the most terrific shape that has ever been given to it ; and it would probably be impossible to express in animal form greater fierceness and malignity than are depicted in the emblem of Chinese royalty. It is also in China that the dragon reaches its highest pinnacle as an object of reverence, for not only is it emblazoned on imperial standards and figured in almost every prominent position as a decoration, but it is markedly an

object of propitiation, and festivals are held in its honour. Yet its connection with the root ideas of the Hindoos is never lost, for it is a monster of mists and waters, and is painted issuing from clouds. Ling Wong, the dragon king, has in his keeping the fountains of the deeps, and from him are the rains derived. There is evidence also of human sacrifice to the monster, for Hiouen-Thsang (the Chinese Buddhist pilgrim to India, seventh century, A.D.) relates how that one Wat Yuen, on the failure of a river, immolated himself in propitiation of its dragon ; and, at the dragon boat festivals, it is now believed that the boats intimidate the monster. Such ideas were probably carried to China and Japan with Buddhism (and perhaps there engrafted on national myths), for Buddha himself was a dragon slayer, and there is much in Hiouen-Thsang throwing light upon the subject. It is possible very clearly to trace the dragon of Japan as a creature of marsh and slime, to which propitiation was made ; and it may be of interest to mention that a fairy story is now being sold in Tokio, entitled "Yamata no Orochi," in which an eight-headed monster is appeased, much as in the chivalric myth, by the sacrifice of maidens.—*Magazine of Art.*

BRONTE AND THACKERAY : A CONTRAST.

POSTHUMOUS correspondence generally throws a strange light on the character of celebrated people. There have just been published some letters from Charlotte Brontë to a friend, and in them she writes of Thackeray. Which does one suppose would be the more generous of the two—the tender-hearted authoress of "Jane Eyre," or the satirist of "Vanity Fair"? Hear, first, what Charlotte Brontë says : "Mr. Thackeray is a keen, ruthless satirist. I had never perused his writings but with feelings of blended admiration and indignation. Critics, it appears to me, do not know what an intellectual boa-constrictor he is ; they call him 'humorous,' 'brilliant ;' his is a most scalping humour, a most deadly brilliancy—he does not play with his prey, he coils round it and crushes it in his rings. I wonder what the world thinks of him. I should think the faults of such a man would be distrust of anything good in human nature ; galling suspicion of bad motives lurking behind good actions. Are these his failings? They are, at any rate, the failings of his written sentiments, for he cannot find in his heart to represent either man or woman as at once good and wise." Now listen to Thackeray's monody on Charlotte Brontë : "Which of her readers has not become her friend? As one thinks of that life so noble, so lonely—of that passion for truth—of those nights and nights of eager study, swarming fancies, invention, depression, elation, prayer ; as one reads the necessarily incomplete, though most touching and admirable history of the heart that throbbed in this one little frame—of this one amongst the myriads of souls that have lived and died on this great earth—this great earth?—this little speck of the infinite universe of God—with what wonder do we think of to-day, with what awe await to-morrow, when that which is now but darkly seen shall be clear!"

PRINCE BISMARCK'S MEMOIRS.

PRINCE BISMARCK (the *Times'* Paris correspondent understands) has partly written five chapters of his intended book. These relate to his embassy in France, his mission in Russia in 1866, the Berlin Congress, and his retirement. He is said to have asked Professor Geffcken to write from his dictation, a request which was quite unexpected. But it must be remembered that he has no longer M. Lothar Bucher, that M. Schweinberg is connected with the Berlin censorship, and that he fears M. Pindter is not a sufficiently practiced writer. Hence his application to Professor Geffcken, who in the Emperor Frederick's fragmentary memoirs showed much skill. The work, so far as can be judged from its present shape, is historical and anecdotal, and discusses politics only when they relate to events in which he was directly concerned. The anecdotes are related with his characteristic liveliness. Thus of the war of 1866 he gives the following curious details, which may be collated with the first interview between William I. and Francis Joseph after the Treaty of Prague, when William in tears threw himself into the arms of the Austrian Emperor. Before Prussia had declared war against Austria she was anxious to ascertain the temper of Saxony, and sounded her. The King of Saxony, a close friend of the Austrian Emperor, not venturing on opposition to his aggressive neighbour, yet not willing to turn against Austria, and accurately guessing, moreover, that he would sooner or later be the sufferer if he furnished Prussia the means of expelling Austria from the German Confederation, had declared that he would be neutral. This, however, was not enough for Prussia. Saxony might at any moment offer a hand to Austria and to Bavaria, which was quite inclined to join the latter. Saxony's neutrality made Prussia hesitate. William and his already powerful Minister did not venture on uttering the decisive word, though the declaration of war was already drawn up. Count Beust and Francis Joseph knew this, and Count Beust was strongly encouraging his master to resist. "Your Majesty," he said to the King of Saxony, "cannot go further. The Austrian Emperor may already blame our neutrality as weak and selfish, but to go further would be worse. I scarcely dare to say, but everybody else would say it in my place : it would be treason." "Very good," replied the King of Saxony, "I will yield only to force." Prince Bismarck then tells how William I., by a painful

effort, and on being shown that the very existence of his dynasty and country was at stake, was induced to send the King of Saxony an ultimatum to the effect that Prussia could not be content with his neutrality, and that the importance and geographical situation of his kingdom would make such neutrality resemble hostility, for the uncertainty it would have would hamper Prussia's movements and the independence of her action. "The King," says Prince Bismarck, "when we had drawn up and sent the ultimatum, wept at the thought of the chagrin it would cause the King of Saxony and of the pain which would be felt by Francis Joseph, who could not fail to be immediately apprised of it. The King wept, and I, feeling tears escaping from my eyes, bent over my master's hand and kissed it, wetting it with my tears." Commenting upon this incident, M. de Blowitz adds the following caution : However trustworthy the source of my information, if Prince Bismarck chooses to dispute it I cannot stand by it. There are diplomatists concerning whom, even when you tell the absolute truth about them, it is prudent not to be too positive, so that you can withdraw without being wanting in respect to yourself or your readers.

*Il Trovatore* says : "There recently died at San Jose, in California, Hermann Kottingere, once a celebrated professor and player of the violin. By his long-continued work and economy he saved 200,000 dollars in gold which he kept hidden in his mattress, on which he died in misery, without any medical assistance. He never would consent to call a doctor or chemist, not wishing to pay their fees. Besides his money, he also possessed a Stradivarius, for which immense sums had been offered to him. Around his death-bed stood a son, whom he had sent away together with his mother and five other children, under the pretence of being too poor to keep them all. The dying man, afraid lest his son should take the hidden treasure, forbade him to come near his bed. The body of the dead artist showed that the cause of his death was simple starvation.

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\*\* For sale by all Booksellers. Sent, postpaid, on receipt of price by the publishers.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

## NEURALGIA AND DEBILITY.

INTERESTING STATEMENT FROM MRS. M. E. MERRICK, OF TORONTO.

Good authority has said that "neuralgia is the cry of the nerves for pure blood." The prompt action of Hood's Sarsaparilla on the blood, combined with its toning and strengthening effect upon the nerves, makes this a most excellent medicine for neuralgia and similar troubles. We commend to all sufferers from such complaints, and especially to ladies, the following statements recently received:—

For a good many years I have been suffering from catarrh, neuralgia and general debility. I failed to obtain any permanent relief from medical advice, and my friends feared I would never find anything to cure me. A short time ago I was induced to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. At that time I was unable to walk even a short distance without feeling a death-like weakness overtake me. And I had intense pains from neuralgia in my head, back and limbs, which were very exhausting. But I am glad to say that soon after I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I saw that it was doing me good. I have now taken three bottles and am entirely cured of neuralgia. I am gaining in strength rapidly, and can take a two-mile walk without feeling tired. I do not suffer nearly so much from catarrh, and find that as my strength increases the catarrh decreases. I am indeed a changed woman, and shall always feel grateful to Hood's Sarsaparilla for what it has done for me. It is my wish that this my testimonial shall be published in order that others suffering as I was may learn how to be benefited." Mrs. M. E. Merrick, 36 Wilton Avenue, Toronto, Can.

HEAT FROM THE MOON.—An American scientist has been endeavouring, by means of a very delicate radiometer, to determine the amount of heat given off by the moon. His method was to focus the rays of the moon on the face of the radiometer by a reflecting telescope of sixteen inches aperture. In the case of a new moon, he found that the heat coming from its disc diminished on passing from the convex to the concave edge, and that from the dark surface was so slight as not to affect the apparatus. The maximum radiation of heat came from points of the disc itself, not from its limbs. At full moon the maximum point was at the centre of the disc. The side of the moon which had been exposed to the sun for fourteen days was not warmer than that which had been exposed for seven days. No sensible heat was observed to come from the stars.—*Iron.*

If you are suffering from a feeling of constant tiredness, the result of mental worry or over work, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills will promptly cure you. Give them a trial.

## "German Syrup"

Martinsville, N.J., Methodist Parsonage. "My acquaintance with your remedy, Boschee's German Syrup, was made about fourteen years ago, when I contracted a Cold which resulted in a Hoarseness and a Cough which disabled me from filling my pulpit for a number of Sabbaths. After trying a Physician, without obtaining relief—I cannot say now what remedy he prescribed—I saw the advertisement of your remedy and obtained a bottle. I received such quick and permanent help from it that whenever we have had Throat or Bronchial troubles since in our family, Boschee's German Syrup has been our favorite remedy and always with favorable results. I have never hesitated to report my experience of its use to others when I have found them troubled in like manner." REV. W. H. HAGGARTY, of the Newark, New Jersey, M.E. Conference, April 25, '90.

A Safe Remedy.

G. G. GREEN, Sole Man'fr, Woodbury, N.J.

## SCIENTIFIC AND SANITARY.

To solder aluminum, the line of juncture is prepared by applying a mixture of resin, tallow and neutral chloride of zinc. Scraping or cleaning the joints is to be avoided, although alcohol or turpentine may be used when cleaning is absolutely necessary. By applying the hot soldering iron the neutral chloride of zinc is at once converted into metallic. The rapid action thus created forms the strong affinity for aluminum.—*Aluminum Age.*

EXPERIMENTS in various methods of seeding wheat have been conducted for a series of years at the Ohio Experiment Station, with the following results: In the average of four years' experiments, wheat covered one inch or less has produced at the rate of thirty-four bushels per acre, that covered two inches has produced thirty-five bushels, and that covered three inches thirty-four bushels. Judging from a smaller number of experiments it does not seem advisable to sow deeper than three inches. In the average of six years, wheat sown with the roller-press drill has yielded about eight per cent. more than that sown with the ordinary drill. More or less increase has followed the roller-press in almost every season, but a single trial has given results unfavourable to the use of the common roller after seeding. Broadcast wheat has this year yielded about the same as that drilled; but in the average of five years the produce from broadcast seed is considerably smaller than from the same quantity of seed drilled. The results of seven years' experiments point clearly to the latter part of September or first of October as the most favourable season for sowing wheat on this farm. A single experiment, made this year, fails to show any advantage in favour of cross drilling over sowing the same quantity of seed in the ordinary manner. No larger crop has been produced this year from mixed seed of two varieties than from pure seed of the same varieties sown separately. The land upon which these experiments were made lies in the valley of the Olentangy, one of the largest branches of the Scioto. The soil is a yellow loam, part first and part second bottom. It is either naturally underdrained with gravel or artificially drained with tiles, and its average yield of wheat for thirteen years has been over twenty-six bushels per acre, on an annual acreage of about thirty acres.

ARCTURUS is 11,500,000 times as far away as the sun. Dividing that by 140,000 we get the number 82, which may be taken as a measure of the diameter of Arcturus, as compared with the diameter of the sun. The sun's diameter is 866,000 miles, and, therefore, the diameter of Arcturus must be about 71,000,000 miles, and its circumference 224,000,000 miles! In bulk it is 551,000 times as great as the sun! Arcturus, having 82 times the diameter on the sun, must shine, if every point on it is as bright as a corresponding point of the sun, 6,724 times as brilliantly as the sun does, because the surface of spheres vary as the squares of their diameter. On the sun the force of gravity is 27 times as great as on the surface of the earth, but on Arcturus, supposing the same mean density, it would be 2,200 times as great, so that a man weighing 200 pounds transported to Arcturus would be crushed under his own weight of 440,000 pounds into a flat speck of protoplasmic nonentity. If we suppose that the size of an inhabitant of Arcturus should correspond with that of the globe upon which he dwells, he would be upwards of ten miles tall, and if he were, on the other hand, small in proportion to the size of the globe, and the general opinion of astronomers is that he would be small rather than large, then he would be only one-thousandth of an inch tall. Arcturus may have a great family of planets proportioned in size to the tremendous size of the star itself. If that gigantic sun has its planets on the same proportionate scale as our solar system, then a planet belonging to Arcturus and corresponding in comparative size and place to the earth would be 65,600 miles in diameter and 2,000,000 around, or half as large as the sun itself, but its distance from Arcturus would be enormous as compared with the distance from the earth to the sun.—*Pittsburgh Dispatch.*

Minard's Liniment Cures Dandruff.

A NEW method of hardening cast steel is said to be the most simple and effective in the world. Tempering edged tools by dipping them in oil while hot has been known and utilized for some time; but the Swiss method is mixing four parts of pulverized resin, two parts of train oil, in a suitable vessel, and this mixture being then stirred in one part of hot tallow. Into this mixture the article to be hardened is plunged at a low red heat, and left there until thoroughly cooled. Without cleaning off, the piece is again put into the fire and tempered according to the usual practice. The secret of this process lies probably in the fact of having the mixture hot. An examination of steel, hardened by this process, shows that the hardening is deeper and more uniformly distributed, the steel being less brittle, and having superior and more durable cutting qualities, than is the case by the use of any other means.

THE laughing plant is the name of a plant growing in Arabia, and, according to the *Medical Times*, is so called by reason of the effect produced upon those who eat its seeds. The plant is of moderate size, with bright yellow flowers, and soft, velvety seed-pods, each of which contains two or three seeds resembling black beans. The natives of the district where the plant grows dry these seeds and reduce them to powder. A dose of this powder has similar effects to those arising from the inhalation of laughing-gas. It causes the more sober person to dance, shout and laugh with the boisterous excitement of a madman, and to rush about cutting the most ridiculous capers for about an hour. At the expiration of this time exhaustion sets in, and the excited person falls asleep, to awake after several hours with no recollection of his antics.

THE bit of glass to be formed into a lens is fastened by means of pitch to a small block of hard rubber so that it may be more readily handled. It is ground by being pressed against a rapidly revolving metal tool, whose curvature is equal and opposite to that desired in the lens. This is known as the "rough tool," and is made of cast iron. It is mounted on a vertical spindle, and is kept moistened with emery and water. Several grades of emery are used in succession, changing from coarse to fine as the grinding proceeds. As a result of this process, the glass has a rough surface and is no longer transparent. It is now transferred to the "fine tool." This is made of brass and has its surface as true as possible. It is compared from time to time with a standard curve, in order to ensure accuracy. In this second grinding the abrading material is rouge (carefully calcined sulphate of iron). Finally the lens is polished by being pressed against a piece of cloth powdered with rouge and fastened to the rotating tool. The glass is now loosened from its block, turned over, and the reverse side of the lens ground. When this has been accomplished, the lens must be cut down to the proper shape for mounting in the spectacle-frame. It is placed on a leather cushion, and held firmly in position by a rubber-tipped arm, while a diamond glass-cutter passing around an oval guide traces a similar oval on the glass below. The superfluous glass outside of the oval is removed by steel pincers, the rough edges are ground smooth on Scotch wheels, and the lens is ready for mounting. The glasses for small telescopes, microscopes, burning-glasses and the like are ground in the same fashion.—*From Glass in Science, by Prof. C. H. Henderson, in the Popular Science Monthly, for September.*

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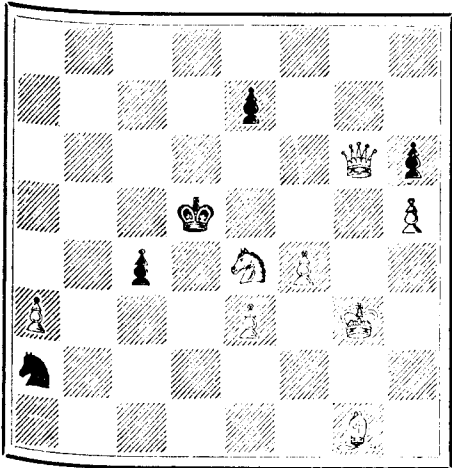


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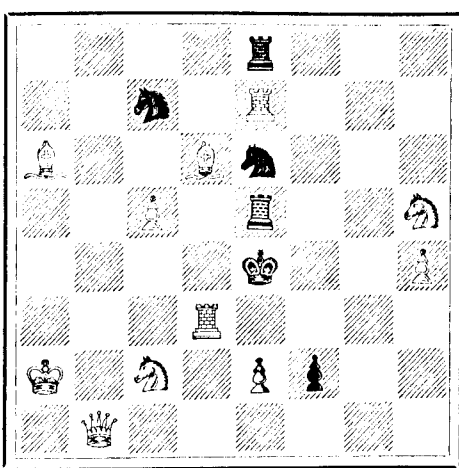
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- |                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| White.             | Black.       |
| 1. Kt at Kt 2-B 4  | 1. P x Kt    |
| 2. Q-Kt 3          | 2. moves     |
| 3. Q Kt or P mates | if 1. P-Kt 5 |
| 2. Kt-Q 3 mate     |              |

With other variations.

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Q-Kt 4

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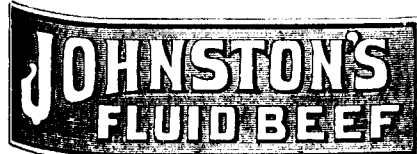
- |               |                    |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Mr. J. WHITE. | Mr. J. A. RUSSELL. | Mr. J. WHITE. | Mr. J. A. RUSSELL. |
| White.        | Black.             | White.        | Black.             |
| 1. P-K 4      | P-K 4              | 12. Q-Q 5     | Q-K 2              |
| 2. Kt-K B 3   | Kt-Q B 3           | 13. Castles   | P x P              |
| 3. P-Q 4      | P x P              | 14. B-K 3 (c) | B-Q 3 (d)          |
| 4. B-Q B 3    | B-B 4              | 15. Kt-Q Kt 5 | Kt-K B 2           |
| 5. P-Q B 3    | P x P              | 16. Kt x B    | Kt-Q Kt            |
| 6. B x B P +  | K-B                | 17. B-K B 4   | R-R 4              |
| 7. Q Kt x P   | K Kt-K 2           | 18. B x Kt    | P x B              |
| 8. K Kt-Kt 5  | P-K Kt 3           | 19. Q x B P + | K-Kt 2             |
| 9. B x P      | P x B (a)          | 20. Kt-K 6 +  | K-R 3              |
| 10. Q-B 3 +   | Kt-B 4             | 21. Q-K B 4 + | K-R 2              |
| 11. P x Kt    | Kt x K 4 (b)       | 22. Kt-Q B 7  | Resigns.           |

NOTES.

- (a) Kt x B would have left White a forced won game.  
 (b) Q-K 2 + might have been better.  
 (c) The best move, apparently, to maintain the attack.  
 (d) Instead of this, Black might have equalized the game, at least, in a few moves by playing—  
 14. B x B and 15. P-Q 3 for the White Knight would then have been forced to retreat.

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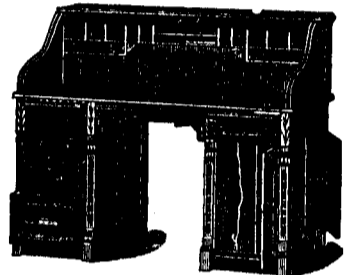
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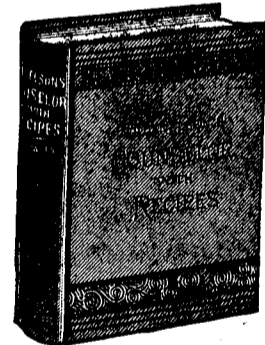
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